



## President's Message

Dear Members and Friends of the Barbados Olympic Family,

With great pride and excitement, I introduce the revitalised edition of our cherished newsletter, Olympic Lines. After a three-year hiatus, we are thrilled to re-establish this crucial platform that connects, informs, and celebrates our vibrant sporting community.

In August, four of our athletes made us proud on the international stage. Although our Olympic team was small in numbers, their impact on the international stage was commendable. Each athlete's outstanding performance has significantly raised the profile of Barbadian sport.

Sada Williams accomplished a remarkable feat as the first female Barbadian to reach an Olympic track final. She delivered an impressive performance, securing a solid seventh-place finish in the women's 400-meter race, thereby earning a well-deserved place among the world's top athletes. Let us also acknowledge the commendable efforts of Matthew Wright, who achieved 34th place out of 55 in the men's individual triathlon; Jack Kirby, who demonstrated his skills by securing 46th place out of 79 competitors in the men's 100-meter freestyle; and Tristan Evelyn, who displayed great determination and skill, finishing 53rd out of 72 athletes in the women's 100-meter event.

These athletes embodied the spirit of perseverance, dedication, and excellence that define our nation. They were competitors and ambassadors who carried Barbados' hopes and dreams on the global stage. Together, they showcased the best of Barbados and upheld the values of Olympism that unite us all. To those who narrowly missed joining the team, your hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed. Your journey is far from over, and we encourage you to continue striving towards excellence with your sights set on Los Angeles in 2028.

Over the past few years, we have embarked on an ambitious path to elevate the standard of sports in Barbados. At the heart of our development efforts is the National Olympic Academy (NOA), which has played an invaluable role in advancing the standard of sports in Barbados. The NOA has diligently provided extensive training opportunities for coaches and administrators, alongside developing and implementing a

comprehensive Safeguarding Policy and Procedures. As part of the latter, the NOA has also trained a group of individuals to conduct awareness workshops on safeguarding in sports.

Also, during the year's first half, the Women in Sport Commission underwent a transformation and was officially renamed the Gender Equality Commission. This strategic shift marks a significant milestone in our commitment to fostering an inclusive environment where gender equality is at the forefront of our objectives, fully integrated within the BOA's overarching strategic plan.

During this period, we also welcomed two new staff members: Rhonda Scantlebury and Janelle Denny. Ms. Scantlebury is the new Accounting Officer and brings a wealth of experience to the role. Ms. Denny is the Director of the NOA. She replaces Vaneisha Cadogan, who retired on August 31, 2024. We thank Ms. Cadogan for her work over the years and wish her all the best in her retirement.

The revival of Olympic Lines embodies our renewed dedication to transparency, engagement, and the relentless pursuit of excellence in Barbadian sports. In each edition, we will bring you detailed updates on our preparations for various games, and insights into the initiatives to enhance sports in Barbados. We aim to create a dynamic and interactive platform where the voices of our athletes, coaches, and supporters are heard and celebrated.

As we move forward, your continued support and dedication are invaluable, and we look forward to continuing our work together to advance sport.

Yours in sport,

Sandra Osborne, SCM, SC  
President, Barbados Olympic Association Inc.



## In This Issue

# BOA Announces Plans to Diversify for Financial Stability

The Barbados Olympic Association Inc. (BOA) is taking steps to ensure long-term sustainability by diversifying its revenue streams. President Sandra Osborne announced this at the 2024 Annual General Assembly. Currently, the BOA relies on revenue from the Barbados Lottery and gaming tax to meet its expenses, including funding for National Federations, athletes, and participation in international games.

President Osborne also shared that the BOA's Marketing and Communications Commission is developing a four-year strategy and will be conducting a survey among National Federations. She said the goal of the exercise is to ensure that the strategy and the broader operational plan align with the organisation's brand positioning.

Meanwhile, Treasurer Orson Simpson reported that the BOA remains financially sound. While reporting a slight decrease in lottery and gaming revenue compared to 2022, he revealed that the grants from the International Olympic Committee and Panam Sports Organisation increased during the period. Simpson also reported that during 2023, the BOA disbursed \$4.4 million, approximately 48% of its 2023 revenue, to National Federations and athletes.

During the Annual General Assembly, the BOA welcomed Kevyn Murrell, the newly appointed Chair of the Athletes' Commission, to its Board of Directors. Murrell succeeds outgoing chair Shawn Simpson, who was appointed to the Board in 2022. President Osborne expressed gratitude for Simpson's service and welcomed Murrell, who will serve a three-year term.



The 2024-2025 BOA Board of Directors.

# NOA Welcomes New Leadership

The Barbados Olympic Association (BOA) is delighted to announce the appointment of Janelle Denny as the new Director of the National Olympic Academy (NOA). This follows the retirement of Director Vaneisha Cadogan on August 31 after five years of dedicated service.

During her time as Director, Cadogan made significant contributions to the NOA, including expanding programmes, developing key partnerships, drafting a safeguarding policy, and promoting a culture of discipline, sportsmanship, and academic achievement. BOA President Sandra Osborne expressed the association's deepest appreciation for her commitment and service in fulfilling the NOA's mission.

In welcoming Denny as the new Director, President Osborne highlighted her extensive sports management background and passion for developing young talent. Denny formerly served as the Peripatetic Teacher, Physical Education and Sport at the Ministry of Education, Technological & Vocational Training and has been actively involved in various sports at the school and club levels. She also brings experience as a physical education teacher and a coach for the Barbados National team, which participated in the Biennial Caribbean Union of Teachers' Track & Field Championships. Additionally, Denny has served on the Executive Committee of the National Primary Schools' Athletic Championships, as well as the Pan Am Sports Organization/Olympic Solidarity (PASO/OS) and the BOA's Education and Awards and Special Events Commissions. She was also recently appointed to the Barbados Anti-Doping Appeals Panel.

Denny expressed her honour and excitement about taking on the role of new Director, emphasizing her commitment to continuing the NOA's exemplary legacy under her leadership. The BOA looks forward to continuing its work under Denny's guidance and anticipates further growth and success.



Janelle Denny,  
New Director of the National Olympic Academy



Vaneisha Cadogan,  
Retiring Director of the National Olympic Academy

## New Staff Addition


The BOA is pleased to announce the appointment of Rhonda Scantlebury as its new Accounting Officer. Rhonda is an accomplished accounting professional with over 20 years of experience in the field and an additional five years in operations. She is a confident leader known for her ability to establish trust, mediate disputes, and motivate others. Originally from Trinidad,

she has proudly called Barbados her home for the past 30 years.

She is no stranger to sport, as she currently serves as Treasurer on the Advisory Board of the Barbados Royals Girls Cricket Club, which promotes gender quality in sport and the development of women's cricket, and on the Board of the Caribbean Regional Badminton Confederation.

Her deep involvement in sports was inspired by her five children, who have excelled in chess, badminton, volleyball, and track and field.

In her current role as Accounting Officer at the BOA, Rhonda leverages her faith, skills, training, and extensive experience to contribute effectively to the organisation's success.



Rhonda Scantlebury,  
Accounting Officer

# TEAM BARBADOS FOR PARIS 2024



## Barbados Athletes Shine at the 2024 Paris Olympics

The 2024 Olympic Games in Paris have come to a close, and Barbados Olympic Association Inc. (BOA) extends heartfelt congratulations to Team Barbados for their outstanding performance. The team, consisting of Sada Williams, Matthew Wright, Tristan Evelyn, and Jack Kirby, represented Barbados with great pride. Sada Williams achieved a remarkable 7th place in the 400-metre final with a time of 49.83 seconds. Williams created history for Barbados, becoming the first Barbadian woman to reach an Olympic athletic final.

Furthermore, Matthew Wright demonstrated remarkable skill and dedication in the Men's Individual Triathlon, achieving a commendable 34th place out of the 55 competitors. Wright completed the triathlon in 1 hour 49 mins 18 seconds, which comprised a 1500-metre swim, a 40-kilometre bike ride, and a 10-kilometre run. Jack Kirby also displayed perseverance and

hard work in the Men's 100m Freestyle event. Overall, Kirby placed 46th out of 79 swimmers. He went to the Olympics with a qualifying time of 49.31 seconds, which is also the Barbados national record. Kudos also go to Tristan Evelyn on her remarkable effort in the women's 100-metre. She recorded a time of 11.15 seconds for a sixth-place finish in her Heat and, overall, placed 53rd among 72 athletes.

Commenting on their performance, the President of the BOA, Sandra Osborne, expressed immense pride in Team Barbados's exemplary performance at the 2024 Paris Olympics. "Our athletes continue to make Barbados proud, showcasing unparalleled dedication and representation for their country on the international stage."

Cameron Burke, the Chef de Mission for the Paris 2024 Olympics, echoed this sentiment and commended the athletes for consistently giving their

best.

Barbados is looking forward to the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles. The country has a rich history of Olympic participation dating back to the 1960s. Barbados achieved significant milestones, including its debut appearance at the 1968 Summer Games and Obadele Thompson winning the country's first medal at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. Despite facing tough competition, Barbadian athletes continue to excel on the world stage, and the nation eagerly anticipates the upcoming 2028 Olympics.

# Spotlight on an Olympic sport – Triathlon

Triathlon debuted at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, with 52 men and 48 women competing in separate events.

Triathlon is a true test of human capability, combining swimming, cycling, and running into one ultimate challenge. Athletes push their limits, navigating through intense swim strokes in deep sea water, powering through gruelling 40 km bike courses, and summoning every ounce of strength for the demanding 10 km run to the finish line.

While triathlon has been around for more than a century, it is the modern spectacle of determination

and resilience that has captivated audiences worldwide. Whether you are a seasoned athlete or a spectator swept up in the excitement, Triathlon promises adrenaline-pumping action and moments of triumph that define the Olympic spirit.

The Barbados Federation of Island Triathletes (BFIT), formed in 1990, is the national association for triathlon in Barbados. For the last 33 years, it has been hosting the Barbados National Triathlon, which attracts locals and visitors alike.

As the local governing body for Triathlon, BFIT is responsible for regulating and promoting the sport on

the island. In addition to triathlon, it organizes various multi-sport events, including duathlon (running and cycling) and aquathlon (swimming and running). Whether you are a professional athlete or a beginner, BFIT provides a platform to compete and showcase your skills in a safe and fair environment.

There are scores of triathletes of varying ages in Barbados, including Matthew Wright, who recently competed in the Paris Olympics, Jason Wilson OLY, Zahra and Isis Gaskin, Fynn Armstrong, Luke and Laila McIntyre, and Ali Banfield.



## Safeguarding Policy coming soon

The Barbados Olympic Association Inc. (BOA) is preparing to implement a new Safeguarding Policy and Procedures and has trained a cadre of individuals to conduct sensitisation workshops in Safeguarding in Sport.

The National Olympic Academy (NOA) conducted a training of trainers programme, which saw four people complete the training. An invitation to the National Federations to nominate at least one person for a safeguarding facilitators training workshop has resulted in approximately 11 additional

trainers being trained in safeguarding principles.

Former Director of the NOA, Vaneisha Cadogan, said developing a cadre of trainers is part of the BOA's efforts to increase awareness about safeguarding among stakeholders and assist in implementing the BOA's safeguarding policy and procedures. The NOA is set to meet with representatives of National Federations later this year as they progress with plans to roll out the policy.



# Immortalised in wax

A bust of retired track star James 'Jim' Wedderburn OLY now sits in the Olympic Museum at the Barbados Olympic Association Inc. (BOA).

The wax sculpture of Wedderburn, donated by the Caribbean Wax Museum, is the first bust of a Barbadian athlete to be added to the facility, which chronicles Barbados' competitive sporting history. It is a fitting tribute, as Wedderburn is the first Barbadian to have won an Olympic medal. He was a member of the Bronze-winning 1960 British West Indies 4X400 relay team, which included Jamaican teammates Malcolm Spence, Keith Gardner, and George Kerr.

President of the BOA, Sandra Osborne, described the medal won

by Wedderburn as the cornerstone of Barbados' post-independence elite sports story.

In his remarks, 85-year-old Wedderburn expressed his appreciation for the recognition, noting that it was a special feeling to be "honoured by your own and in your own country."

Sculptor and Director of the Caribbean Wax Museum, Arthur Edwards, who has created sculptures of sports personalities such as Sir Garfield Sobers, Obadele Thompson, and the late Malcolm Marshall, believes the three-dimensional depictions are an excellent way to honour and remember individuals who have contributed significantly to society.



# Gender Equality Commission

As of February 2024, the Barbados Olympic Association Inc.'s (BOA) Women in Sport Commission is now the Gender Equality Commission.

BOA President Sandra Osborne said the name change is in keeping with the 2022 decision by the International Olympic Committee to rename its Women in Sport Commission to the Gender Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Commission.

"We have not gone as far as the IOC in that we have not added diversity and inclusion in our name, but the change from 'women in sport' to 'gender equality' provides us with an opportunity to strive for gender balance generally across the spectrum of everything we do, while at the same time keeping our focus on redressing the fact that the involvement of women and girls in Sport has lagged in some areas – not as athletes but in leadership and technical areas," the BOA president stated.

Chair of the Commission, Marsha Boyce, explained that the Commission's mandate is to promote gender equality in sport both on and off the field of play, adding, "We will continue to advocate for equitable representation in

governance and leadership, the distribution of resources, and media portrayals, among other areas".

Gender equality is an important aspect of the BOA's strategic plan, which recognises sport's role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The plan advocates for women's meaningful representation in governance and leadership within the Olympic Movement and Commonwealth Sport in Barbados.

## The rebranded commission comprises the following members

- Marsha Boyce (Chair), Mona Alleyne, Shawn Simpson, Ytannia Wiggins, Althea Belgrave (National Federation Representative), Fabian Norgrove (Athlete Representative), Fabian Sargeant and Director of the National Olympic Academy (Non-voting).



# International Day of Sport for Development and Peace: Promoting Peace and Inclusion through Sports

On Saturday, April 26, BOA organised a full-day event as part of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP). The event aimed to use sports as a tool to teach children important values and skills that contribute to maintaining peaceful relationships and promoting inclusion.

Participants, mainly recruited from the National Peace Programme, engaged in a variety of activities designed to promote self-regulating behaviour and tolerance for others' differences. The event focused on utilising combat sports such as Boxing, Judo, Karate, Taekwondo, and Wrestling to impart values such as self-control and self-discipline in testing environments.

The selection of these sports was deliberate, as they emphasised important values that are crucial for maintaining peaceful relationships. Children were not only introduced to the skills associated with the sports but also learned how those skills can contribute to peaceful coexistence.

The day's programme included various fun activities in addition to the sports activities, creating an atmosphere of enjoyment and camaraderie.





## NOA hosts another successful NSYP



The National Olympic Academy (NOA) of Barbados hosted the 4th National Session for Young Participants (NSYP) at the Barbados Beach Club on August 16, providing hands-on training for the next generation of sport leaders.

In her keynote address, Cherita O'Dell, a transformational speaker and former Olympic qualifier, emphasised the profound impact of sports and the role of athletes in promoting unity and cultural interaction. O'Dell highlighted the Paris Olympics as an example of bringing people from all walks of life together around sport and fair play. She also commended Commonwealth gold medalist Sada Williams's recent accomplishment of reaching the finals in the 400

meters at the Olympics, which she noted, evoked a strong sense of national pride and unity among Barbadians.

For the first time, the NSYP welcomed participants from the region, namely Dominica, Guadeloupe, St. Kitts and Nevis. The event covered various topics under the theme "The Athlete in Modern Society: Inspiring and Fostering Unity."

Outgoing Director of the NOA Vaneisha Cadogan explained to the 24 participants that the NSYP was born out of a vision to provide a platform for young, emerging sports leaders to engage in dialogue on issues relevant to sport. Meanwhile, Dr. Sasha Sutherland, Executive Director of the Caribbean RADO and Chair of the Education Commission at the Barbados Olympic Association Inc., stressed the importance of the programme and lauded this year's theme, adding that as athletes, they have a unique privilege to inspire others to greatness, overcome adversity, and advocate for change.

Originally launched as a one-day event in 2021, the NSYP has seen tremendous growth. Due to positive participant feedback, it was extended to a two-day format in 2022 and 2023. Now, in 2024, NSYP has evolved into a three-day residential event, a testament to its success and the promising future it holds for young sports leaders.



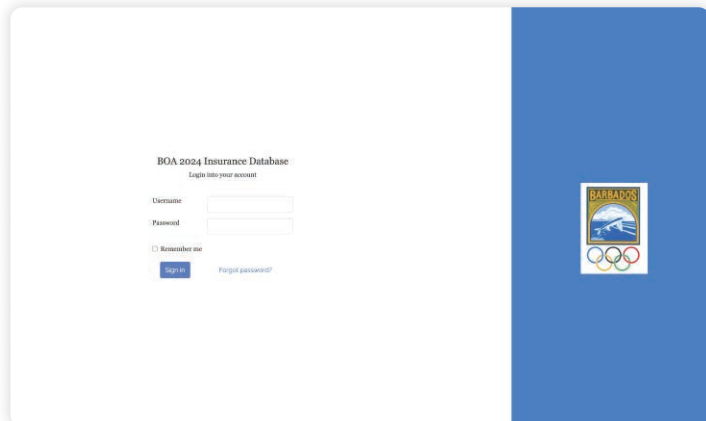
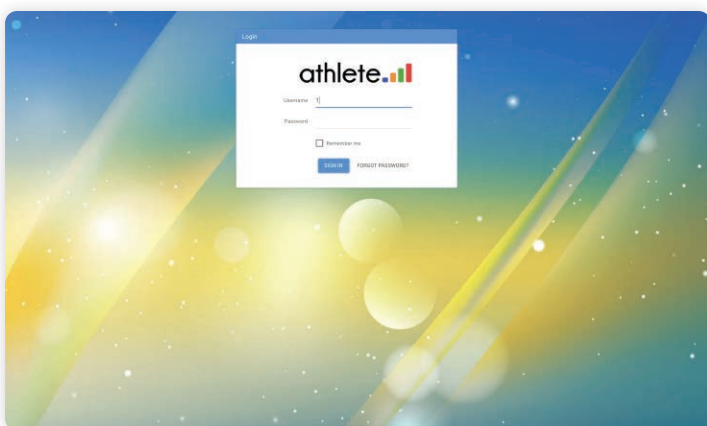


# Introducing New Portals for BOA Athletes

We are excited to announce the launch of two new portals – Athlete Portal and Insurance Portal, on the Barbados Olympic Association’s website to make the athlete experience even better.

## Athlete Portal:

In 2021, the BOA introduced the athlete portal application to simplify and streamline our athletes’ reporting process. Initially rolled out in early 2022, the programme was piloted with our top eight funded athletes. As of 2024, we have expanded the use of the portal and have started onboarding all other athletes in our funding programme. Currently, 64 funded athletes are utilising the platform to report on their finances and competition results, making their interactions with the BOA more efficient and seamless.



## Insurance Portal:

The Insurance Portal was launched in 2019 to facilitate national federations’ (NFs) applications for athletes’ insurance plans with the BOA. While the portal has encountered some initial challenges, we want to assure you that we are continuously working to address them, aiming for a smooth and efficient process for all stakeholders involved.

As part of our commitment to excellence and athlete-centred professionalism, we believe that integrating these two portals into our main website will allow for easier access and a more streamlined experience for all involved. Stay tuned for further updates as we strive to provide the best support and resources for our athletes and NFs!

# Local Coaches Benefiting from Peer Learning

National Olympic Academy of Barbados (NOA) has introduced a new training initiative called the Coaches Community of Learning (CCOL) to provide local coaches with an opportunity to share experiences and learn from each other.

Two sessions have been held so far. The first, entitled ‘Creating a Barbadian Model for Identifying Athletic Potential,’ was conducted by Physical Education Teacher/Coach and International Coaching Enrichment Certificate Program (ICECP) graduate Ramon Armstrong. The

interactive session took place on November 13, 2023.

The second session, which took place on March 26, 2024, was conducted by Jamal Grosvenor, a Physical Education Teacher/Coach. Grosvenor is a 2022 graduate of the International Support Program for African and Caribbean Sport (PAISAC). The seminar was themed ‘Periodization Made Simple’. Coach Grosvenor shared his expertise on effectively planning training sessions to avoid overtraining, which can significantly impact an athlete’s performance.

# Olympic Day 2024 Celebrations

The BOA was thrilled to participate in the global celebration of Olympic Day 2024, hosting three exciting events. Since 1948, Olympic Day has been celebrated on June 23, in honour of the founding day of the modern Olympic Games and is an occasion to promote a healthy and active lifestyle.

This year, the BOA again hosted a Virtual Week-Long Walk where participants used the Relive app to register the distances they walked, with special categories for National Federations and schools. Then, on Saturday, June 22, at 7:00 p.m., the BOA staged the GLOW 2K Fun Run & Walk and, for the first time, the GLOW 5K Run. Both events commenced and finished at the Garfield Sobers Sports Complex.



## Upcoming BOA Events



**World Walking Day 2024 Sunrise Hike**

**October 6,  
2024**



**Level 1 National Coaching Certification Program**

**October 4 to 7,  
2024**



**Sports Administrators Course 2024**

**October 8 to  
November 2,  
2024**

# BOA 2024 Internship Experience

## Meet Ida Elms-Edghill

My name is Ida Elms-Edghill, and it has been a privilege to intern at the Barbados Olympic Association and its National Olympic Academy (NOA).

This has been an eye-opening experience. I assisted with the preparation of the 2024 National Session for Young Participants, an initiative where young athletes and sports leaders collaborate to enhance the development of sports in Barbados and the region.

Additionally, conducting museum tours showing the development of sport in Barbados over the last 60 years has also been a great learning experience.

The unwavering support from the staff and administrators has made this internship exceptionally rewarding, both academically and culturally.



## Meet Kashara Hinds

My name is Kashara Hinds, and I attended the Barbados Community College, where I pursued my Associate Degree in Sports Management.

My experience working with the Barbados Olympic Association (BOA) has been truly rewarding.

As an intern, I have never felt more immersed in the world of sports. The experience of working in an office while remaining closely connected to major sporting events has been an amazing feeling.

The knowledge I have acquired about the Olympic movement has been incredible. The supportive and welcoming environment has made me feel like this is my second home. My involvement with the Barbados Olympic Association is an experience I will always cherish.



# Meet Rollins L. Alleyne: Wrestling



*Meet Rollins L. Alleyne, a passionate and experienced martial arts coach and combat sports leader in Barbados.*

I am the current president of the Barbados Wrestling Association and the Barbados Arm Wrestling Association. I have also played a key role in developing Beach Wrestling in the Eastern Caribbean and have helped the Barbados Wrestling Association become a member of the Global Association of Mixed Martial Arts (GAMMA), which is the international amateur body for Mixed Martial Arts (MMA).

I completed studies through the National Olympic Academy in Basic and Advanced Sports Management Courses and the

National Coaching Certification Programme (NCCP), which is based in Canada. My sixth-degree black belt in Hawaiian Kempo-Karate reflects my expertise, and my work with private and public school children demonstrates my passion for coaching and my desire to positively influence the next generation of athletes.

I have served as the past president of the Barbados Wushu Tai Chi Federation and the Barbados Mixed Martial Arts Association. Additionally, I founded the Bridgetown Burning Open Championships, a multi-combat open event that has been running for the past 21 years. I have also successfully competed in karate tournaments in the USA and Trinidad and Tobago.

## Three things you may not know about me:

1. I met renowned martial artist and actor Jet Li in Indonesia at the 2015 World Wushu Championships and had a cordial chat!
2. I was offered a part in an action martial arts movie in Los Angeles, but I turned it down because the content portrayed and reinforced negative stereotypes of people of African descent.
3. I was the captain of the Ellerslie Secondary School U15 (Ronald Tree) and the Second Division Cricket Team.

# Meet V. Angela Winter-Jones: Archery

*Meet V. Angela Winter-Jones, the President of World Archery Barbados, formerly the Barbados Archery Association (BAA).*

I am a highly skilled recurve archer and have been President of World Archery Barbados since February 2023. My passion for archery is reflected in my numerous accomplishments, including setting national records, and representing Barbados in various international competitions. At the national level, I was the National Champion from 2002 to 2008. Regionally, I placed 5th at the 2002 Central American and Caribbean (CAC) Games and 10th the following year at the Pan American Games, with a national record of 1239. I also won a Bronze medal in Colombia at the 2006 CAC Games in the 50M distance.



Between 2008 and 2012, I coached members of the then BAA and served as the Chairperson of the organising committee for BAA's archery tournaments and the Southern Caribbean Archery Games when they were hosted in Barbados.

Apart from my success in archery, I am a Fellow Certified Professional Accountant with over 35 years of experience in the accounting and insurance industries. I have contributed significantly to the management of AIG's Captive and Rent-a-Captive companies and am currently the Managing Director at Valuable Embroidery & Digitizing Inc. I use my dedication to sports and business to motivate both aspiring athletes and professionals.

## Three things you may not know about me:

1. Though I am left-handed, I compete using my right hand.
2. At the height of my career, I was ranked 54th in the world.
3. I am a Level 2 Archery Coach