11KBW's barristers advise and represent clients on sports law and sports-related matters, both as a stand-alone specialism and as a natural adjunct to our award-winning employment practice, as well as our highly-acclaimed human rights, regulatory, public, EU, data protection/data privacy and commercial law practices. Members have extensive experience in representing sports men and women, agents, clubs, regulatory bodies and sponsors in the full range of sporting events. We are also experienced in conducting mediations and arbitrations in a sporting context.

Areas of Expertise
- Anti-doping
- Commercial
- Competition/Antitrust
- Disciplinary
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment
- Governance
- Integrity/Litigation
- Player Agent Cases
- Player Contracts
- Regulatory
- Sports Law Advisors
- UK
- Football
- Motor Sport
- Rugby

11KBW
11 King's Bench Walk
Temple, London
EC4Y 7EQ
United Kingdom
T: +44 (0) 207 632 8500
mark.dann@11kbw.com
http://www.11kbw.com
@11KBW

James Goudie QC
Barrister, QC
T: +44 (0)207 632 8500
james.goudie@11kbw.com

Christopher Jeans QC
Barrister, QC
T: +44 (0)207 632 8500
christopher.jeans@11kbw.com

Simon Devonshire QC
Barrister, QC
T: +44 (0)207 632 8500
simon.devonshire@11kbw.com

Daniel Stiltz QC
Barrister, QC
T: +44 (0)207 632 8500
daniel.stiltz@11kbw.com

Sean Jones QC
Barrister, QC
T: +44 (0)207 632 8500
sean.jones@11kbw.com

Simon Forshaw
Barrister
T: +44 (0)207 632 8500
simon.forshaw@11kbw.com

Tom Cross
Barrister
T: +44 (0)207 632 8500
tom.cross@11kbw.com

Michael Lee
Barrister
T: +44 (0)207 632 8500
michael.lee@11kbw.com

Ronnie Dennis
Barrister
T: +44 (0)207 632 8500
ronnie.dennis@11kbw.com
2 Temple Gardens

The 2TG Sports Team comprises specialist advocates who have extensive experience of acting for clients in a range of major sports including football, rugby (union and league), motorsports (F1, MotoGP, motocross, karting), cycling, equestrianism, cricket, skiing, netball and tennis.

Drawing on Chambers’ established expertise in commercial law, insurance, employment and personal injury, the 2TG Sports Team provides a complete service to clients in complex sporting disputes.

Such disputes often give rise to arguments as to the interpretation and application of the rules and regulations of major sports governing bodies (e.g. FA, Premier League, RFU, FIA, MSA, ACU, ECB, LTA) and technical and contractual disputes relating to a wide range of sports specific matters.

Our clients include clubs, teams, match officials, governing bodies, event organisers, schools and many individual competitors.

Areas of Expertise

Sports
Athletics | Cricket | Cycling | Equestrian | Football | Motor Sport | Rugby

Nina Gootamali
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7822 1222
ng@2tg.co.uk

Stuart Benzie
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7822 1275
sbenzie@2tg.co.uk

Timothy Killen
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7822 1200
tkillen@2tg.co.uk

William Clerk
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7800 1236
wc@2tg.co.uk

Howard Palmer QC
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7800 1200
hpalmer@2tg.co.uk

Emily Albou
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7822 1200
ealbou@2tg.co.uk

Sam Stevens
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7800 1236
SSstevens@2tg.co.uk

Ruth Kennedy
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7800 1200
rkennedy@2tg.co.uk
3PB Barristers

3PB’s Sports Law Group has an exceptional reputation for its expertise, practice and service standards with members recognised in Chambers and Partners and Legal 500 and other directories. Its members act for Regulatory/Governing bodies and arbitral tribunals, athletes, clubs and teams, and coaches and managers in the UK and abroad.

The Group has expertise in corruption, doping, selection, on field and off field disputes, ownership and transfer disputes, IP and contractual disputes between sporting bodies and participants.

Areas of Expertise
- Anti-Corruption
- Anti-counterfeiting & Anti-piracy
- Anti-Doping Betting & Gaming
- Broadcasting | Commercial
- Contract Drafting | Contract Negotiations | Copyright
- Corporate | Criminal Law | Employment | Governance
- Intellectual Property | Licensing | Litigation | Patents
- Personal Injury | Player Contracts | Player-Agent Cases | Privacy and Confidentiality | Regulation
- Sports Law Advisors | Trade Marks | UK Welfare

Sports
- Athletics | Cricket | Cycling
- Football | Golf | Horse racing | Motor Sport | Rugby

Louis Weston
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7583 8055
louis.weston@3pb.co.uk

Nicholas Cotter
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7583 8055
nicholas.cotter@3pb.co.uk

Gemma White
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7583 8055
gemma.white@3pb.co.uk
4 New Square's barristers have a strong reputation for sports law – both in relation to sports disciplinary law and commercial sporting matters.

Where disputes are concerned, we draw on our passion for sport as well as our experience, expertise and advocacy skills fostered in commercial litigation and professional disciplinary matters. A number of the set’s silks and juniors are to be found regularly appearing in disciplinary tribunals and investigative inquiries, for both regulators and participants, across a diverse range of sports domestically and overseas.

For example, Chambers is one of the first ports of call for advice and representation for the IAAF, the IRB, the British Horseracing Authority, and the Amateur Boxing Association amongst other leading governing bodies. We have also been instructed by athletes, clubs and other entities in significant cases in the worlds of professional football, rugby and boxing, as well as across the Olympic and motor sports (including Formula One), including in the context of doping and alleged corruption.

In recognition of our strength in this field, in 2012 LOCOG appointed us, as a Chambers, to the London 2012 Legal Advice Service, and two of our number (Graeme McPherson QC and Daniel Saoul) were appointed to the specialist Advocates Panel, with a third (Graeme Mew) sitting as a Court of Arbitration for Sport panel member on London Games disputes. Members of Chambers were involved in virtually all of the high profile selection disputes relating to London 2012 (including the Rhythmic Gymnasts’ appeal, the Aaron Cook v British Taekwondo case and Rowley Douglas’ appeal to British Rowing) and also acted in a number of time critical anti-doping matters, including the IAAF’s successful appeal to CAS re the discus thrower Zoltan Kovago (Richard Liddell and Nick Broomfield acting for the IAAF), which we continue to do (both prosecuting and defending).

Members of Chambers also assist sporting bodies in non-contentious aspects of sporting governance and commerce. They have been responsible for advising on and drafting the articles of association and other constitutional and policy documents (including selection, disciplinary and welfare policies) for numerous organisations, have written the Sports Spread Betting Association’s standard terms and conditions and assisted in the updating of the Orders and Rules of Horse Racing. We also advise on commercial agreements, where our background in commercial law is of significant assistance.

Chambers also boasts a Judicial Officer for the International Rugby Board, a Specialist Member of the Football Association Judicial Panel, a member of the BHA’s disciplinary panel and one of two (rotating) Chairmen of the Lawn Tennis Association’s disciplinary panel. We also boast a CAS arbitrator amongst our number, as well as arbitrators and mediators appointed by Sport Resolutions and the National Anti-Doping Panel.

We are one of only 4 sets at the Bar recognised by Chambers & Partners as outstanding in sports law. Our barristers are also ranked individually by Chambers & Partners and the Legal 500 in the field of Sports law.
Al Tamimi & Company

Al Tamimi & Company is the first Middle East law firm to operate a dedicated Sports & Events Management practice and provide a comprehensive range of legal services throughout the Middle East region, covering all areas relevant to the sports industry.

Our practice comprises a team of experienced lawyers who work across a number of the firm’s legal disciplines. We provide specialised sports law advice to governing bodies, athletes, public agencies, sports rightsholders, international federations and event management companies on all matters relevant to the sports industry.

Our professionals have been leading the development of Sports Law practice in the region. In addition to being relied on by a growing range of clients, we are active in pro bono cases and thought leadership in the sector, appearing frequently as key contributors at local, regional and international conferences and seminars, as well as in online, print, TV, radio media and publications.

Steven Bainbridge heads up the Sports & Events Management practice and is based in our Dubai office. The practice has a regional focus operating a seamless and growing team of dedicated specialists working on sports related matters to provide a comprehensive and integrated service to our clients.

Steve Bainbridge
Head of the Sports & Events Management Sector, and Head of the Expo 2020 Sector
T: +971 4 364 1720
s.bainbridge@tamimi.com
Altius

Today, clients in the sports sector require a fully-fledged sports practice with a multi-disciplinary approach that is able to deliver expert advice in every field of law impacting upon the practice and organisation of sports. Our Sports Law practice consists entirely of leading experts who are each specialists in the field’s various legal issues and at the same time have a profound understanding of the sports business. Our sports law practice boasts several lawyers who are recognised by the legal directories as leading practitioners within sports law.

We fully understand the various aspects of national and international sports governing bodies’ regulations and their specific dispute resolution mechanisms. Our firm has ample experience before sports tribunals and arbitration panels, including representation of clients before the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

We advise athletes, intermediaries, investors, clubs sponsors, events organisers and sports governing bodies at both the national and international level.

The team consists of specialist that can help you on matters concerning:

- Competition law issues
- Corporate sports matters and M&A
- Disciplinary matters, including doping issues
- IP and personality rights
- Licensing and regulatory matters
- Sports infrastructure
- Sports mediation and dispute resolution advice on sports governing body regulations
- Trade mark registrations and infringements
- Hiring and firing, including transfer negotiations
- Contractual disputes
- Acquisition of Belgian nationality and naturalisation
- Broadcasting and publishing agreements

Sven Demeulemeester
Partner
T: +32 2 426 14 14
sven.demeulemeester@altius.com

Grégory Ernes
Senior Associate
T: +32 2 426 14 14
gregory.ernes@altius.com

Alexander Vantyghem
Associate
T: +32 2 426 14 14
alexander.vantyghem@altius.com

Havenlaan 86C Box 414
Brussels
1000
Belgium
T: +32 2 426 14 14
info@altius.com

Areas of Expertise

Sports
Basketball | Cycling | Football
Blackstone Chambers

Members of Blackstone Chambers have exceptional expertise and experience across all areas of sports law, ranging from state control of the sector, through sports body governance and regulation, and employment and other horizontal relationships between participants, to all aspects of the commercial exploitation of sport. The reason for the breadth of such areas covered by Chambers, and why it has been able to develop its reputation as the leading set for sports law, lies in its existing strengths in a unique combination of complementary fields of practice in which sports law finds its origins, in particular, EU and competition, human rights, employment and commercial law. As a result, members of Blackstone Chambers attract a wide range of clients, from international and national sports governance bodies, through sporting individuals, teams, clubs and agents, to broadcasters and other commercial partners, and regularly appear before all courts and tribunals, nationally and internationally, dealing with sports cases.

Endorsement for the practice is given in the current independent legal directories:

**Chambers UK 2015** – “Blackstone Chambers is acknowledged as the leading sports set at the Bar.” “The set stands apart from its peers for sports work: no other set can match either the breadth of its expertise or the sheer number of its sports experts.”

**Legal 500 2014** – “The best set for sports work by quite some distance.”

Please refer to Blackstone Chambers’ website for the full listing of barristers who undertake sport law work.
Captivate Legal & Sports Solutions

Captivate’s mission is to provide bespoke legal and sports advice, representation and training to individuals and organisations who want optimum levels of expertise and certainty to match their resources.

Captivate provides its services in accordance with the following principles:

- Consultancy model
- Assessing risks and managing them positively
- Promoting robust governance and ethics
- Tailored to your resources
- Innovation in design and delivery
- Value added by industry and sector knowledge
- Analysis of current issues in law and sports

Captivate’s focus is on advising individuals, governing bodies and public organisations on sports law, business and policy. We have expertise in integrity, governance, regulatory and disciplinary matters but have also advising clients on a diverse range of other sporting issues such as transfers, broadcasting and dispute resolution proceedings.

Captivate’s sports law experience:

- Representing an athlete in a selection dispute in wrestling for the 2014 Commonwealth Games before Sport Resolutions.
- Representing an athlete in an appeal against funding being withdrawn in swimming before Sport Resolutions.
- Advising a UK ice hockey player on his appeal against an 8 year ban for two doping violations.
- Advising on the law relating to restraint of trade clauses and interim injunctions and the discretion in both sporting regulations and the civil law.
- Representing a boxing promoter and manager in high profile regulatory hearings and commercial litigation including libel and defamation issues.
- Delivering workshop sessions on good governance for INTERPOL/FIFA at their match-fixing events around the world.
- Being part of an emergency Ethics Panel for an international federation.
- Producing a risk assessment, intelligence protocol and investigation action plan for a national sports governing body regarding betting, integrity and match-fixing.
- Drafting trade mark applications, licences and assignments.
- Drafting cease and desist letters and associated undertakings.
- Amending a sports governing body’s disciplinary procedures and regulations and delivering training on the changes.
- Advising whether a prize promotion associated to the sponsorship of a major sporting event was a regulated activity under gambling legislation.
- Advising an international sports federation on issues surrounding betting integrity, match-fixing and corruption and drafting case reports to submit to the relevant disciplinary body.
- Delivering training for FIFPro (the world football players’ union) in the Netherlands as part of their Executive Education Programme.
- Writing a report on international and European sports policy for the Council of Europe and delivered it at their Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport meeting.
Charles Russell Speechlys

Charles Russell Speechlys is the preeminent law firm for clients in the sport sector, and has been at the forefront of providing legal advice in the sports sector for more than 100 years.

Reacting to the ever-evolving environment of this sector, they have changed the way legal services are offered to clients in the UK and internationally, developing the notion of ‘Sports Law evolved’, echoed throughout their work.

The team is comprised of individuals spanning the firm’s full service offering. We are able to advise our sporting clients on issues across corporate, finance, private client, real estate, construction, litigation, sports regulatory, data protection, general commercial, sports rights (media, data, sponsorship), and IP.

This range of legal expertise, with a particular focus on the sports sector on an international level, enables Charles Russell Speechlys to provide a breadth of service that is unrivalled in the legal market.

Experience includes:

- We are the legal adviser to Nike in the UK, advising on a variety of matters ranging from sponsorship, merchandising, marketing, advertising and retail
- Advising the ITF on all aspects of its 25-year, US $3 billion project with the sports investment group Kosmos to revamp the Davis Cup
- We have advised the British Horseracing Authority (previously the Jockey Club) for many years and have successfully acted for them in numerous landmark cases
- A number of our sports team have been seconded in high profile sports roles, gaining critical experience in-house (including Nike, CSM, ICC, BHA).
Dentons

The Dentons Sports Group provides commercial solutions for clubs, governing bodies, rights holders, broadcasters and individual sportsmen and women.

The knowledge and experience of the practice spans the entire sports industry. The Sports team advises on a range of matters from commercial and regulatory issues to stadium planning and construction, employment and litigation.

With offices in more than 125 locations serving 50-plus countries, members of the Dentons Sports team have acted for some of the world's wealthiest people and leading financial institutions on some of the most well-known franchises in professional sport working across all major leagues including in the US, Canada, UK, Europe and the Middle East.

The Dentons Sports team can advise on any type of legal issues, including:

- Corporate/M&A Transactions;
- Broadcast, New Media and Digital Rights;
- Bidding for Major Events;
- Sponsorship, Merchandising and Licensing Agreements;
- Regulatory and Competition Law issues;
- Disputes, including club-agent-player disputes;
- Stadium Development and Financing.

Members of Dentons Sports team are regularly quoted in the international press and provide insights for the Dentons LawInSport blog available on this site.

Richard Barham
Partner
T: +44 (0)20 7242 1212
richard.barham@dentons.com
Field-R Law

Field-R Law Offices is a boutique law firm that provides legal expertise in the fields of sports and entertainment law.

We specialize in the areas of contract drafting, negotiation, and consultation regarding copyright, publicity rights, and related intellectual property matters for our entertainment clients in the film, music, broadcasting, publishing, information communications, and digital content industries, and for our clients involved in professional and amateur sports, including baseball, soccer, and martial arts.

The court room is not our main "field" when matters of dispute arise in the business world, we put all our efforts into reaching a speedy settlement outside of the court room. Our expertise includes negotiating the acquisition of rights related to content, handling the legal aspects of business transactions, and acting as an agent when negotiating for athletes. Field-R also assists athletes who negotiate their own contracts with team management by providing advice on the strategic issues involved in the matter. In addition, we provide strategic advice regarding public and media relations including countermeasures for weekly tabloids, crisis management, and international press releases. We also take action through sports mediation and litigation to create laws regarding the portrait rights of athletes and artists in legal areas where there are few precedents or where laws have not been established. Our lawyers have also performed extensive research and given lectures regarding the issue of fair, balanced, and impartial rulings in the field of entertainment and sports law.

To provide you with a better understanding of Field-R, a detailed description of our sports and entertainment law services can be found below.

Entertainment Law Practice

- Film Business Legal Services
- Music Business Legal Services
- Broadcasting, Publishing, and Information Communications Industry-Related Legal Services
- Additional Content and Entertainment Business-Related Services

Sports Law Practice

- Athletes
- Sports Associations Law Services
- Additional Sports Business-Related Legal Services

Takuya Yamazaki
Founder and Managing Partner
T: +81-3-5775-7201
tak@field-r.com
Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz

Frankfurt Kurnit’s Sports Group represents a wide variety of clients, including leagues, teams, governing bodies, and other rights holders; leading corporate sponsors, sports brands, fitness brands, marketing agencies, multi-media organizations, and content distributors; and well-known athletes, management companies, coaches, sportscasters, sportswriters, and executives. We are able to assist with the following:

- **Activate Sponsorships and Related Marketing Campaigns**
- **Develop and Protect Sports Brands**
- **Negotiate Individual Athlete Agreements**
- **Structure Television, OTT, and Other Media Distribution Deals**
- **Power Consumer Brands**
- **Review and Clear Programming**
- **Create Promotions**
- **Advance “Cause” Marketing Initiatives**
- **Negotiate Employment Contracts**
- **Litigation and Arbitration**
- **Preserve and Manage Wealth and Organize Charitable Foundations**

Our long-term experience in the media, entertainment, and advertising industries benefits sports clients and brands seeking to exploit entertainment, sponsorship, merchandising, and other ancillary revenue opportunities. We understand the sensibilities of celebrities and high-end talent, and we work collaboratively with other athlete representatives, such as wealth managers, agencies, and management companies. Our deep bench of attorneys with intimate industry experience enables us to service a high volume of work in various areas – making us valuable to all sports industry constituents.

### Areas of Expertise

- Acquisitions and Financing
- Advertising
- Ambush Marketing
- Anti-counterfeiting & Anti-piracy
- Arbitration
- Broadcasting
- Commercial
- Constitutional Issues
- Contract Drafting
- Copyright
- Corporate
- Corporate Structuring
- Defamation
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment
- Employment and Incentives
- Governance
- Image Rights
- Intellectual Property
- Licensing
- Litigation
- Media Rights – Fair Use
- Mediation
- Merchandise
- Player Contracts
- Player-Agent Cases
- Policy Advocacy
- Press Publication Concerns
- Privacy
- Confidentiality
- Professional Negligence
- Reputation Management
- Sports Law Advisors
- Sponsorship
- Sports Management
- Tax
- Technology
- USA

### Sports

- American Football
- Athletics
- Baseball
- Basketball
- eSports
- Football
- Golf
- Hockey
- Motor Racing
- Olympic
- Tennis

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**LawSport™ | Legal Advisors 2019**
Gateley Plc

Gateley Plc has built an in depth understanding and experience of the sports and leisure sector from many years of providing high quality, commercial and practical legal advice to clients.

As a result of our sector expertise we are always able to meet the demands of any sports or leisure business. Not only are we one of the few law firms that has the relevant expertise to deliver first class advice on all issues that sport and leisure clients may face, our experience in this sector is market leading, as acknowledged by Legal 500. We are ranked in Tier 1 for Sports and John Burns (1st Key individual) is also ranked as a ‘Leading Individual’.

John Burns
Partner
T: +44 (0) 161 836 7923
john.burns@gateleyplc.com

Stephen Roberts
Partner
T: +44 (0) 161 836 7749
Stephen.roberts@gateleyplc.com

Conor Hannon
Solicitor
T: +44 (0) 161 836 7713
conor.hannon@gateleyplc.com

Areas of Expertise

Sports
Boxing | Cricket | Football | Horseracing | Netball
Global Sports Advocates LLP

Global Sports Advocates is a sports law firm devoted to the protection of athletes' rights, the delivery of trusted advice on sports regulation and policy and the management of crisis situations.

Trusted representation in sports arbitration and litigation including anti-doping, intellectual property, contract, salary, sports injury, sports products liability and mislabeled supplement cases.

In the high profile world of sports, when a crisis happens, a wrong move can come back to haunt you. Global Sports Advocates provides trusted advice, guidance and management of sensitive, crisis situations.

Global Sports Advocates delivers trusted advice on sports regulation and policy to athletes, governing bodies and companies around the world so the law is no barrier to entry into the sports world.

Global Sports Advocates provides trusted representation in athletic disputes successfully handling matters across a broad spectrum including cases in the following areas:

- Unauthorized use of name, likeness and image (right of publicity)
- Team Selection and Eligibility
- Sports Litigation and Arbitration
- Mislabeled Supplement Cases
- Sports Products Liability
- Intellectual Property
- Cybersquatting

Global Sports Advocates has provided trusted advice to clients from around the world, including:

Australia, Bulgaria, Burundi, Bosnia, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Poland, Jamaica, Japan, Rwanda, United States

Paul J. Greene
Founder
T: +1 207 747 5899
pgreene@globalsportsadvocates.com
Twitter: @greenesportslaw
Keane Legal

Keane Legal is a leading European sports law practice located in Brussels at the heart of the European Union, providing counsel on the application of EU law to the regulatory and commercial activities of sports organizations.

Benoît Keane counsels on the application of EU law to the regulatory and commercial activities of sports organizations. Also, he assists law firms on a referral basis with European sports law matters. Benoît often represents sports organizations in cases before the European Courts and European Commission.

Indeed, Benoît has acted in many of the leading European sports law cases before the European Courts including:

- QC Leisure / Karen Murphy case (use of unauthorized broadcasts of football matches in bars)
- UK listed events case (listing of major events to be shown on free-TV)
- Charleroi case (release of football players for international matches)
- Drawing on this experience, Benoît advises sports organizations on a wide range of complex regulatory issues to ensure that sports organizations are acting in compliance with EU law in particular relating to:
  - Transfer and player release regulations
  - Anti-doping regulations
  - Financial control regulations
  - Disciplinary sanctions
  - Training regulations

Benoît also provides practical advice on the application of EU law, particularly EU antitrust law, to the commercial activities of sports organizations including:

- Sale of media rights
- Appointment of exclusive licensing partners
- Appointment of approved suppliers
- Listed events and news access
- Receipt of State subsidy for sporting activities

Simply put, Keane Legal is a key player in a sports organization’s or law firm’s team on any European sports law matter.

Benoît Keane
Solicitor
T: +32 2 280 6880
contact@keanelegal.com
Kellerhals Carrard

Kellerhals Carrard is one of the world’s leading international sports law firms. Its practice covers all areas of sports law, including disputes and commercial matters.

The firm has unparalleled experience in the resolution of sports disputes and is one of the most active firms appearing before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), particularly in football and doping-related disputes. The firm is uniquely equipped to act before the CAS, as it combines expertise in the procedural law of the CAS (Swiss law) with experienced advocates who are native speakers of the CAS’ official languages (English and French). This is in addition to the firm’s comprehensive linguistic capacity (including German, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Mandarin) and its lawyers’ licences to practise in numerous jurisdictions.

Kellerhals Carrard also has a unique and unparalleled insight into the administration and business of sport, and provides ongoing advice to some of the world’s leading sports organisations, teams and individuals with respect to their commercial programs (hosting, sponsorship, media, merchandising, licensing, image rights etc.), as well as regulatory and governance issues.

The firm’s Sports Law Group includes several Partners and attorneys whose practice is exclusively or primarily focused on sports law. Much of the firm’s expertise and experience has been gained through the various positions that have been held by its members.

The firm’s Sports Law Group also includes renowned commercial arbitration specialists with experience acting as both arbitrators and counsel under the rules of all the major commercial arbitral institutions. This includes the authors of one of the leading practitioners’ textbooks in Switzerland and members of the board of the Swiss Arbitration Association.

The firm has a wide spectrum of clients, including multisport bodies (such as the International Olympic Committee and the World Anti-Doping Agency), International Federations, National Anti-Doping Agencies, automotive teams and drivers and a host of football federations, clubs, players, agents and investment funds.

In its 2017 edition, "Who’s Who Legal" has named Kellerhals Carrard as the leading Sports & Entertainment firm in Switzerland: article
Kerman & Co has a dedicated team of sports law experts advising a wide range of clients on commercial, regulatory and dispute matters. The Team combines the attributes of a specialist practice with the support offered by a full service law firm, with additional expertise in areas such as tax, property and charity law. The sports business at Kerman & Co was established over 35 years ago and has been at the forefront of many of the key commercial, regulatory and legal developments in the sports sector. It is independently recognised as being one of the leading sports law firms in Europe.

The team has led ground-breaking work involving complex litigation on issues such as competition, ticketing and anti-doping as well as advising on all aspects of sport and commercial law. The team has developed an outstanding portfolio of clients including some of the most prominent sports events (such as Wimbledon, Ryder Cup, London Marathon, Prudential RideLondon), governing bodies (UEFA, RFU, ECB) and sports talent.
LawNK

LawNK is a boutique law firm established in 2006 and based in Bengaluru, India. Widely considered India’s premier sports law practice, we have inter alia advised the International Cricket Council on the organization of the ICC Cricket World 2011 in the sub-continent. We have been ranked among India’s 50 top IP law firms by India Business Law Journal in 2013, and among Asia’s 50 best young specialist law firms by Asian Legal Business in 2011. Our team of lawyers is educated at universities such as Harvard, Oxford, King’s College, London and QMUL, and has worked at firms in the U.S., UK, Australia, Hong Kong and India.

Our expertise lies in sports, commercial, technology, media and intellectual property laws. We provide high-quality legal advisory services to domestic and international clients in various industries that are driven by innovation, creativity and intellectual property.

Our core expertise is in legal and contractual matters relating to sports and recreation, content and technology, sponsorships and endorsements, e-commerce, advertising and marketing, franchising, gaming and promotions and brand and content protection. As a matter of course, our work extends to supporting the legal needs of a wide range of clients – leagues and franchises, technology and content owners, software developers, sports governing bodies, governments and public authorities, athletes, broadcasters, venues and vendors, advertisers and marketers, online and mobile business, and a wide variety of entrepreneurs, professionals, artistes and creators. We have assisted and advised clients in structuring of ventures and transactions, foreign exchange management, contractual negotiation, management of rights and dispute resolution strategy.

Nandan Kamath  
Principal Lawyer  
T: +91 80 4099 3531  
admin@lawnk.com

Roshan Gopalakrishna  
Counsel (Sports & Entertainment)  
T: +91 98861 33216  
roshan@lawnk.com
Law Firm of Ingles Laurel Calderon

The Law Firm of Ingles Laurel Calderon (ILC Law) is the only Philippine law firm with a specialized and dedicated practice in sports law. ILC Law has been involved in and helped a diverse range of sports law issues, ranging from golf club advisory and compliance to employment issues of professional athletes. It has also advised professional athletes on anti-doping standards, national sports associations on international federation rules and guidelines, and the Philippine Olympic Committee on various issues. ILC Law also serves a top university on sports law issues involving its student-athletes, social media use, and legal compliance.

Enrico Pedro M. Ingles
Managing Partner
T: +632-8129419
emingles@ilclaw.com.ph

Ignatius Michael D. Ingles
Associate
T: +632-8129419
imdingles@ilclaw.com.ph
Lewis Silkin's Sports Business Group works with many of the world’s best known sports brands, as well as for sponsors, agencies and venues across a wide range of sports. Sport is a core focus of the firm, sitting alongside its five other sector focus groups including related areas such as Media & Entertainment, Advertising & Marketing, and Technology. This makes us perfectly placed to serve today’s innovative, consumer driven sports businesses.

The Sports Business Group consists of 19 practitioners advising on areas from player transfers to sponsorship strategy, managerial exits to third party ownership, sporting rules to sports investments, disciplinary hearings to trade marks, image rights to agency agreements, and brand protection to venue development.

Our lawyers have a wide perspective on the sector, having seen sport from all angles: we have ex-professionals; lawyers who’ve worked in house with clubs, sponsors and major events; governing body board members; and good old private practitioners with years of experience. We take a very commercial, client-centric approach to providing legal advice, and each of us has the insight, passion and know how to provide an exceptional, bespoke service to our sports clients.

Our Sports Business Group also hosts targeted events for the sector throughout the year. These include thought-provoking forum events featuring debates from expert panelist, and our In House Sports Lawyers Club. The latter is a series of seminars tailored for in house counsel and senior business advisors dealing with legal issues in sport. If this describes you and you’d be interested in coming along, please let us know.

Alex Kelham
Partner
T: +44 (0)20 7074 8211
alex.kelham@lewissilkin.com

Andrew Osborne
Partner
T: +44 (0)20 7074 8262
andrew.osborne@lewissilkin.com

Karish Andrews
Corporate Partner
T: +44 (0)20 7074 8106
karish.andrews@lewissilkin.com

Dominic Farnsworth
Partner
T: +44 (0) 20 7074 8088
dominic.farnsworth@lewissilkin.com

Emily Meredith-Hardy
Managing Associate
T: +44 20 7074 8296
emily.meredithhardy@lewissilkin.com

Iain McDonald
Senior Associate
T: +44 20 7074 8432
iain.mcdonald@lewissilkin.com
Littleton

Littleton is recognised by legal directories as a leading barristers’ chambers for sports law with a number of individual rankings in that practice area.

More generally, Littleton specialises in employment, commercial and disciplinary/regulatory litigation. Members regularly appear before specialist sporting bodies, such as the Court of Arbitration for Sport, FIFA (Player Status Committee and the Dispute Resolution Chamber), the FA, the Premier League and the RFU. Sports-related cases have also been fought before the High Court and the Employment Tribunal.

Over recent years, members have been selected as advocates to the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympic Games as well as for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games for sittings of the Court of Arbitration for Sport into diverse sporting including selection challenges, doping, classification and field-of-play decisions. Members are also panellists for Sports Resolutions, the leading sports mediation/arbitration appeal service, for the majority of domestic sporting governing bodies.

Chambers also regularly contributes blogs for LawInSport.com, articles in the World Sports Law Report and provides speakers for conferences and in-house talks. The Littleton Sports Group also produces a regular bulletin, On Sport, dealing with topical issues in the world of sport.

Instructions have involved, amongst others, the following football teams: Manchester United FC, Manchester City FC, Liverpool FC, Chelsea FC, Tottenham Hotspur FC, Newcastle United FC, QPR FC, West Ham United FC, Wigan Athletic FC, Leeds United FC, Cardiff City FC, Middlesbrough FC, Crystal Palace FC and Sheffield Wednesday FC. Players, managers, agents, agencies and overseas companies have also been represented. Other well-known sporting clients include a member of the Pakistan International Cricket Team involved in the "spot-fixing" scandal, Phil "the Power" Taylor, Andy "the Viking" Fordham, the Amateur Boxing Association, and the Jockey Club.

John Mehrzad
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7797 8600
jmehrzad@littletonchambers.co.uk

Andrew Clarke QC
Barrister, QC
aclarke@littletonchambers.co.uk

David Reade QC
Barrister, QC
dreade@littletonchambers.co.uk

Damian Brown QC
Barrister, QC
dbqc@littletonchambers.co.uk

Jeremy Lewis
Barrister
jlewis@littletonchambers.co.uk

Daniel Northall
Barrister
dnorthall@littletonchambers.co.uk

Charlotte Davies
Barrister
charlottedavies@littletonchambers.co.uk

Lydia Banerjee
Barrister
lbannerjee@littletonchambers.co.uk

Nicholas Goodfellow
Barrister
ngoodfellow@littletonchambers.co.uk

Marc Delehanty
Barrister
MDelehanty@littletonchambers.co.uk
Matrix Chambers

Matrix has been involved in many sports related cases since it was established 14 years ago. These cases derive from the core expertise that the set offers in a broad range of areas. Our members have provided advocacy, advice and investigatory expertise in a number of high-profile and complex sport cases. We offer expertise in all areas of sports related disputes including commercial law, competition and regulatory law, employment law, public law, criminal law, immigration law, media law and EU law. Our members work in a number of sports related dispute resolution forums, including disciplinary tribunals and arbitrations. Professor Philippe Sands QC sits as an arbitrator at the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland. Nicholas Randall QC is a member of the Premier League arbitration panel and is also a member of the Sports Resolutions UK arbitration panel. He also sits regularly as an arbitrator in FA Rule K Arbitrations.

Our client list includes sports bodies (UEFA; the Premier League; the Football League; the ECB), Premier League clubs (Manchester City; Newcastle United; West Ham United; QPR; Aston Villa; Hull City; Crystal Palace), managers (Sir Alex Ferguson; Sir Bobby Robson; Kevin Keegan; Roy Keane; George Graham; David O’Leary), representative bodies (PFA, LMA) players (David Beckham; Ronaldo; Wayne Rooney; Rio Ferdinand; John Terry; Ryan Giggs; Sol Campbell; David Platt), athletes (Katarina Johnson Thompson), broadcasters (BT; BBC), administrators (Clive Woodward, Tim Wright), promoters (Barry McGuigan); agents and others.

All sports are covered with a strong emphasis on Football, Cricket, Rugby Union, Rugby League and Athletics.

We have provided advocacy, advisory and investigatory services on a wide variety of issues including FFP, transfer restrictions, contract issues, image rights, state aid, third party ownership, broadcasting rights, competition disputes, playing name changes, agents disputes, policing, privacy, defamation, phone hacking and restraint of trade.

Nicholas Randall QC
Barrister
T: 020 7404 3447
nicholasrandall@matrixlaw.co.uk

Tim Owen QC
Barrister
T: 020 7404 3447
timowen@matrixlaw.co.uk

Thomas Linden QC
Barrister
T: 020 7404 3447
tomlinden@matrixlaw.co.uk

James Laddie QC
Barrister
T: 020 7404 3447
jamesladdie@matrixlaw.co.uk

Lorna Skinner
Barrister
T: 020 7404 3447
lornaskinner@matrixlaw.co.uk

Edward Craven
Barrister
T: 020 7404 3447
edwardcraven@matrixlaw.co.uk

Mark Afeeva
Barrister
T: 020 7404 3447
markafeeva@matrixlaw.co.uk

Christopher Brown
Barrister
T: 020 7404 3447
cbrown@matrixlaw.co.uk
Mills & Reeve

Our sports law team has advised clients on a wide range of legal issues across a variety of different sports for over fifty years. In that time, we have built a strong foundation based upon providing clients with a wealth of experience and a personal and engaging approach. Our clients include clubs, agents, sponsors, players’ unions, federations, and some of the best athletes in the world.

For sports organisations, associations and clubs, we work as part of your team to allow our clients to focus on achieving their objectives without the distraction of legal issues.

We also have extensive experience working with individuals in the sport sector. Whether our clients are just starting out in their sports career, are an established name or are nearing the end of their sporting life, our specialist sports law team can provide the necessary legal support and advice that they need.

Our sports lawyers are frequently asked to provide comments and analysis on legal and commercial issues in sport for the BBC, the Times, the Guardian, the Telegraph, the Independent, Sky Sports, ESPN, the New York Times, and more.

Our expertise and resources make us a “go to” team for sports law advice – nationally and internationally.

Team head Mark Hovell sits as an arbitrator for the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Switzerland. He has been involved in a number of high profile cases including; the transfer of Morgan De Sanctis, arguably the leading Article 17 case (FIFA Regulations on the status of transfer of players); and UEFA’s suspension of Besiktas from European competition which was the first appeal from UEFA under the Financial Fair Play regulations. Mark has just returned from the Rio Olympics 2016, where he was one of twelve arbitrators selected to hear cases arising out of the Olympics.
Onside Law

Onside Law is a niche law firm, based in London, specialising in providing legal advice to clients in the sports industry. Following the firm’s creation in February 2005, it has risen rapidly in the independent legal directories and is ranked as one of the leading sports law firms in Europe.

Our team of lawyers combine “magic circle” backgrounds at top firms such as Clifford Chance, Freshfields, Slaughter and May and Allen & Overy with practical knowledge of working within the sports and entertainment industries, including at IMG, LOCOG (London 2012) and The Football Association.

This combination of technical legal expertise and sports industry experience means we understand the practicalities and the pressures our clients are subject to. Our core practice areas are commercial, dispute resolution, corporate and IP. We act for governing bodies (including the ECB, European Tour, Ryder Cup, RFU, UK Athletics and LTA), teams (including Lotus F1, Tottenham Hotspur and Southampton), individuals (including Sir Jackie Stewart, Rory McIlroy, Eden Hazard, Victoria Pendleton, Justin Rose, Stan Wawrinka and James Anderson), sponsors, agents and investors in sport. We pride ourselves on delivering high quality legal advice in a commercial, personal and highly responsive manner.

Areas of Expertise

Sports
Athletics | Basketball | Cricket | Football | Golf | Motorsport | Rugby | Tennis

Jamie Singer
Founding Partner
T: +44 (0)208 384 6920
Oliver Hunt
Founding Partner
T: 44 (0)208 384 6920
Simon Thorp
Founding Partner
T: +44 (0)208 384 6920

Chris Walsh
Partner
T: +44 (0)208 384 6920
Adam Leadercramer
Partner
T: 44 (0)208 384 6920
Jamie Goldberg
Partner
T: +44 (0)208 384 6920

Stevie Loughrey
Partner
T: +44 (0)208 384 6920
Jerry McGrath
Head of Swiss Office
T: 44 (0)208 384 6920
Shenal Shah
Associate
T: +44 (0)208 384 6920

Joe Tompkins
Associate
T: +44 (0)208 384 6920
Leon Farr
Associate
T: 44 (0)208 384 6920

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Outer Temple Chambers

Our experienced team of specialist law in sport barristers have a range and depth of expertise in a number of areas touching many aspects of law in sport and recreation.

Our law in sport barristers are recognised as true experts in their field, for their multi-disciplinary practice, both nationally and internationally.

The Outer Temple team advises on a wide range of law in sport issues, including:

- sportsmen and sportswomen on all matters relating to sport, including the protection and exploitation of commercial rights and disciplinary, regulatory, personal injury and governance issues.
- international federations; national governing bodies; clubs; teams; player associations; event organisers.
- sponsors; broadcasters; merchandising licensees; marketing and sports agencies; media and technology companies; and, individuals.

We have, through the broad range of clients that we work with, developed a wealth of experience in advising on aspects of the law in sport, across many different sports including: football; rugby union; rugby league; equine, including horse-racing and horse-riding and motorsports.

Andrew Maguire
Barrister
T: +44 (0)20 7353 6381
Andrew.Maguire@outertemple.com
Quintairos, Prieto, Wood & Boyer, P.A.

We represent professional sports teams and leagues in various capacities including labor and employment disputes, workers’ compensation law and insurance defense matters. We also provide counseling in these areas of law and work on lobbying projects for professional sports teams and leagues in many states surrounding legislation involving professional athletes and teams.

Eric W. Boyer, Esq.
Partner
T: 305-670-1101 Ext. 1023
eboyer@qpwblaw.com

Sylvia A. Krainin, Esq.
Partner
T: 305-670-1101
skrainin@qpwblaw.com

Stuart M. Wilson, Esq.
Associate
T: 213-486-0048
stuart.wilson@qpwblaw.com

Areas of Expertise
Arbitration | Commercial | Contract
Drafting | Corporate | Country
Dispute Resolution | Licensing | Litigation
Mediation | Real Estate & Stadiums | Regulation | Regulatory
Sports Law Advisors | USA

Sports
Baseball | Football | Hockey
Professional Fitness League
RPC

RPC is a modern, progressive and commercially-focussed City law firm, with 78 Partners and over 600 employees based in London, Hong Kong, Singapore and Bristol. We were named Law Firm of the Year at The 2014 Lawyer Awards and Best Legal Adviser in Legal Week’s annual Client Satisfaction Survey 2013. As founding member of the TerraLex global network of leading independent legal firms we can provide a seamless worldwide service.

Our ranked and recommended Sports practice is staffed with experts who operate at the top of their game. Our Team regularly acts for organisations across a number of areas and clients have included Premiership football clubs, national governing body, Formula 1 racing team, sponsors, broadcasters, publishers, sports retailers, brand management companies, gaming and betting companies and insurers (including sports injury, events, stadium, sports products and motorsport and bloodstock insurance).

We have represented the UK’s biggest sports retailer for over 10 years and negotiated one of the largest national football kit and merchandise deals of recent years. Much of our work is international in nature.

We advise on a wide range of issues facing our sports clients and have particular expertise in:

- Sports retail
- Kit supply and sponsorship deals and disputes
- Trade marks and licensing
- Football rules
- Image rights protection and enforcement
- M&A

Areas of Expertise

- Acquisitions and Financing
- Advertising
- Anti-counterfeiting & Anti-piracy
- Arbitration
- Betting & Gaming
- Broadcasting
- Commercial
- Competition/Antitrust
- Contract Drafting
- Contract Negotiations
- Copyright
- Corporate
- Country
- Data Protection
- Defamation
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment
- Image Rights
- Insolvency & Restructuring
- Intellectual Property
- Licensing
- Litigation
- Media
- Mediation
- Merchandise
- Patents
- Real Estate & Stadiums
- Regulation
- Regulatory
- Sponsorship Agreements
- Sports Law Advisors
- Tax
- Trade Marks

Sports

- Boxing
- Equestrian
- Football
- Golf
- Lacrosse
- Motorsport

Jeremy Drew
Partner
T: 020 3060 6125
Jeremy.drew@rpc.co.uk

Oliver Bray
Partner [Commercial Contracts]
T: 020 3060 6277
oliver.bray@rpc.co.uk

Adam Craggs
Partner
T: 020 3060 6421
adam.craggs@rpc.co.uk

Nicole Jahanshahi
Associate
T: 020 3060 6519
Nicole.jahanshahi@rpc.co.uk

Henry Priestley
Associate
T: 0206 303 6038
Henry.priestley@rpc.co.uk
Sheridans

Sheridans’ industry-recognised Sports Law group comprises lawyers who provide legal and commercial advice exclusively within the sports sector. The Group works with and within a number of sports, including football, cricket, basketball, tennis, athletics, golf, rugby union and league, table tennis, cycling, badminton and netball, and regularly advises clients (both in the UK and internationally) on all commercial matters relating to sports law.

Types of work include:

- the creation, acquisition, licensing and protection of media rights to premium sports properties;
- the structuring, acquisition and sale of major sports sponsorship programmes;
- domestic and international merchandise licensing programmes for sports brands;
- the protection and exploitation of image rights;
- event organisation, management, venue hire and participation agreements;
- governance and regulatory advice (including drafting sporting rules, regulations, policies and constitutional documents);
- anti doping;
- sports discipline;
- dispute resolution (including litigation, arbitration and mediation).

The Group’s enviable client base includes domestic and international governing bodies, sports rights owners and agencies, broadcasters, sponsors, merchandising licensees, as well as clubs, teams and individual athletes. The Group’s in-depth knowledge and experience of the sports market, and its consistently commercial approach, enables it to add real insight and value to clients and their objectives within the sector. The Legal 500 describes Sheridans as “a go-to practice for media and sponsorship rights in football and athletics, as well as rugby union and cricket” and comments that its team provides “an exceptional combination of top level legal work with commercial acumen.” Chambers and Partners recognise Sheridans’ particular “expertise” and “prowess” for sports media work.

Andrew Nixon
Partner
T: 020 7079 0142
anixon@sheridans.co.uk
Twitter: @andewnixon100

Daniel Geey
Partner
T: 020 7079 0225
dgeey@sheridans.co.uk

Jonny Madill
Associate
T: 020 7079 0155
jmadill@sheridans.co.uk

Chris Paget
Associate
T: 020 7079 0133
cpaget@sheridans.co.uk
Squire Patton Boggs (UK) LLP

Squire Patton Boggs (UK) LLP is a leading international law firm with 46 offices in 21 countries. The Squire Patton Boggs (UK) LLP Sports Law Practice Group offers market leading experience and expertise in the legal, commercial and regulatory issues affecting the sports industry around the globe.

A core team is immersed in the business of sport to provide the quality of service expected of a global practice. We are a young and dynamic team; we operate efficiently to deliver concise, clear advice and work with our clients to achieve a result on time and on budget. As you would expect from a leading international legal practice, we offer a full range of related legal services from offices around the globe.

We are rated as one of the leading sports law practices in the industry, with many of our lawyers ranked as leading practitioners by the English and US legal directories. We act for national and international governing bodies, national Olympic committees, leading clubs, kit manufacturers, sports marketing agencies, player agencies, brand name sponsors, banks and investors and individual sports people.

Areas of Expertise
Sports
American Football | Athletics | Basketball | Cricket | Cycling | Football | Motor Sport | Rugby | Tennis

Stephen Sampson
Partner
T: +44 (0)20 7655 1481
stephen.sampson@squirepb.com

Fred Nance
Partner
T: +1 216 479 8623
fred.nance@squirepb.com

Lloyd Thomas
Associate
T: +44 (0)20 7655 1041
Lloyd.thomas@squirepb.com
Thomas Cooper LLP

Thomas Cooper’s Sports Group was set up in 2005 and is ranked by Legal 500, as one of the UK’s leading sports practices. The team regularly works with intermediaries, footballers, rugby players, top level managers, coaches and sports executives on contentious and non-contentious issues. Our work includes player transfers, playing contracts, image rights agreements, disputes between players, agents and clubs, player disciplinary issues and employment issues relating to employment in sport. The team also advises on doping offences and has a diverse multi-national client base. Thomas Cooper’s practice focuses mainly on football and employment related sports issues, both in England and across Europe.

Thomas Cooper’s multi-disciplinary sports team has the ability and a proven track record of successfully negotiating deals and litigating problems for our clients. The team has extensive experience in dealing with the detailed negotiations necessary in player transfers and playing contract renegotiations at the very highest level.

Areas of Expertise
- Anti-Doping
- Arbitration
- Commercial
- Contract Drafting
- Contract Negotiations
- Country
- Disciplinary
- Employee
- Image Rights
- Integrity
- Intellectual Property
- Litigation
- Player Contracts
- Regulatory
- Reputation Management
- Sports Law
- Advisors
- UK

Sports
- Football
- Rugby

James Severn
Partner
T: +44 (0) 20 7390 2252
james.severn@thomascooperlaw.com

Nick Humphreys
Partner
T: +44 (0) 20 7390 2268
nick.humphreys@thomascooperlaw.com

Alex Brooks
Solicitor
T: +44 (0) 20 7390 2231
alex.brooks@thomascooperlaw.com

William Wilson
Solicitor
T: +44 (0) 20 7390 2273
william.wilson@thomascooperlaw.com
VANDELLOS SPORTS LAW

The sports team at Wiggin specialises in the acquisition, packaging, exploitation and protection of high value commercial sports rights across all media and technology. They provide advice to organisations and rights holders exploiting audio-visual and data rights and broadcasters and aggregators acquiring such media rights. Wiggin also advises in connection with a number of other commercial sports matters: sponsorship agreements, brand licensing and activation around teams and sports events and individuals in the sports practice work very closely with their betting and gambling team counterparts on projects where there is a natural overlap of these disciplines.

On the brand protection side, Wiggin’s contentious lawyers are often instructed by sports media companies in connection with potential IP infringements and Wiggin’s market leading content protection product, INCOPRO, has also assisted rights holders in tracking infringing content streams to protect their high value rights.

Wiggin’s clients range from Premier League football clubs and other rightsholders, to bookmakers, as well as global digital sports businesses and more traditional broadcasters, and also those brands engaging with advertising and marketing within the sporting arena.

Our corporate team is best known for mergers and acquisitions and corporate governance matters.

Josep F. Vandellos Alamilla
Partner
T: +34645575707
josep@sports-law.eu

Areas of Expertise
- Acquisitions and Financing
- Advertising
- Ambush Marketing
- Anti-counterfeiting & Anti-piracy
- Belgium
- Betting & Gaming
- Broadcasting
- Commercial
- Contract
- Corporate
- Data Protection
- Defamation
- Dispute Resolution
- Freedom of Information
- Governance
- Image Rights
- Integrity
- Intellectual Property
- Licensing
- Litigation
- Media
- Media Rights - Fair Use
- Merchandise
- Press Publication Concerns
- Privacy and Confidentiality
- Regulatory
- Reputation Management
- Sponsorship Agreements
- Sports Law Advisors
- UK

Sports
- American Football
- Athletics
- Basketball
- Boxing
- Cricket
- Cycling
- Darts
- Football
- Golf
- Greyhound Racing
- Horse Racing
- Motorsport
- Olympic
- Rugby
- Snooker
- Tennis

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Wiggin LLP

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Ross Sylvester  
Partner  
T: +44 20 7927 9681  
ross.sylvester@wiggin.co.uk

Sarah MacDonald  
Senior Associate  
T: +44 20 7612 7718  
sarah.macdonald@wiggin.co.uk

Sarah Drake  
Associate  
T: +44 1242 631352  
sarah.drake@wiggin.co.uk