# Catastrophic Personal Injury - Sport



Our unparalleled reputation for advising on sports claims, coupled with a commercially-relevant approach, means we're ready to act on little or no notice - and to get it right first time.

Our 50-strong team of sports specialists has a proven trackrecord for advising on international sports-related injury claims. With particular strength in professional rugby (national and elite), professional and semi-professional football, gymnastics, cycling and motorsports we stand out as some of the best, specialist sports claims experts in practice today.

#### What we do

The sports sector is a unique marketplace. In this highly pressurised and fast-paced environment, responding to catastrophic injury can not only impact on the injured party but on public, commercial and regulatory interests.

Whether acting for governing bodies, sports organisations, clubs or teams, players, participants, volunteers spectators, visitors or employees, or whether we're working with commercial partners, investors, financial services and insurers, we've provided catastrophic injury claims and legal support across the sporting arena, for over a decade.

# We work hard to maintain strong relationships with sport clients and governing bodies.

We have established ourselves at the forefront of this industry, not only advising on claims but helping to campaign against and to shape the law. As part of an award-winning insurance claims team, and supported by practical experience drawn from legal, regulatory, governance and sporting backgrounds, our sector specialists have represented some of the most recognised names from the sporting world. They trust us to understand this unique and exciting market-place and to operate alongside them in the constantly evolving, fast paced and highly pressurised sports environment. We listen, advise and act in a way they find reassuring and that exceeds their expectations for a commercial legal service.

#### Expertise you can trust

Our success is grounded in long-standing and extensive experience, working with and for insurers. We offer qualified adjusters for site visits, as well as claims handlers with decades of experience in a wide range of claims. It means that we have almost always seen examples of the incident in question before and can share defence approaches from previous cases.

#### **Examples of our work include:**

- Representing two Defendants in a claim from a competitor, who alleged his vehicle crashed into a tyre wall as a result of driving over a 'lipstick' camera embedded in the track verge. The Court of Appeal ultimately ruled in favour of the Defendants.
- Representing the defendants in claims following off-road motorcycle and grass track events.
- Acting for several national governing bodies in relation to the indemnification of member coaches: gymnastics, parkour, swimming and pole fitness
- Investigations into the likely career earnings of professional sports persons (football and boxing)

## Why DWF?

- Recruiting and retaining the very best staff is critical to our success. Unlike other organisations we appoint people with more experience of working for sports clients. In particular, within big casualty claims, we've found that this extra experience has brought greater confidence in negotiations and a willingness to chase after every penny, resisting the temptation to simply move the job off desks.
- Our expert sports lawyers are supported by DWF Connected Services, offering services such as: IT support; advocacy; insurance claims handling; consulting; costs recovery; forensic accounting; legal outsourcing; and research and development.
- We operate across 27 key commercial centres and employing over 2,900 people across Australia, the U.K., France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Republic of Ireland, U.S.A., Singapore, Canada, United Arab Emirates, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



 Key sports clients include; Basketball Australia, Hockey NSW, New South Wales Rugby League, Swimming NSW, adidas, British Cycling Federation, Everton FC, Ladbrokes, Lagardere Sports Asia, Manchester City FC, Manchester United, Newcastle United FC, Scottish Golf, The Football Association (FA) and UK Anti Doping. It also include esports clients Avant Garde, Dire Wolves, Esports Games Association Australia (EGAA) and SYF Gaming.

### **Contacts**



lan Slater
Partner, Cat PI & Occupational Health

T 0161 603 5033 M +44 7798 700494 E lan.Slater@dwf.law



Matt Jessep

Supervising Lawyer, DWF Australia

T +61 (0)2 9030 0725 M +61 (0)409 766 155 E Mat.Jessep@dwf.law Michael McLaughlin
Partner, Litigation
T 0141 228 8351
M 07917 848 455

E Michael.McLaughlin@dwf.co.uk



Dr. Jalal Abed
Counsel, DWF Germany

T +49 89 2060299-64
M +4989206029964
E jalal.abed@dwf.law