

# Adam Goodes Profile

**Name:** Adam Roy Goodes

**Place of Birth:** Wallaroo, South Australia

**Date of Birth:** 8th January 1980

## Early Life and Family

**Parents:** Lisa May Sansbury & Graham Goodes

**Cultural Heritage:** Aboriginal Australian  
- Adnyamathanha and Narungga (mother), English, Irish and Scottish (father)

**Siblings:** Two brothers - Jake & Brett



Adam's parents separated when he was four years old and spent his primary school years in South Australia where he enjoyed playing soccer. He started playing Australian Rules Football when he moved to Victoria and couldn't find a local junior soccer club to join. Growing up, Adam did not appreciate the significance of his Aboriginal cultural heritage. It was only once he moved to Sydney, and became friends with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, that he felt the need to find out more about his family's story and where he had come from. This led him to completing TAFE studies in Indigenous Studies, sparking a newfound understanding and appreciation of his history and culture.

## AFL Awards and Honors

**AFL Games Played:** 372

**Brownlow Medals:** 2003 (equal), 2006

**All-Australian:** 2003, 2006, 2009, 2011

**Sydney Swans Premiership Player:** 2005, 2012

**Sydney Swans Best and Fairest:** 2003, 2006, 2011

**Sydney Swans Co-captain:** 2009-2012

**Indigenous Team of the Century**

Adam was drafted to play Australian rules football for the AFL team the Sydney Swans in 1997 and played at the club until 2015. During Adam's AFL playing career he won many awards and accolades that reflect his athletic ability and skill in the game. Adam has been described as a talented footballer who was able to produce the seemingly impossible when his team needed it the most.

Adam has been recognised by others as a role model on and off the field and an inspiration to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to believe that they can achieve their goals. During his AFL career, he publicly called out racism in the hope that people would talk about racism and the impact that racism has on others.

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## Achievements Outside of Football

Australian of the Year Award - 2014

Co-Founder of the GO Foundation

Recognise Campaign Ambassador

Racism. Stops With Me Campaign Ambassador

Adam was awarded the Australian of the Year Award in 2014 for his work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sport and community programs, and the work of the GO Foundation. Adam has worked hard to promote an Australia where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' cultures, heritages and voices are respected and heard. He continues to work for the GO Foundation to promote education, employment and healthy lifestyles within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.



Sources:

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2016/apr/20/indigenous-afl-legend-adam-goodes-growing-up-i-knew-i-was-different>

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