

Michael Smith

Michael Smith is a former athlete from the sport of Wrestling. He was a member of Canada's national team from 1995-2001. Michael competed for Canada at the World and Pan Am Championships and was the alternate on the 1996 Canadian Olympic Team.

Michael's love for wrestling was only matched by his love for the law, so he went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree at the University of Western Ontario before moving to Winnipeg to complete law school at the University of Manitoba. Michael continued to compete on behalf of Canada while attending law school.

In 2001, Michael quickly came to the realization that he would not be able to compete and maintain a viable law practice at the same time so he retired from active competition to pursue a legal career in his hometown of Ottawa, ON. He joined the law firm of Lewis Langevin LLP and became a partner five years later to at what is now known as Langevin Morris Smith LLP. His areas of practice include Criminal and Civil litigation in addition to Sports Administrative Law.

Although he stepped down from active competition, Michael maintained his involvement in the sport that got him through law school, by taking on a volunteer position as the head coach of the National Capital Wrestling Club - the same club that gave Michael is foundation in the sport. Michael is still involved with the NCWC and is helping young athletes fulfill their dreams. In his last nine years with the Club, Michael has helped develop a number of athletes who have gone on to become national team members.

After building a healthy practice and conducting hundreds of trials, Michael was approached by Carleton University's Department of Law to be a part of their Faculty. Michael took on the new challenge and began teaching Criminal Law as part of the Undergraduate Criminology program.

In 2000, Michael joined Athletes CAN, the association of the national team athletes. He was a volunteer Board member and contributed to the Canadian sports system, on behalf of athletes as a member of their Executive Board. Three years after joining the Board, Michael was elected as the association's first President and held that position until he stepped down in 2006.

Michael was able to effectively combine his experience as an athlete with his knowledge of the law and put his skills to use on behalf of Canadian athletes as the athletes' advocate at Major Games. Collectively, Michael has represented athletes at all major multi-sport Games including the Olympics, Pan Ams, Commonwealth, Francophonie and Canada Games. In addition to working at the various Games, Michael represented athletes and coaches at the provincial level as well as argued appeals before the Sport Dispute Resolution Center of Canada (SDRCC) tribunal..

In May 2009 Michael was appointed, by the Minister of Sport, to the SDRCC Board.