

## Ali Jawad

Ali moved to the UK at 6 months old from Lebanon. Living in Leeds he previously competed internationally in Judo. In 2009, Ali was diagnosed with incurable inflammatory bowel disease (Crohn's disease). Due to this illness, he retired from sport.

In 2010 Ali's career and life was invigorated when he underwent lifesaving surgery. Just 4 months later, Ali finished 5th at the 2010 Commonwealth Games.



Ali went on to develop and improve within power lifting, finishing a frustrating 4th at the London Paralympic Games due to a judging error. He quickly put the disappointment behind him and in one year became the World Champion, broke the World Record twice, and won a Commonwealth Games Bronze medal.

Ali came home from Rio 2016 with a Silver medal and a renewed determination to compete in Tokyo 2020, and we can't think of anyone who deserved it more.

Ali has recently battled back against all the odds, being a matter of days away from forced retirement, Ali defied the odds again to win ANOTHER Commonwealth Games Bronze medal. This year, Ali will be looking to not only create Paralympic history, but also to make history on the able-bodied circuit.

Inspirational, Determined, Resilient, Ali Jawad is the ultimate athlete.