



James Bunting

Founding Partner

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Practice Area

Litigation

Board Memberships

Jays Care Foundation
Former Chair, Camp Oochigeas

Professional Memberships

Ontario Bar Association
The Advocates' Society

Bar Admission

Ontario, 2003

Education

University of Western Ontario,
LL.B., 2002; B.A., 1999

Community Involvement

Volunteer, Camp Oochigeas

Language

English

Jim Bunting is a founding partner of Tyr LLP. He is a trial lawyer with extensive experience in sports-related disputes. This includes representing athletes, coaches, agents, Anti-Doping Agencies and International Federations in respect of a variety of issues, including doping infractions, allegations of discrimination, contractual disputes, team selection appeals and disciplinary proceedings. Jim served as the Athlete Ombudsperson to the Canadian Olympic Committee during the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio and clerked with the Court of Arbitration for Sport at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City.

In addition to sports-related litigation, Jim has a diverse and complex commercial trial practice. Jim is consistently named one of Canada's leading litigators by legal directories. His recognitions include being repeatedly named in the Report on Business/Lexpert special edition Canada's Leading Litigation Lawyers, in Chambers Canada and in Benchmark Canada as a Litigation Star in Class Actions, Commercial Litigation and Securities. Jim has taught international sports law as an adjunct professor at the ISDE International Sports Law Masters program in Madrid, Spain.

REPRESENTATIVE SPORTS RELATED WORK

- Representing Caster Semenya, and before her Dutee Chand, in a series of landmark international rulings by the Court of Arbitration for Sport relating to the participation of women with naturally high testosterone levels in the female category.
- Representing the World Anti-Doping Agency in a civil proceeding commenced by three Russian cyclists.
- Successfully represented the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) before the Court of Arbitration for Sport in upholding the decision of the IPC to exclude the Russian Paralympic Committee from the 2016 Paralympic Games.
- Represented Tyson Fury (former heavyweight champion) in respect of doping allegations brought by UK Anti-Doping.
- Represented Johan Bruyneel (the former team director of the US Postal and Discovery Teams) before the Court of Arbitration for Sport in an appeal from a decision of a AAA Award imposing a ten year ban on Mr. Bruyneel.
- Acted for numerous athletes before the Court of Arbitration for Sport, Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada, National and International Federations in successfully having doping related suspensions substantially reduced or eliminated.
- Represented Rogers/The Toronto Blue Jays in respect of the human rights complaint filed about the Cleveland Team name and logo.
- Represented the members of the Canadian Women's National Soccer Team creating the first Canadian Women's Player's Association as well as in a compensation dispute with the Canadian Soccer Association.
- Represented a team in the NHL in respect of a contractual dispute.
- Acted for Rogers Sportsnet in an action for defamation brought by the former Commissioner of the Canadian Football League.
- Represented Chris Moiser, a transgender athlete, challenging an international regulation that impacted his ability to compete in the male category.