

Simon McCann

1996 Gray's Inn

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Education	Professional Associations	Appointments
Newman College, Preston	Personal Injuries Bar Association	Independent Disciplinary Commissioner Birmingham County Football Association
The University of Leeds - International History and Politics BA Hons (1st Class)	British Association for Sport and Law	British Canoeing Disciplinary, Disputes and Appeal Panel member
The University of Central Lancashire, Common Professional Examination		Sports Resolutions Pro-bono Panel
Associate, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (ACI Arb)		ACI Arb

Areas of Specialism

Sports Law

Civil and Insurance Fraud

Personal Injury and Insurance

Data Protection and emerging technologies

Arbitration

Regulatory

Motor Claims

Employer's Liability and Public Liability

Profile

Simon McCann specialises in sports law, and personal injury cases with an emphasis on complex issues of liability. He is a fraud specialist, with many years of trial experience.

SPORTS LAW

Simon is developing a strong Sports practice across a range of sectors.

He has a growing specialisation in anti-doping. He is currently representing 2 international standard athletes who are facing doping charges brought by the IAAF. He has recently represented a world-title holding boxer.

Simon has experience of Doping and Integrity prosecutions brought before international tribunals and arbitrations

Simon's other main specialism is representing football clubs and players across a wide range of work - disciplinary, regulatory, safeguarding, advisory and insurance. He is an Independent Disciplinary Commissioner for the Birmingham County Football Association, and has a thorough understanding of the game (also being a FA qualified coach)

Simon has recently been appointed to British Canoeing's Disciplinary, Dispute and Appeals Panel.

He has an interest in the governance of sport.

Simon is a member of the Sports Resolutions Pro-bono Panel, and is able to provide representation in all areas relating to anti-doping, discipline and safeguarding.

He is experienced in issues involved with scuba diving, and is PADI trained. He is an avid follower of professional cycling, and is fully conversant with the anti-doping issues in that sport.

He is a member of the British Association for Sport and Law.

FRAUD

Simon's fraud practice is insurance-based. He is a specialist in this area, with over 20 years of experience of fraud trials and the investigation of fraud, in which time has taken several hundred of fraud cases to trial. He has advised motor insurers, employers' insurers and local authorities on all aspects of fraudulent claims, and has assisted in the development of a number of specialist fraud units. Simon has developed a significant reputation defending fraudulent claims in both the motor and casualty fields. He is able to offer advice on all aspects of fraud up to and including contempt proceedings. Simon has spoken regularly at national events and at a local level on the subject of fraudulent claims.

Simon has a particular interest in cases in which surveillance or social media evidence are deployed. He is also able to advise on the use of developing technologies such as analytics and telematics. Issues over data protection in insurance and fraud work are also within his expertise.

Areas of special interest:

- Fraud rings
- Staged accidents
- Fraudulent claims in the workplace
- Fraudulent claims against local authorities
- Contempt proceedings

CATASTROPHIC PERSONAL INJURY

Simon has represented many insurers in catastrophic personal injury cases both with Leading Counsel and alone. Experienced in joint settlement meetings and negotiations. Simon has an interest in complex issues of damages.

Notable Cases

[International Association of Athletics Federations \(IAAF\) v VG \(2019\)](#)

Representing a track athlete faced with a charge of manipulation of his race results. The case continues

[International Association of Athletics Federations \(IAAF\) v IK \(2019\)](#)

Representing a Greek athlete faced with an anti-doping charge. The case continues

[International Association of Athletics Federations \(IAAF\) v AK \(2019\)](#)

Representing a Kenyan long-distance runner in a blood-doping case

[AXA Insurance v Masud \[2019\] EWHC Civ 479 \(QB\)](#)

Represented AXA Insurance in contempt of Court proceedings brought against the Defendant. The Defendant has pursued a large loss personal injury claim, which had been procedurally struck out once surveillance evidence disclosed the Defendant working and driving the family car - neither of which he had been claimed to be able to do.

AXA brought contempt proceedings. The Deputy High Court Judge sentenced Masud to 16 months' immediate imprisonment in Pentonville Prison. This is one of the largest sentences for contempt that has been seen.

A recent attempt to set aside the sentence and purge Masud's contempt failed before the High Court.

[Ian Hume v Chris Morgan & Sheffield UTD \(2011\)](#)

Acted for the Defendants in this well-publicised case. The Claimant suffered a fractured skull whilst playing for Barnsley against Sheffield United, and alleged that the use of the elbow was either deliberate or reckless

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/sp...>

Lovell -v- Leeds City Council (2009)

Duty of care in the design and planning of highways

Afzali -v- McLaw Roofing (2008)

Court of Appeal - a deliberately-induced motor fraud claim. The case report contains observations from the Court of Appeal on the issue of liability in a "slam-on" claim.

What the Directories say

"Excellent." "His performance at trial is as detailed as it is masterly." "He's very thorough and presents information very well to clients."

Chambers and Partners, 2020

'Builds an excellent rapport with clients.'

Legal 500, 2020

"A true professional who excels in the courtroom." "Very affable and pleasant."

Chambers and Partners, 2019

"He provides prompt advice, has a good approach and is very knowledgeable. He is helpful and strong in both discussions and negotiations." "He is very user-friendly and down-to-earth."

Chambers and Partners, 2019

"Very well established and very much favoured by the insurance industry. His pleadings are good and very accurate. He's good on his feet in court." "Very well prepared and good fun to deal with."

Chambers and Partners, 2018

"One of the best when it comes to cross-examination, he always cuts straight to the important issues in the case."

Chambers and Partners, 2018

'He gets to the heart of issues quickly.'

Legal 500, 2017

"He's very good and has a reassuring, natural manner before the judge."

Chambers UK, 2017

"He has a very good manner in court, he is a very reassuring and natural presence in front of the judge."

Chambers UK, 2017

"He is a very tenacious street fighter who will get stuck in and scrap it out."

Chambers UK, 2016

'Knowledgeable and approachable, and deals with papers speedily'

Legal 500, 2015

"He's the kind of person you'd want on your side in a courtroom fight: he's quick on his feet and not afraid to ask the difficult questions." "He is a details man who will pick out things that pass me by."

Chambers UK, 2015

"He's the kind of person you would want on your side in a courtroom fight - quick on his feet and not afraid to ask the difficult questions." "He is straightforward and candid in his views. That is appreciated by clients, who want to be told how it is."

Chambers UK, 2015

'A specialist in personal injury and insurance fraud.' (Personal injury and clinical negligence)

Legal 500, 2014

'a natural trial advocate'

Legal 500, 2014

Commentators note his particular expertise in cases of industrial disease.

Chambers UK, 2013

'Offers expertise in industrial disease cases'

Chambers UK, 2012

'Punchy but measured' approach to personal injury litigation

Chambers and Partners 2011

'Recommended.'

Legal 500, 2010

'Recommended'

Legal 500, 2009

'Strong, effective Counsel, kept very busy'

Legal 500, 2006

