

83 College Street
Kingston, Ontario
K7L 4L5
613-328-4015
john@johncurtis.ca

JOHN CURTIS B.A. (Hon.), L.L.B.
Barrister & Solicitor, Mediator and Olympian

www.johncurtis.ca

EDUCATION

- 1998 Certified Mediator
(Certificates from CDR Associates and The Conflict Consensus Institute)
- 1998 Called to the Ontario Bar
- 1995 L.L.B. Queen's University
- 1990 B.A. Hon. Major in Philosophy, Queen's University

Executive Summary of Sport Related Experience

John brings a unique and valuable perspective to the SDRCC dispute resolution process. John has first hand experience as an Athlete and a senior level executive at a National Sport Organization. John is a 16 year veteran of the Canadian Sailing Team and Represented Canada as an Olympian in Athens in 2004. After the Games, he served as the High Performance Manager and In-house Legal Counsel for the Canadian Yachting Association (now Sail Canada).

John is a practicing lawyer with significant experience before the SDRCC as legal counsel representing both Sports Organizations and Athletes. He has been conducting mediations since 1999. The focus of John's mediation work has been on workplace conflict with specific experience in municipal government, public schools, colleges, universities, police forces and healthcare. He also has experience with a variety of commercial disputes.

Mediation and Negotiation Teaching Experience

2009- 2011 Adjunct Lecturer in ADR - Queen's University Law School.

2009 - designed and delivered the course on Negotiation (LAW 341)

2010 and 2011 - designed and delivered the Alternative Dispute Resolution course (LAW 343) covering **negotiation, mediation and arbitration.**

These courses were offered in the winter terms and consisted of 16, three hour classes that combined lectures and skills based activities. John continues to guest lecture at the Law School in these subject areas.

2001- 2014 Roster Mediator and Instructor
Mediation Centre of Southeastern Ontario (MSCO)

One of the three founding members of MCSO, John continues to work as one of several instructors for the Mediation Centre's 40 hour Certificate Courses on Negotiation Skills, Mediation Skills and Advanced Mediation Skills. These courses are offered to the general public 2-3 times per year and are also delivered in-house for private organizations both large and small. John has taught a full-day section of the Negotiation Course for over 10 years and is the lead instructor for the Advanced Mediation Skills Course.

To learn more about John's approach to mediation please see the numerous articles he has written at www.johncurtis.ca

1998-2014 Practice of Law

John completed articles with the law firm of Blake's in Ottawa. He began practice as an associate with a boutique litigation firm in Kingston. The primary focus at this firm was vehicle accident litigation, Long Term Disability litigation as well as commercial litigation.

In 2001, John opened his own law firm concentrating on the same areas as above as well as employment law. His practice of law he has included a wide variety of areas but has focused mostly on Sport Law, and Employment Law, working with many of our National Sport Organizations, Provincial Sport Organizations, and the Canadian Olympic Committee.

OTHER EMPLOYMENT - Experience with the Canadian Amateur Sport System

2005-2006 High Performance Manager and Corporate Counsel for the Canadian Yachting Association (CYA – now called Sail Canada)

In 2005, John was asked to replace the High Performance Director and also act as General Counsel for CYA while the Director took a sabbatical. This is where John's interest in sport law was sparked. He has since appeared as **arbitration counsel** for several athletes and National Sport Organizations before the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada. In 2008, John was counsel for Equine Canada on a leading decision for issuing a cost award against an athlete in favour of an NSO.

http://www.crdsc-sdrcc.ca/resource_centre/pdf/English/453_SDRCC%2008-0085.pdf

John continued, on a part-time basis, with his private law and mediation practice through this period of employment with CYA and also wrote an instructional book that is still used in sailing schools across the country.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF NOTE

Member of the Canadian Olympic Sailing Team 2004

John represented Canada in Athens in 2004 with Oskar Johansson in the double-handed multihull event (Tornado Class). John was a member of the Canadian Sailing Team for 16 years.

VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY WORK

Supervisor of Queen's Mediation Project with Small Claims Court 1998-2000

Limestone District Board of Education, High School Mediation Project 2001-2003

Chair of the Disabled Sailing Initiative at the Kingston Yacht Club 2000-2001

Able Sail Kingston (ASK) Founding Committee Member (ASK is the result of an initiative John helped to establish in 2000 which has become a highly a successful and popular program that has introduced sailing to people with disabilities) 2002-2013

<http://www.kingstonyachtclub.com/ablesail/>

Clean Air Champions Board of Directors 2013-2014

Athlete Representative for the Olympic Development Committee for sailing 2001-2004

Athlete Representative to the Canadian Yachting Association Board of Directors 2005

Member of the Athlete Development Committee of the Canadian Yachting Association 2012

Board of Directors of the Kingston Yacht Club (Director of Junior Sailing) 1999

President, Coach and co-founder of the Queen's Sailing Team 1992-1993

President of the Queen's Sailing Team Booster Club 2011-2014