



Laing Harrow (ACT)
Player number # 14
37 games for Australia

Laing Harrow appeared in 22 games over three ISF Men's World Championships, hitting .316 at both the 1992 and 1996 events and serving as captain at the latter. He played in more than a dozen additional international events in the '90s. Laing served as an Assistant Coach of the U19 Australian team that won the 2001 Junior Men's World Championship.



Laing epitomizes all that is Australian men's softball. A consummate professional both on and off the diamond, there is no young softball player that does not know his name or aspire to be like him.

Laing immigrated to Australia in 1987 when Softball Canberra secured the coaching services of his father, Bob. A year later he represented Australia at the 1988 ISF Men's World Championship (Saskatoon, Canada) at the age of 18, after being selected from the ACT U19 state team.

In an era where the Australian men's softball program only generated activity within the 12 months leading into a world championship, Laing went on to represent Australia at the 1992 ISF Men's World Championship, Manila, Philippines and captained the Australian Men's team to the 1996 ISF Men's World Championship, Michigan, USA, and for the first time since their introduction to world championship competition, secured a final's berth.

Laing retired from international competition in 1996 after accumulating 37 caps for Australia. Up until the 2004 ISF Men's Softball World Championship in Christchurch, Canada, he was one of only three Australian men's softball players to have participated in three senior men's world championships.

Laing stepped down from state competition in 1998 after 12 years' service to the ACT which included three senior men's national titles, (1998, 1990, 1993), and two major awards – Best Batter in 1998 and Most Valuable Player in 1993.

In 2001, Laing was Assistant Coach under Lindsey Carroll of the victorious Australian U19 Men's team who took gold at the VI ISF Junior Men's World Championship in Sydney. He made his senior coaching debut alongside his father Bob during a tour of New Zealand, which saw the Australian men's team defeat the New Zealand Black Sox for the first time in their 13-year competitive history.

In addition to his Australian softball achievements, Laing had also represented the Canadian Youth team and Australia at senior and junior level in ice hockey.



In October 2002, Softball Canberra nominated Laing for the Softball Australia Hall of Fame for services rendered to softball. His nomination was successful, he became only the second male recipient, and first male softball player to receive this national honour.

In 2003, Laing was further recognised with perhaps one of softball's greatest honours, his name was bestowed on Australian softball's newest men's competition, the Australian U23 Men's Fastpitch Championship, known as the Laing Harrow Shield.

In October the same year, Laing achieved the ultimate hat-trick when he became the first Australian men's softball player to be inducted into the ISF Hall of Fame.

He was appointed Head Coach of the Australian Open Women's team in 2018.

AWARDS

1988	Best Batter, Open Men's National Championship
1993	Most Valuable Player, Open Men's National Championship
2002	Softball Australia Hall of Fame
2003	ISF Hall of Fame

TOURNAMENTS

1988	VIII Men's Softball World Championship, Saskatoon, Canada
1992	Tri-Nations, New Zealand
	VIII Men's Softball World Championships, Manila, Philippines
1995	New Zealand Provincial Championships
	New Zealand v Australia Test Series
1996	Perth Shootout v Canada
	IX Men's Softball World Championship, Midland, USA