

**Peter R. Lawless**  
[prlawless@me.com](mailto:prlawless@me.com)

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Peter provides legal representation to sports organizations, athletes and coaches involved in doping, selection and other sports related disputes. Peter has appeared as counsel before the International Court of Arbitration for Sport centered in Lausanne, Switzerland and has served as the Chief Arbitrator for several national level sports disputes. Peter has often appeared as counsel before the Sports Dispute Resolution Center of Canada and has also been asked to present at the SDRCC Arbitrators & Mediators Conference on his experience with the SDRCC. Peter also has broad experience with a wide range of litigation matters having spent more than a decade in a large Victoria, BC law firm where he was a partner. Peter has acted for clients in matters before all levels of court in British Columbia as well as the Federal Court of Canada, the Ontario Court of Appeal, Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Alberta Court of Queen's Bench, Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench, U.S. District Court in California and the Supreme Court of Western Australia. In addition to representing sports clients in disputes Peter teaches Sports Law at Camosun College and is often called upon to speak to various sports groups and organizations about legal matters, and more importantly, how to stay out of legal trouble.

Peter has been involved in High Performance sport for over 20 years in the sports of sailing, athletics and cycling. A two time winner of a Petro Canada Coaching Excellence Award most recently Peter has been a staff coach with Team Canada at the UCI Paracycling World Championships and several World Cups. Peter's athletes have had remarkable success including breaking 12 World Records in athletics and winning over a dozen Paralympic or World Championships medals in both cycling and athletics. While predominately a coach of Paralympic athletes Peter also coaches high performance able-bodied athletes including the highest placed Canadian finisher at the 2011 World Junior Championships (cycling).

Beyond direct coaching Peter sits on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Olympic Committee and is the President of Coaches of Canada. Peter also sits on the Board of Directors of both the Pacific Institute of Sports Excellence and Cycling BC. Peter serves as the President of Tripleshot Cycling; one of the largest cycling clubs in BC and is one of the organizers of a large (100+ rider) charity ride which has raised almost \$100,000 for cancer research to date.

Peter lives in Victoria, BC with his wife Karen, a 2004 Paralympian (Athletics) and current member of the Canadian Cycling Team who won the overall World Cup Title for class H1 in 2011.

## **EDUCATION**

May 2008 **Master of Arts, War Studies**  
Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont.

June 2001 **Diploma in High Performance Coaching**  
National Coaching Institute – Victoria  
University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C.

June 2001 **Bachelor of Laws**,  
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.

June 1998: **Diploma in Public Sector Management**,  
University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C.

June 1997: **Bachelor of Arts Degree**, Political Science,  
University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C.

August 1995: **Associate of Arts Degree**, Anthropology,  
Camosun College, Victoria, B.C.

## **AWARDS**

### **Coaching:**

Canadian Wheelchair Sports Association - Coach of the Year 2011  
National Coaching Excellence Award 2011  
BC Athletics High Performance Coaching Excellence 2011  
BC Athlete Voice–ACE Coach Award 2011  
Coaches Association of BC International Coach of the Year 2010  
National Coaching Excellence Award 2010  
BC Athletics High Performance Coach of the Year 2008  
BC Athletics High Performance Coach of the Year 2007  
Coaches Association of BC International Coach of the Year 2006  
BC Athletics High Performance Coach of the Year 2006  
BC Wheelchair Sports Coach of the Year 2005  
BC Wheelchair Sports Coach of the Year 2004  
Coaching Association of Canada– Coaching Recognition Award 2003  
BC Wheelchair Sports President’s Award 2003  
BC Wheelchair Sports Coach of the Year 2002  
BC Wheelchair Sports President’s Award 2001  
BC Athletics Coaching Excellence Award (Senior Coach) 2001  
BC Wheelchair Sports President’s Award 2000  
BC Wheelchair Sports President’s Award 1999

### **Other:**

Canadian Forces Decoration, 2004  
Massey Memorial Sword of Honour for Top Student, Basic Officer  
Course, 1992  
Duke of Edinburgh's Gold, and Silver Awards

## **ACADEMIC PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS**

Lawless, Peter R. and Eden, Shaun M. “Harassment Claims and Codes of  
Conduct: Is sport different from the “real” world?”. Coaches Plan,  
Summer 2011, (Vol 18, No. 2).

Lawless, Peter R. (Nov 2010). “How is this Disabled?”. Keynote address,  
SportNB 2010 Sport Summit, Dieppe, NB

Lawless, Peter R. (Nov 2010). “Scared of Wheels?”. SportNB 2010 Sport  
Summit, Dieppe, NB

Lawless, Peter R. (May 2010). "The Intersection of Sports and Civil Litigation". Canadian Bar Association (BC Branch), Victoria, BC

Lawless, Peter R. and Telles-Langdon, David." Should Your Moral Conduct as an Athlete Follow You Into the Profession of Coaching?" Coaches Plan, Spring 2010 (Vol.17 No. 2).

Lawless, Peter R. (Feb 2009)."Sports Dispute Resolution". 2009 AGM, BC Hockey Association, Vancouver, BC.

Lawless, Peter R. (May 2006). 'Broken arrows, broken dreams: the myth of the Avro Arrow'. 17th Military History Colloquium, Laurier Centre for Military Strategic and Disarmament Studies, University of Western Ontario.

Lawless, Peter R. (Apr 2006). 'The workings of the U.S. military commissions at Guantanamo Bay'. 4th Research Group in International Security Colloquium, University of Montreal.

Lawless, Peter R. (Feb 2006). 'Why use military commissions?' 8th Annual Conference on War & Security, Centre for Strategic Studies, University of Calgary.

## **POST SECONDARY TEACHING**

Sport and Fitness Leadership 420, "Sport & Fitness Law", Centre for Sport and Exercise Education, Camosun College, (Sept-Dec 2010, Sept-Dec 2011)