

= Sarah Stewart (basketball) =

Sarah Stewart (born 13 June 1976) is a 3 @. @ 0 point wheelchair basketball player from Australia . She participated in the 2004 Summer Paralympics in Athens , where she won a silver medal ; in the 2008 Summer Paralympics in Beijing , where she won a bronze medal ; and the 2012 Summer Paralympics in London , where she won a second silver medal .

Stewart has played in the Australian Women 's National Wheelchair Basketball League (WNWBL) and the National Wheelchair Basketball League (NWBL) since 2002 . She has won numerous awards , including being named to the 2004 , 2008 , 2009 , 2010 and 2012 WNWBL All @- @ Star Five ; the 2009 and 2010 WNWBL Most Valuable Player (MVP) in the 3 point class ; and the 2002 WNWBL Best New Talent . She was 2010 WNWBL Champion with the Sydney Uni Flames , and 2005 , 2006 , 2007 , 2008 , and 2009 WNWBL Champion with the Hills Hornets . She was the WNWBL 's Highest point scorer in 2010 . She was also a 2005 and 2004 NWBL Champion with the West Sydney Razorbacks .

Stewart was first selected to play for the Australia women 's national wheelchair basketball team , known as the Gliders , in 2003 . Since then she has played over 150 international games for Australia , winning gold medals at the Asia @- @ Oceania 2012 and 2008 Paralympic Qualifiers , the Asia @- @ Oceania 2006 World Cup Qualifiers , and the 2009 , 2010 and 2012 Osaka Cup . She was named MVP of the 2012 Osaka Cup and was All @- @ Star Five in the Four @- @ Nation International in Sydney in 2007 .

= = Personal = =

Stewart was born on 13 June 1976 . When she was 17 years old she injured her right ankle when she tripped on the stairs . This developed into reflex sympathetic dystrophy . She then fractured a bone in her left leg , which set off dystrophy in that leg as well . This resulted in her needing a wheelchair for mobility . She plays the saxophone in a band . She attended University of New South Wales and Sydney University , where she took classes in Cognitive Science , English , and Philosophy . She has BSc (Honours) in Philosophy and Cognitive Science and a BA in English from the University of New South Wales .

Stewart earned the Sydney University Vice Chancellor 's Award for Academic and Sporting Achievement in 2004 , and the New South Wales Institute of Sport (NSWIS) University of Sydney Academic Excellence award in 2009 . In 2012 she was a PhD candidate at the University of Sydney . She is a vegan and used Twitter to connect with others about being vegan .

= = Wheelchair basketball = =

Stewart is a 3 @. @ 0 point player . She took up the sport while attending the University of NSW following a visit by a Wheelchair Sports NSW road show . " From the moment I jumped in the basketball chair and started playing " , she later recalled , " it felt like Quidditch on wheels ! " From 2003 to 2012 , she had a scholarship with the New South Wales Institute of Sport .

= = = Club = = =

Stewart has played in the Women 's National Wheelchair Basketball League (WNWBL) in Australia since 2002 , with the North Sydney Bears from 2002 to 2004 , the Hills Hornets from 2005 to 2010 , and the Sydney University Flames since 2011 . In the National Wheelchair Basketball League (NWBL) , a mixed competition , she played for the West Sydney Razorbacks from 2002 to 2011 . Since 2011 she has played for the Sydney University Wheelkings .

Stewart won the 2001 and 2002 Encouragement Award in the Women 's National Club Championships . In 2002 , she was also named the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the Southern Challenge . She has won numerous awards , including named part of the 2004 , 2008 , 2009 , 2010 and 2012 WNWBL All @- @ Star Five ; the 2009 and 2010 WNWBL MVP in the 3 point class ; and

the 2002 WNWBL Best New Talent . She was also the WNWBL 's highest point scorer in 2010 . She was part of the 2004 and 2005 NWBL Championship side with the West Sydney Razorbacks , the 2005 , 2006 , 2007 , 2008 , and 2009 WNWBL Championship winning Hills Hornets , and won the 2010 WNWBL Champion with the Sydney Uni Flames .

In the second round of the 2008 season , the Western Stars defeated the Hills Hornets 52 ? 44 . Playing for the Hornets , Stewart scored 20 points in her team 's loss . Also in the second round that year , the team played the Dandenong Rangers , where Stewart scored 24 points in her team 's 72 ? 38 victory .

= = = National team = = =

Stewart was first selected to play for the Australia women 's national wheelchair basketball team , known as the Gliders , in 2003 . Since then she has played over 150 international games for Australia . Her international career highlights include gold medals at the Asia @-@ Oceania 2008 and 2012 Paralympic Qualifiers , the Asia @-@ Oceania 2006 World Cup Qualifiers , and the 2009 , 2010 and 2012 Osaka Cup . She was named MVP of the tournament at the 2012 Osaka Cup , and was All @-@ Star Five for the Four @-@ Nation International in Sydney in 2007 . She competed at the 2006 and 2010 World Wheelchair Basketball Championship . The Gliders finished fourth both times . She was selected to participate in a national team training camp in 2010 .

= = = = Paralympics = = = =

Stewart was part of the silver medal @-@ winning team , at the 2004 Summer Paralympics in Athens , and the bronze medal winning team at the 2008 Summer Paralympics in Beijing . She played in the team 's semi @-@ final loss to the United States and was one of Australia 's key defenders in the game .

Stewart was selected to represent Australia at the 2012 Summer Paralympics in London . In the group stage , the Australia women 's national wheelchair basketball team at the 2012 Summer Paralympics posted wins against Brazil , Great Britain , and the Netherlands , but lost to the Canada . This was enough to advance the Gliders to the quarter @-@ finals , where they beat Mexico . The Gliders then defeated the United States by a point to set up a final clash with Germany . The Gliders lost 44 ? 58 , and earned a silver medal .

= = Statistics = =