



BIOGRAPHY – Mr. JOEL BOUZOU

Date of birth: 30/10/1955

Country: France

Family situation: Married to Alexandra Tereshonok since 2013, 2 children.

Joël Bouzou holds a scientific baccalaureate, a CAPEPS and a DESS in Law and Sports Economics.

Born into a sporting family, sport has been the common thread of his life. But more than sport, it was its values that shaped the person he became. First at the national and then international level, sport practice allowed him to meet humanity in its differences and its diversity to the point of conceiving a tool for dialogue, social cohesion, diplomacy and peace, a universal language that can be used all over the world.

Joël Bouzou is the President and Founder of “Peace and Sport, L'Organisation pour la Paix par le Sport”.

Founded in 2007, Peace and Sport is a Monaco-based organisation placed under the High Patronage of H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco.

Its objective is to bring the structuring values of sport to the heart of communities in crisis throughout the world, making sport a vehicle for tolerance, respect and citizenship at the service of Sustainable Peace. It organizes Forums, develops programs and establishes Diplomatic relations. Peace and Sport is regularly cited for its actions in the UN Secretary General's report. Joël Bouzou often finds himself in direct communication with Heads of States and with World Sport leaders.

The “Champions for Peace”, brought together in a collective of more than 100 high-level athletes personally committed to the peace through sport movement, constitute one of the fundamental pillars of Peace and Sport.

In November 2011, Joël Bouzou was elected for the first time as President of the World Olympians Association (WOA) and reelected in 2015 and 2020. The WOA is the only international organization which unites all of the 120,000 athletes to have competed in an Olympic event.

The WOA is fulfilling two major missions:

- Uniting and serving the Olympians during and after their career, through a whole range of programs.
- Serving society, by promoting the Olympic ideals and supporting the Olympians' involvement in public service making the most of their capacity to act as powerful role models for the youth of today and foster social cohesion across the globe.

Current Vice President of the Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne (UIPM) and highly-accomplished Modern Pentathlete himself, Joël Bouzou has participated in four Olympic Games (Moscow 1980, Los Angeles 1984, Seoul 1988 and Barcelona 1992) winning a bronze medal during the 1984 Games. In 1987, he won the World Championship title in Modern Pentathlon.

He is also a member of the IOC “Olympism 365” Commission and previously of the “Sport and Active Society” Commission.

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In 1991, Joël Bouzou founded the association "Rassemblement par le Sport" ("Together through Sport") and created the "Champions in the Street" program, which helps the social insertion of young people through sport in city suburbs, using champions as role models.

Joël Bouzou is also a shareholder of several private companies.

A French national, Joël has been awarded the Legion of Honour, the highest decoration in France, and the National Order of Merit. He has also been decorated with the French medal 'Médaille d'Or de la Jeunesse et des Sports' ('Gold Medal for Youth and Sports').

In 2010, Joël was awarded a Diploma Honoris Causa in Humanities from the UN-mandated University for Peace in Costa-Rica in recognition of "his unique worldwide leadership role in promoting peace and mutual understanding among different cultures, and his leadership of organizations devoted to these objectives."

He was also awarded in 2012 "Medal of Honour" by the Russian Federation's Ministry of Sports and became in 2015 "Commander in the National Order of Mali".

In October 2019, he was appointed "Ambassador at Large" for the International Council of Traditional Sports and Games (ICTSG) which contributes to the convention for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage, voted by UNESCO in 2003.

Joël Bouzou is currently Advisor to H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco and Member of the Board Committee of the A.S. Monaco Football Club.