

Meet 3 Legal Industry Pros At The Paris Olympics

By **Aebra Coe**

Law360 (August 1, 2024, 2:13 PM EDT) -- Legal professionals who work or have worked at firms like Mayer Brown, Crowell & Moring and Pinsent Masons are participating in this year's Olympic Games as a runner, a field hockey player and a water polo referee.

Clearly an ambitious group, two of the participants are currently working in the legal industry — having prepared for the Olympics while working demanding day jobs — while a third shifted focus exclusively to her sport after a career in law.

The legal industry delegates heading to the Olympics this year include a Mayer Brown paralegal who is a member of the South African men's field hockey team, a marathon runner who left her career as a London corporate lawyer to focus on her sport, and a Crowell & Moring paralegal who served this week as the first U.S. woman to referee a water polo match at the Olympics.

Here, learn more about the lawyers and legal professionals who are making their appearance in Paris' 2024 Games.

Keenan Horne

Field Hockey

Keenan Horne, a paralegal in Mayer Brown's Paris office, is competing as vice captain of the South Africa men's field hockey team at the Olympics. The team had its opening game last week against the Netherlands. It has since played Germany, Great Britain and Spain, and is set to play France on Friday.

Horne previously competed on South Africa's field hockey team at the Tokyo Olympics in 2021.

The athlete and jurist grew up in South Africa, according to his law firm. He earned a business degree, law degree and his first master of laws in sports labor law at Stellenbosch University just outside Cape Town.

Horne joined Mayer Brown in 2023 and works as a paralegal on the firm's international arbitration team in Paris.

Amid his international arbitration work at the firm, Horne followed a rigorous training schedule with



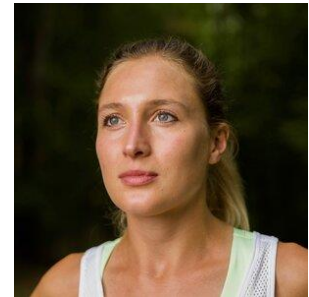
early mornings and evenings spent at the gym leading up to this year's Olympics, according to the firm. He also plays on a professional club hockey team in Paris.

"It definitely hasn't been easy to prepare for the biggest event of my life while working full time," Horne told Law360 Pulse. "I often think about the athletes who are fully professional and solely focused on their discipline. However, I always remind myself that professionalism isn't defined by a paycheck. Although I may not have as much time to train, I just have to make the most of my time when I do take the field. The sacrifice is always worth it in the end, as I am living my dream."

Rose Harvey

Marathon

After spending several years as a corporate lawyer at Pinsent Masons LLP and RW Blears LLP in London, as well as in-house, Rose Harvey decided in 2022 that she would put her legal career on hold to pursue running full time as a professional sponsored by sportswear brand Puma, according to her personal website.



She's currently at the Olympics representing Great Britain in the women's marathon, Olympics records show, which will take place Aug. 11. She is also the co-host and co-creator of a running show called "5 Miles Easy."

A relative newcomer to professional running, Harvey began to train more after she was laid off from her law job during the COVID-19 pandemic. She signed up for the Cheshire Marathon in 2021 and logged a time that earned her a spot on England's national half marathon team, her website says.

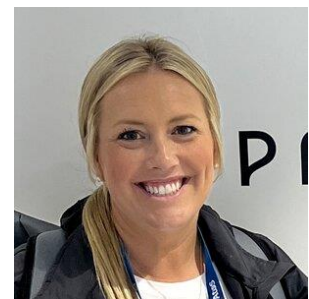
In 2022 she gained the sponsorship of Puma and since then has competed at the World Championships, became a British champion at the 2022 London Marathon and last year ran a time at the Chicago Marathon that put her sixth on the British all-time list, the site says.

"I am beyond excited to have been selected for the Great Britain team at the 2024 Paris Olympics," Harvey says on her website. "Of course, there's a lot that goes on behind the scenes and I'm incredibly grateful to everyone in my team who has believed in me and supported me along the way. Follow your dreams. They might just become your reality."

Jenn McCall

Water Polo

In addition to her day job as a healthcare recovery specialist at Crowell & Moring, Jenn McCall has been preparing to break barriers, earlier this week becoming the first American woman to referee a water polo match at the Olympic Games.



McCall has been both a legal professional and a water polo official for more than a decade, and before that she was a member of the women's water polo team at the University of Southern California.

After working as a paralegal and legal assistant at three different law firms in California and the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, she landed at Crowell in 2020 and later shifted roles at the firm from a senior paralegal to a healthcare recovery specialist, according to her LinkedIn profile. She's

been officiating water polo matches since 2008.

"Taking part in the Olympic Games is an absolute dream come true," McCall told Law360 Pulse. "As a young athlete, your childhood goals include being an Olympian, and although making it here as a referee is not the path a child might dream of, the goal is achieved."

Many hours and years of dedication, practice and sacrifice went into honing her craft in order to be chosen, she said, and she is proud to represent the U.S. as its first woman water polo referee at the Olympics.

"It is a huge compliment to the women who came before me, paving the way, and is groundbreaking and exciting for future female officials," McCall said. "We are seeing more and more females in sport, including this Olympics having equal male and female athletes. Being selected for this position is the most humbling and the biggest honor I could ever imagine."

--Editing by Robert Rudinger.

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