

# Darius Boyd

## ***Australian Former Professional Rugby League Footballer & Advocate for Mental Health***

Darius Boyd has played for the Brisbane Broncos in the National Rugby League (NRL), QLD State of Origin and Australian representative. Darius has attained a career of so many highs whilst also overcoming many personal challenges.

Darius possess an impressive CV seeing him play over 337 NRL games with the Brisbane Broncos, Newcastle Knights and St George Illawarra Dragons. Darius has also won two premierships with the St George Illawarra Dragons and Brisbane Broncos and played a combined 51 representative games for his state and country whilst also leading the Brisbane Broncos as Captain. Darius' athleticism, skill, talent and ability to create plays has seen him produce many match winning performances giving him the rightful title as one the best that will ever have played the game of rugby league.

Darius' accolades range from winning the prestigious Clive Churchill medal to winning premierships as well as being a part of a record breaking QLD State of Origin dynasty and representing his country Australia.

Although Darius has had a beaming career his off field personal life has seen shadows of darkness. Darius' upbringing forged a shadow on him as an individual which he struggled to manage especially with his profile in the public eye. In 2014, Darius courageously announced that he would be taking some time away from football to deal with his inner turmoil and mental health issues. Darius worked hard with a positive mindset to better himself and get himself back to good health with the support of those around him.

Darius is one of the lucky ones who came out the other side a healthier, stronger person. It was his experiences here that led him to wanting to wholeheartedly help others in the same situation. He soon became a dedicated advocate for mental health, becoming an ambassador for Ramsay Healthcare speaking about his experiences while also being engaged by the NRL as a mental health ambassador. This only the crust of a very inspiring life journey with an extremely powerful story.

Today, Darius continues to work with the Brisbane Broncos while actively raising awareness for the importance of mental health. He also enjoys spending time with his beautiful wife Kayla and



three daughters. Darius also completed and passed the SAS Selection Course on Channel 7s hit show *SAS Australia* in 2022.

### **Career Highlights**

2016 - Ron McAuliffe Medal

2010 - Clive Churchill Medal

2010 - Dally M Fullback of the Year

2010 - RLIF Player of the Year

2010 - NRL Premiership Winner, St George Illawarra Dragons

2006 -2020 - 337 NRL games

2008 -2017 - 28 QLD games

2008 - 2017 - 23 Australia games

2006 - NRL Premiership Winner, Brisbane Broncos

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