

A conference presented by the IBA Arab Regional Forum and supported by the IBA Arbitration Committee.



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The Laws of Sports: fast and furious or stable and reliable?

13–14 September 2023

The St Regis Marsa Arabia Island, Doha, Qatar



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Conference Co-Chairs

Ghada Darwish Karbon *Dr Ghada Darwish Karbon Law Firm, Doha; Vice-Chair, IBA Arab Regional Forum*

Jalal El Ahdab *Bird & Bird, Paris; Member, IBA Mediation Committee Advisory Board, Member, IBA Arab Regional Forum Advisory Board*

Wednesday 13 September

1830 – 2030

Welcome reception

Sailors Lounge, St Regis Marsa Arabia Island

Thursday 14 September

All working sessions will take place in the Ballroom.

Sessions will be in English with simultaneous interpretation in to Arabic.

If you require interpretation, please collect a headset prior to the start of the session.

0800 – 1730

Registration

Ballroom foyer

0800 – 0845

Light breakfast and networking

Ballroom foyer

0830 – 0850

Welcome remarks from the Conference Co-Chairs

0850 – 0900

Address

Amir Singh Pasrich / L A Pasrich & Company, New Delhi; IBA Assistant Treasurer / LPD Assistant Treasurer

0900 – 1030

Sports economics and dynamics: too fast, too big?

- Are sports events a typical entertainment business and how is organising a sports event different from organising concert?
- What makes the sport business so attractive or profitable?
- Are there shared economic features in all sports and can an investor apply roughly the same business plan cross-fields?
- Major sports events, Olympic Games or World Cup events: beyond medals and trophies, is the local economic impact worth the investment?
- Game changers: the grand entrance of private equity and new investors into the world of sports.
- The brand in sports: what is it, how should it be valued and how different is it from the world of fashion?

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Thursday continued

- Safeguarding the airwaves: the battle against piracy in broadcasting rights.
- Athletes and coaches: defying the norms of employment and salaries.
- The role of agents and other intermediaries: are they an essential or the weakest link in the chain?
- Looking at the future of sports: are e-sports a new game or sport?
- The NFT revolution: why the sports industry can't resist the digital gold rush.

Moderator

Amani Khalifa *Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Dubai*

Speakers

Saleh Alobeidli *ICLO, Dubai*

Simon Chadwick *Professor of Sport and Geopolitical Economy, SKEMA Business School, Paris*

Majed Garoub *Law Firm of Majed Garoub, Jeddah*

Sabin Gherdan *Gherdan & Associates Sports Lawyers, Bucharest*

Caroline Guenneteau *Deputy General Counsel, Belin Sports, Paris*

Victoriano Melero *Acting CEO & General Secretary, Paris Saint-Germain FC, Paris*

Manal Rmeity *Legal Counsel, Qatar Stars League, Doha*

1030 – 1100

Refreshment break

Ballroom foyer

1100 – 1230

Sports governing bodies: old framework and arising issues

- Why does sport need federations and what are the other key stakeholders in the regulatory frame?
- The rule of law versus soft law: should states regulate sports sectors or should self-regulation prevail?
- The bargaining power of federations versus that of athletes, clubs and governments: who has/is the most muscled body?
- Sport's best/general interest: if federations are not-for-profit associations, what commercial aspects are weighed in?
- How do federations handle the interaction between the local/national level and the international one?
- Is there a governance issue within federations and should the industry reinvent itself to improve decision-making?
- Is corporation or democracy the best model for sports governance?
- What's next for sports governance and how will it address its current challenges?

Moderator

Ghada Darwish Karbon *Dr Ghada Darwish Karbon Law Firm, Doha; Vice-Chair, IBA Arab Regional Forum*

Speakers

Marc Cavaliero *Former Head of Disciplinary Department, Legal Affairs Division, FIFA, Geneva*

Pierre Ketterer *Regulatory and Governance Director, Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), Geneva*

Hannah McLean *Senior Legal Counsel, International Tennis Federation (ITF), Sydney, NSW*

Victoriano Melero *Acting CEO & General Secretary, Paris Saint-Germain FC, Paris*

Manal Rmeity *Legal Counsel, Qatar Stars League, Doha*

Emily Wisnosky *Legal Affairs Manager, International Basketball Federation (FIBA), Lausanne*

1230 – 1400

Lunch

Ballroom foyer

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Exhibitors



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1400 – 1530

Dispute resolution mechanisms for sports conflicts: what's the best fit?

- Confronting the expectations of the user, counsel, arbitrator and centre: perspectives in sports disputes resolution, is everyone happy about the process and the outcome?
- Applying the rule of law versus applying the rule of the game: is the frontier clear or blurred?
- Who sits as arbitrators in sports disputes: are arbitrators good referees?
- Gender equality in sports dispute resolution: better or worse than in commercial arbitration?
- Conflicts of interest in sports arbitration: the same old story?
- Post World-Cup or Olympics construction disputes: are they all about delays?
- Other disputes at the crossroad of sports and commercial laws: the example of sponsorship cases.
- Sports and arbitration: the ideal doubles pairing?
- The arbitrability of sports law disputes: the case of employment contracts.
- Is there room for mediation between litigation and arbitration?
- Are national state courts a better forum for sports-related disputes?
- The specificity of internal dispute resolution mechanisms within international sporting federations.

Moderator

Jalal El Ahdab *Bird & Bird, Paris; Member, IBA Mediation Committee Advisory Board, Member, IBA Arab Regional Forum Advisory Board*

Speakers

Rui Botica Santos *Coelho Ribeiro e Associados, Lisbon*

Xavier Favre-Bulle *Lenz & Staehelin, Geneva; Co-Chair, IBA Arbitration Committee*

Dalia Hussein *Deputy Director, Cairo Regional Center for International Commercial Arbitration (CRCICA), Cairo*

Abdulwahab Sadeq *Vice-Chair of the Board, National Sports Arbitration Tribunal (NSAT), Kuwait*

Emma Selfe *Sultan Al-Abdulla & Partners, Doha*

Andrea Sherpa-Zimmermann *Legal Counsel, Court of Arbitration for Sport, Lausanne*

Emily Wisnosky *Legal Affairs Manager, International Basketball Federation (FIBA), Lausanne*

1530 – 1600

Refreshment break

Ballroom foyer

1600 – 1730

International sports, ethics and diplomacy

- How are athletes' rights and duties taken into account in modern sport?
- Gender equality in sports today: is it the beginning of a new era?
- The fight against racism and violence and for integrity: the example of FIFA.
- The specifics of ethics in sports: tools and objectives.
- The fight against doping: an old fight looking for a better outcome today?
- Sport as a soft power: is it a political instrument to further peace?
- Sanctions in sports and international trade: are we talking about the same creatures?

Moderator

Brianna Quinn *Bird & Bird, Sydney, NSW*

Speakers

Marc Cavaliero *Former Head of Disciplinary Department, Legal Affairs Division, FIFA, Geneva*

Simon Chadwick *Professor of Sport and Geopolitical Economy, SKEMA Business School, Paris*

Sally Clark *Senior Legal Counsel, Integrity and Regulatory, International Cricket Council, Dubai*

Pierre Ketterer *Regulatory and Governance Director, Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile, Geneva*

Hannah McLean *Senior Legal Counsel, International Tennis Federation (ITF), Sydney, NSW*

Lisa Robinson *CEO, Hooves Sport & Saudi Polo Championship for Women, Riyadh*

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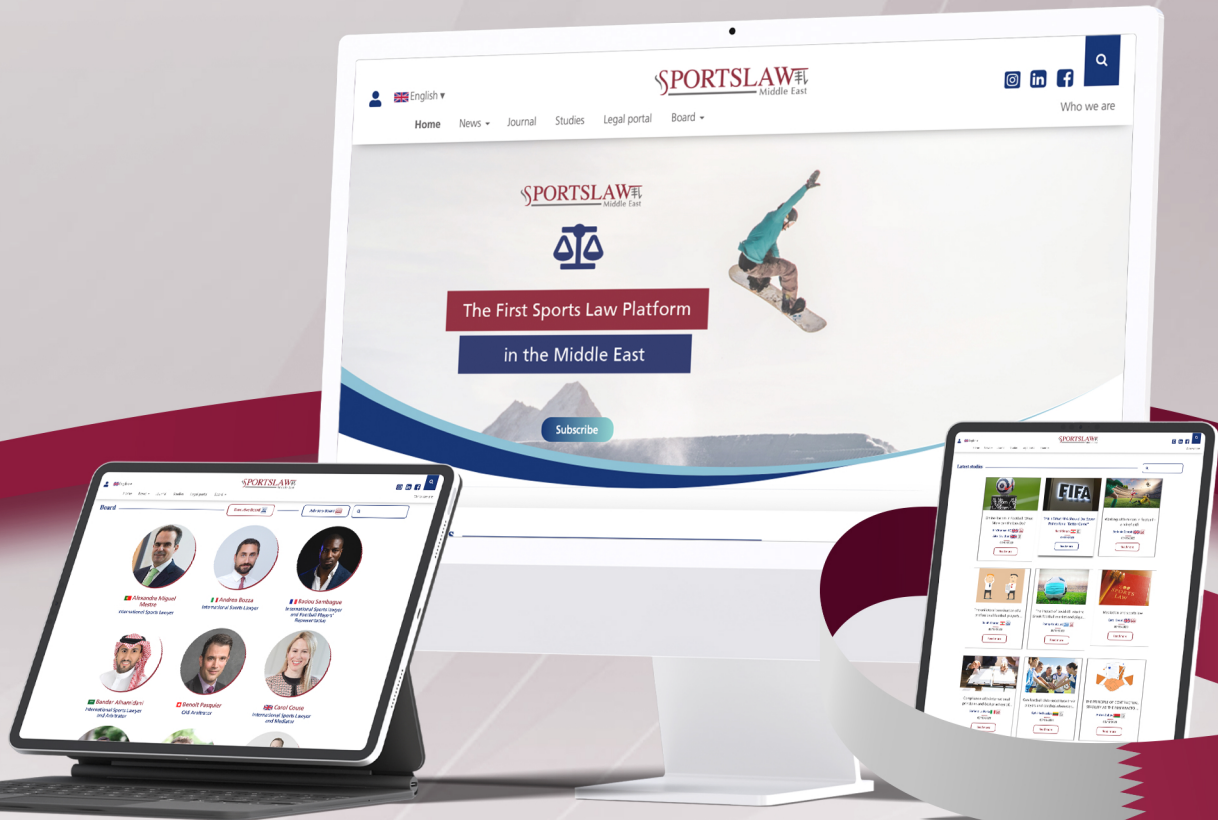
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