



THE WORLD'S 20 MOST INFLUENTIAL... LAWYERS

SportBusiness and **Andy Brown**, editor of the **World Sports Law Report**, outline the men and women in the legal profession who are called upon to act on behalf of the leagues, federations and teams in some of the biggest legal cases in global sport.

SportBusiness International's take each month on the 20 most influential people or factors within specific sectors of sport...

Jeffrey L Kessler (Dewey & LeBoeuf)

Kessler is one of the most prominent lawyers in the US, regularly engaged in high-profile sports litigation including some of the most famous sports-antitrust cases in history such as McNeil v. the National Football League, the landmark jury trial which led to the establishment of free agency in the NFL. His major clients include the Players Associations of all four major US professional sports leagues, the Wasserman Media Group and Adidas.

Stephen Sampson (Hammonds)

Sampson heads up the Sports Law group which acts across international and domestic governing bodies, clubs, event organisers, media companies, sponsors, agencies and players. Sampson has an excellent reputation in the industry for his work on sporting disputes, most recently Chelsea's claim for compensation against Mutu and with UEFA and BSkyB over illegal internet streaming of football.

Jonathan Taylor (Bird & Bird)

As a partner in the firm's Sports Group, Taylor is known as one of the straightest talking lawyers in the field of sports law. Taylor advises international and national governing bodies, public and quasi-public agencies, event organisers, broadcasters, sponsors and commercial on various issues, and is a specialist in sports disciplinary and anti-doping as well as the commercial exploitation of sports rights.

Robert L Raskopf (Quinn Emanuel Urquhart Oliver & Hedges)

Raskopf has represented the NFL and its member clubs for more than two decades, achieving various landmark decisions during his history as a sports lawyer. Notable cases include representing the NFL and the Green Bay Packers in a trademark infringement case against a company that had obtained publicity rights from

various Packers players, and defending the NFL and Baltimore Ravens against a billion-dollar claim of copyright infringement brought by an amateur artist regarding the Raven's helmet logo. He has also represented the NHL, MLS and ESPN.

Prof. Richard McLaren (Lecturer, University of Western Ontario)

With practical experience as a commercial lawyer, McLaren is a member of the Court of Arbitration for Sport for whom he was an on-site arbitrator at the 1998, 2000, 2004 and 2006 Olympics and the 2002 Commonwealth Games. McLaren has also worked as an arbitrator for the NHL and the NHL Players Association, and is the current chair of the ATP anti-doping panel.

Jonathan Ellis (Charles Russell LLP)

Ellis has worked most notably in England for The Football Association (FA) and the British Horseracing Authority, as well as internationally on Formula One and cricket matters. Ellis acted for The FA both in its case against Wayne Rooney's agent Paul Stretford and on the introduction of the Player Agents Regulations, drafting the association's arbitration rules. He also acted for the Indian Premier League in prosecuting its first ever doping case against player Mohammad Asif.

Brian Kennelly (Blackstone Chambers)

Kennelly has substantial High Court experience in sports law, particularly with regard to competition, having acted on behalf of UEFA on a number of injunctions against various unauthorised sports travel and hospitality businesses offering Euro 2004 tickets for sale and in promotions. He advised a number of Formula One teams in relation to the competition law implications of proposed changes and the Concorde Agreement. Kennelly has also advised widely regarding the implications of the

Gambling Act on both betting operators and sport.

Dr. Martin Schimke (Bird & Bird)

Schimke is the leading authority in sports law from his native homelands. Schimke began his career advising athletes, sports associations and unions in amateur and professional sport at both national and international level. He was a member of the Legal Committee and the Anti-Doping Commission of the German Basketball Federation as well as a member of the Arbitration Body of the German Ice Hockey League.

Alexandre Miguel Mestre (PLMJ)

A member of the group responsible for setting up the Court of Arbitration for Sport, Mestre is also a board member of the Portuguese Olympic Academy. He is best-known for authoring 'The Law of the Olympic Games Book', a book examining the numerous developments in the rules and institutions of the Olympic Games from a legal perspective.

Luca Ferrari (CBA Studio Legale e Tributario)

Although his practice covers corporate, commercial and media law, as a sports lawyer Ferrari deals with regulatory and disciplinary issues, labour and commercial arbitration, playing contracts and player transfers. During a decade of legal experience in the field of professional football, he has advised clubs, players, coaches and agents in a variety of national and international matters with specialisms in player contracts and images rights.

Javier Hervás (Cuatrecasas, Gonçalves Pereira)

Hervas' Sports Team offers a broad range of legal services, from tax advising to listing sports corporations on the stock exchange, negotiating contracts with clubs and sponsors, compensation schemes and addressing the use of image rights. A specialist in industrial



relations cases, Hervás is an expert in collective bargaining, hiring sports professionals and defending lawsuits before industrial tribunals.

Mel Goldberg (Power Goldberg Sports Management)

A sports lawyer with over 30 years experience, Goldberg represents a number of sporting celebrities and organisations from Olympic gold medallists to world champions in boxing, squash, tennis and athletics. Goldberg was the legal advisor of International Squash Players Association and in 1997 famously represented Premier League goalkeeper Hans Segers in the successful defence of his "match-fixing" trial, billed at the time as the 'Football Trial of the Century'. Goldberg is also chairman of England's Amateur Swimming Association.

Gregory Ioannidis (Lecturer / Advocate, University of Buckingham)

Ioannidis is an expert in doping and rape trials with a main area of expertise in the regulation of drug abuse in sport. He has advised a number of sports personalities and governing bodies on issues of doping and he represented and acted as counsel for the Greek sprinters Konstantinos Kenteris and Ekaterini Thanou in their case before the Court of Arbitration for Sport, where he successfully

negotiated an out-of-court settlement with the IAAF.

Nic Couchman, (Couchmans LLP)

Couchman has ploughed a sports specific furrow since his time as a partner and head of IP at Townleys in the 1990s. He went on to co-found another specialist sports practice Couchman Harrington Associates (now Couchmans LLP). Couchman is a specialist sports contracts, media, IP and rights management lawyer who has developed and implemented commercial rights programmes for many of sport's top properties. His clients have included: The IOC, Formula One Management, Rugby World Cups, Six Nations and the International Tennis Federation.

Trevor Watkins (Clarke Willmott)

As chairman of English lower league football side AFC Bournemouth, Watkins oversaw the completion of a new 10,000-seater stadium and was a divisional representative to the board of the Football League. He now sits on the management boards of Sports Resolutions UK and the National Anti-Doping Tribunal. Watkins has also taken on a role advising investors seeking to purchase clubs, personally handling negotiations relating to over 15 professional football clubs and a number of rugby clubs. He is also

involved in the creation of a new USA based sports franchise as a joint venture between two clubs.

Warren Phelops (K&L Gates)

Partner in the firm's Technology, Sports and Betting & Gaming practice groups, Phelops focuses on issues including rights ownership and exploitation, corporate structuring and strategy, joint-ventures, commercial and media. Phelops has advised, among others, the PGA Tour, Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan, Wasps Rugby Club and WWE.

Mark Gay (DLA Piper)

As a partner and head of DLA Piper's Sports group, Gay has extensive experience in advising national and international governing bodies on disciplinary matters across a wide range of sports. In particular Gay advises on disciplinary proceedings and creating new disciplinary structures, the abuse of drugs, constitutional issues, and the contentious aspects of sponsorship and TV contracts. He notably successfully defended Pakistan captain Inzamam-ul-Haq against charges of alleged ball tampering during the 2006 Oval Test.

David Zeffman (Olswang)

With experience in providing strategic, commercial and

regulatory advice to clients in the gambling, sport and TV sectors, Zeffman has been involved in many of the sector's major cases, including the launch of several TV channels and the media rights sales of some of the world's biggest sporting competitions. He has also advised the UK government on the funding of British horseracing.

Mike Townley (Bates Wells & Braithwaite)

Townley joined the first sports law firm to be established in the UK straight from law school and remained there until 1999. In 1999, he set up commercial sports marketing and athlete management company athletes1, at the same time continuing to practice as a solicitor in the sports sector. His clients include governing bodies of sport, event organisers, sponsors and broadcasters.

Manuel J. Martin Dominguez (Gómez-Acebo & Pombo Abogados)

Dominguez's specialisms include player rights and contracts. He has acted for, amongst others, the Spanish Olympic Committee (SOC) including advising over the fraudulent or illegal use of the Madrid 2016 Bid logo and representing the SOC in its complaint against Denmark's controversial gold medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

EXHIBITION RIG HIRE • DESIGN AND CONVERSION • GRAPHIC WRAPPING • CREW AND RIGGING • INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT

Producing Consumer Experiences

We have everything for a superb sporting promotion – complete design and build, vehicle and stand hire, warehousing, show staffing and logistical support... all in house! For a FREE brochure packed full of inspiration, call Mark or Alastair on 01295 661000 or visit our website at www.inchmere-design.com

INCHMERE DESIGN
01295 661000
www.inchmere-design.com
 Email: mark@inchmere.co.uk

HIRE ZONE
 Visit our website to view our huge range of vehicles, stands and event equipment, to hire or purchase.