

Sports Law

Our Sports Law team is a multi-disciplinary, cross-departmental offering which has a deep understanding of the sports sector and has broad experience of all aspects of sports law. We advise event organisers, broadcasters, sponsors, investors, governing bodies, clubs and athletes.

Our sports law team consists of experts from various practice areas such as Corporate, Regulatory & Investigations, Commercial Contracts & IP, Insurance & Risk, Employment, Real Estate, Construction & Planning and Litigation & Dispute Resolution.

Members of our sports team have competed at both national and international level in a number of different sports. Many of our sports team are actively involved in sports administration, regulation and governance.

Sports Law Services

- Commercial contracts (including sponsorship and athlete agreements)
- Regulation and governance (including organisational structures, data protection, safeguarding and disciplinary issues)
- Brand licensing and brand protection
- Employment law issues
- Litigation and dispute resolution
- Real estate (including construction & planning)
- Copyright enforcement



Recent Sports Law Experience

- Advising the **FAI** on the management of their trade mark portfolio
- Advising a large **national governing body** regarding athlete participation agreements
- Acting for the **English Premier League** on copyright infringement
- Representing a **national sports association** on civil claims related to child protection/child safeguarding
- Advising a well-known **lifestyle clothing brand** on a Brand Ambassador Agreement with a high profile athlete
- Acting for a large **sports analytics company** on funding and investment agreements
- Assisting numerous **sports clubs** and **National Governing Bodies** on employment law and TUPE related issues
- Advising **Active Disability Ireland** on corporate structure changes
- Advising the **IRFU** on a large scale real estate project
- Acted for **Curragh Racecourse Ltd** in the property / title aspects of the €70M redevelopment of the Curragh Racecourse, County Kildare
- Advising a prominent **national governing body** on a governance investigation and access to State funding

Have any questions?

Please get in touch with a member of our Sports Law team for more information

About Us

We are a business law firm with 119 partners and offices in Dublin, London, New York and San Francisco.

Our legal services are grounded in deep expertise and informed by practical experience. We tailor our advice to our clients' business and strategic objectives, giving them clear recommendations. This allows clients to make good, informed decisions and to anticipate and successfully navigate even the most complex matters.

Our service is award-winning and innovative. This approach is how we make a valuable and practical contribution to each client's objectives.

What Others Say About Us

Our Team

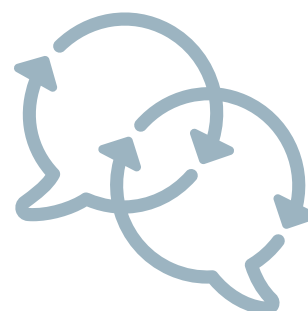
"The team at Mason Hayes & Curran is very responsive and client-focused, always ensuring that client deadlines are met and clients are updated on progress."

Chambers & Partners, 2023

Our Team

"Energetic, passionate and on top of their sector."

Legal 500, 2023



Rachel Kavanagh



Partner,
Head of Insurance & Risk
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Rachel is Head of the Insurance & Risk Practice. Rachel advises organisations in an array of sectors on liability, risk and insurance-related issues. Rachel has 25 years' of experience in defending liability claims, defamation actions and advising on data breach litigation. Rachel also advises clients on health and safety related matters, accident reporting, claims management and fraud detection.

Nicholas Metcalfe



Partner,
Corporate Governance
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Nick is a Partner on our Corporate Governance team and advises on complex group reorganisations, from planning to delivery, as well as providing technical company law and corporate governance advice. In addition, Nick provides bespoke training to boards of directors of Irish companies.

Michael Doran



Partner,
Co-Head of Real Estate
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Michael is Co-Head of our Real Estate team. He advises on all aspects of commercial property and institutional residential property. Michael provides solution-based asset management advice to commercial landlords and asset managers.

He operates as trusted advisor at the upper level of the property market in Ireland, particularly for high-profile asset management land development projects.

Melanie Crowley



Partner,
Head of Employment Law & Benefits
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Melanie is Head of our Employment Law & Benefits team and is a trusted advisor on complex workplace issues. She assists clients in drafting bespoke employment contracts, agreements and HR policies and procedures. Melanie also provides on-going support to HR managers in the management of day-to-day disciplinary issues along with more strategic internal reorganisations and rationalisations.

Gerard Kelly



Partner,
Head of Intellectual Property
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Gerard is Head of our Intellectual Property Law team. He has been involved in many of the most high-profile and complex IP court cases in Ireland in recent years. He advises clients on a wide range of IP matters and disputes, including substantial patent, passing off, trade mark, copyright and design litigation.

Gerard is a registered Irish and European trade mark agent, and has a particular expertise in the protection and licensing strategies for IP rights.

Liam Guidera



Partner,
Dispute Resolution/Investigations
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Liam Guidera is a deeply experienced disputes lawyer and leads our Investigations/Corporate Crime practice. He is also a qualified arbitrator and mediator.

He has advised and represented sporting organisations in a variety of fields, including investigations both external and internal and regulatory hearings.

Hazel McDwyer



Partner,
Intellectual Property
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Hazel is a Partner in our Intellectual Property Law team. She partners with clients to identify, secure and commercialise their intellectual property rights and protect their intellectual property rights from infringement.

Hazel is an expert on brand protection issues and trade mark strategies and manages international trade mark portfolios for clients. She acts in contentious trade mark, copyright, designs and patent matters.

Catherine Kelly



Partner,
Employment Law & Benefits
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Catherine is a Partner in the Employment Law & Benefits team specialising in Education Law. She is involved in all aspects of contentious and non-contentious employment and education law and is regularly involved in all related civil actions including injunctions, actions for breach of contract, employer liability claims and personal injury actions for stress and bullying. She regularly appears before the High and Circuit Courts as well as the Workplace Relations Commission, Labour Court, Section 29 Appeals and Disciplinary Appeal Panel hearings.

Ronnie Neville



Partner,
Employment Law & Benefits
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Ronnie is a Partner in our Employment Law & Benefits team. He provides strategic advice on restructuring, re-organisation and general employment-related matters. Clients know Ronnie for providing strategic, pragmatic and proactive advice.

He advises a broad range of domestic and international clients on both contentious and non-contentious matters. In addition, Ronnie is an experienced litigator and frequently represents clients in Circuit and High Court and before the WRC.

Dublin

London

New York

San Francisco

