

# Professional Investment Services

## Speaker Profile - Ken Wallace



**Category:** Gold Medal Olympic kayaker

**Employed by PIS since:** 2008

**Speaking topics:**

- Question and answer forum
- Olympic gold
- My Olympic story

**Additional information:**

- Comfortable presenting to audience of any size
- Q&A forum upto 1 hour.
- Microphone preferred for audience of 75 or more.

**Notice:** A minimum of 4-6 weeks notice is preferred



### Biography:

It was Ken Wallace's Olympic performance in 2008 that put him firmly at the forefront of world kayaking. He made history at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, beating Canada's Olympic champion Adam van Koeverden to the gold medal in the K1 500-metre sprint and Britain's Tim Brabants to the bronze in the K1 1000 metres. The dual victories made him the first Australian to win medals in both 500-metre and 1000-metre kayak events at the same Games.

It's hard to believe that just eight years prior to the 2008 Games, Ken barely knew what kayaking was all about. Inspired by his love of surf and sun, the Gold Coast lifesaver took up the sport to improve his performance in the ski leg of competitive surf lifesaving: 'I didn't really know what kayaking was, all I knew was that it was similar to the ski leg in the Ironman Series'.

Quick and determined, this power house has proven he is a major new talent and, with numerous accolades under his belt including the 2008 AIS Athlete of the Year award (with track and field athlete Heath Francis), Ken is assured a golden future.

2009 saw Ken win a bronze medal at the World Championships and is looking forward to defending his Olympic title in London, 2012.