

Jonathan Crystal

Call: Middle Temple 1972

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Jonathan is an experienced commercial lawyer who also advises on sports and entertainment related matters in the UK and internationally.

Ranked highly in Who's Who Legal Sports and Entertainment, Who's Who Legal UK Bar 2019, Chambers and Partners and Legal 500. In the 2019 edition of Chambers and Partners, Jonathan has been recommended in the category of *sport*, (Band 2 – junior) which notes that he is a vastly experienced Barrister, who enjoys a long-standing reputation in the sport law arena, with particular knowledge of boxing and football matters. He has extensive experience in dealing with contractual and regulatory issues in sport both in the UK and internationally. His strengths, as detailed by the edition, are that he is an “*expert in football*” and “*he's very bright and incredibly commercial.*” This adds to Jonathan's entry from the 2018 edition, where he is described as “*fearless and extremely user-friendly.*” Jonathan is one of the few Barristers whose expertise is selected in the Who's Who editions.

Jonathan's recent commercial work includes advising in relation to (i) the claim by Vincent Tchenguiz against Grant Thornton (ii) the sale of a hotel portfolio and issues related to its associated financing (iii) the termination of a merchandise agreement by a well known YouTuber (iv) a substantial sale in the energy sector and (v) dispute resolution in relation to an English estate.

Civil

Recent sports advisory matters:

Location

Goldsmith Building Temple
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Football

Sale and acquisition of Championship Clubs, discounting receivables from transfers of registration, the admission application to UEFA of the Jersey FA, contractual matters concerning Sam Allardyce, Roberto Martinez, Crystal Palace, Everton, Huddersfield Town, West Ham, Birmingham City and Leeds United

Boxing

Contractual matters relating to Tyson Fury (including Wilder v Fury), Gennady Golovkin, Prince Naseem Hamed and Frank Warren.

Other

Contractual matters relating to Brian Lara.

The liability of the International Tennis Federation in respect of Grand Slam Tournaments.

YouTube participation with sportsmen.

Notable Cases

- *Tchenguiz v Director of the SFO and others* (2017) EWHC 2644 (Comm). Permission under CPR 31.22(1)(b) to use documents said to be inadvertently disclosed or subject to legal professional privilege.
- *Su v Clarkson Plateau Futures* (2018) EWVA Civ 1115. Operation of the special time limit under s14A of the Limitation Act 1980.
- *Petroleum Company of Trinidad & Tobago v Ryan and Anor* (2017) UKPC 30. Successful appeal restoring the trial judge's dismissal of claims for damages arising from the alleged emission of hydrocarbon gases from nearby oil well.
- *Jersey FA v UEFA* CAS decision 28 September 2017. Ruling setting aside the UEFA Executive Committee decision to reject JFA's application for UEFA membership and ordering that the JFA's application be forwarded to UEFA Congress for consideration.
- *Mercato Sports v Everton* (2018) EWHC 1567 (QB). Stay of intermediaries claim for FA arbitration.
- *Tchenguiz v Kaupthing Bank Hf* (2017) EWCA Civ 83. Appeal concerning the relationship between Jurisdiction Instruments including the Lugano Convention and Insolvency Instruments operating in the field of cross-border insolvency including the Winding-Up Directive. Allocation of jurisdiction for claim in conspiracy to injure against Icelandic Bank in winding-up process.
- *Tchenguiz v Kaupthing Bank Hf* (2017) EWCA Civ 83. Appeal concerning the relationship between Jurisdiction Instruments including the Lugano Convention and Insolvency Instruments operating in the field of cross-border insolvency including the Winding-Up Directive. Allocation of jurisdiction for claim in conspiracy to injure against Icelandic Bank in winding-up process.
- *Su (aka Hsin Chu, Su Hsin Chi and Nobu Morimoto) v Clarksons Platou Futures Ltd* (2017) EWHC 337 (Comm). Summary judgment application in relation to one (of two) claims. Whether claim time-barred pursuant to section 2 of the Limitation Act 1980. Whether Claimant could rely on special time limit under section 14A of the Limitation Act 1980.
- *Tchenguiz v Grant Thornton and others* (2017) EWCA Civ 172. Application granted for permission to appeal additional ground of appeal concerning effect of Settlement Agreement.

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- *Ali v Petroleum Company of Trinidad & Tobago* (2017) UKPC 2. Acting for Respondent company. Whether loan by company to employee whilst studying abroad at university was repayable where employee did not return and work for the company for five years. The terms to be implied into the contract between the company and the employee. Whether the employee could avoid repayment because he had voluntarily left his employment. The Privy Council dismissing the appeal held that the employee could not avoid repayment.

Appointments

- Former director of Cardiff City FC
- Former director of Tottenham Hotspur FC

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