

UWAC Announces New Head Coach

For the past decade UWAC Head Coach Brett Lumley has engineered a culture of excellence within the University of Windsor Athletics Club (UWAC). Brett, and his talented coaching staff have contributed to the success of numerous athletes. Under Brett's tutelage, many athletes and coaches from the UWAC Club have been named to provincial with several also having the honour of wearing the maple leaf as members of national teams. Brett himself has proudly been a member of Canada's coaching staff on 10 occasions, acting as Head Coach of the 2016 World Junior Team as well as a Team Canada Coach at the 2022 Commonwealth Games and 2021 Paralympic Games, to name a few.

Effectively immediately, UWAC's new Head Coach is Celine Freeman-Gibb. Over the past month, Celine has already started to "learn the ropes" from Lumley. Freeman-Gibb has recently begun her 5th season coaching with the University of Windsor Lancers and just finished her 8th outdoor season coaching with UWAC. This past summer Freeman-Gibb was named as a Head Coach for the Ontario Summer Games in Mississauga, Ontario. These Games gave her real life experience in the role; as Head Coach she was responsible for overseeing her coaching staff and a roster of over 75 athletes!

"I'm extremely excited for this opportunity," Freeman-Gibb said, "Being part of UWAC as an athlete and transitioning into a coach was one of the best decisions I've ever made. I am looking forward to learning all I can from Brett and the other experienced coaches on our roster as I transition to head coach."



"Taking a step like this can seem intimidating but the support from my athletes, parents and fellow coaches has been phenomenal. I think it is always good to shake things up and I believe this is what UWAC needs to continue to grow and flourish in the coming years." Freeman-Gibb said.

Looking back over his years with UWAC, Lumley reflected, "It has been my pleasure and privilege to work with athletes from the grassroots level all the way to the national level. I am truly humbled to be a part of their athletic journey and will continue to be there in the future."

Lumley is stepping away from the role of head coach, but not stepping away from the track. His plan is to continue on as the club's General Manager, allowing for a new face to be named to the UWAC head coaching position. "Moving forward, we would like the next generation to start taking on more responsibility and have the opportunity to continue to learn and grow alongside, and with support from our more experienced coaches." said Lumley, "We are continuously striving for success and I think this change will help bring in new ideas and more energy to the club."

"On behalf of the UWAC Board, we are extremely happy and excited to have Celine become our new Head Coach. We have watched her as she progressed from athlete to coach to now Head Coach. As our Club grows we are thrilled to have younger coaches step up and lead the way to more championships and to coaching more elite athletes. We look forward to a new era as Celine takes over from Brett Lumley having learned from his expertise, skills and knowledge. Welcome Celine, we are very glad to have you join us" commented Club President, Helen Vasilic.

Registration is now open for UWAC Cross Country season. The club's Indoor Track and Field season kicks off November 1st at 6:00pm.