

Australian Winter Olympians lift off

The 2026 Winter Olympic Games launch this week in Milano Cortina with Australia's Olympic athletes ready to claim gold.

Among them are Australia's winter Olympians across seven aerial and mogul skiing events who train at the southern hemisphere's only year-round ski-jumping facility at Sleeman Sports Complex.

The Geoff Henke Olympic Winter Training Centre, designed to simulate a snow ski ramp, is the training home to 12 Winter Olympians: Danielle Scott, Jakara Anthony, Laura Peel, Abbey Wilcox, Matt Graham, Charlotte Wilson, Airleigh Frigo, Harvey Jackson, Reilly Flannagan, Emma Bosco, George Murphy, and Cooper Woods.

The 2022 gold medallist Jakara Anthony and 2018 silver medallist Matt Graham both were named at the Australian Winter Olympic Team Flag Bearers.

Fresh off a gold medal winning performance at the World Cup, mogul skier Matt Graham is ready to take his skills from Sleeman to the slopes.

"We're very fortunate to have this facility; I love it here and it's made a big impact on the mogul and aerial team," Matt said.

"We're reaping the rewards and hopefully it will pay dividends come Milano Cortina."

Sleeman Sports Complex General Manager Alex Hutchison said the facility further establishes Sleeman Sports Complex as a hub for high performance training.

"The ski ramp facility continues to deliver great results against the world's best aerial and mogul skiers, and we're really looking forward to seeing the team compete at the 2026 winter games and beyond," Mr Hutchison said.

"Our facility not only delivers for the Australian Olympians but puts Sleeman Sports Complex on the map globally as a hub for high performance athletes."

The Geoff Henke Olympic Winter Training Centre has ramps from 8m to 36m in height, catering to various aerial ski disciplines including mogul, triple, double, and single jumps.

Videos of the ramp in use and interviews with select athletes are available at <https://stadiums.qld.gov.au/about/news-and-media/media-centre/sleeman-sports-complex>.

**Please note interviews were recorded before athletes departed for Milano Cortina - they are now preparing for their events, with only scheduled media opportunities taking place.*