

Ian Mill KC

“Ian Mill is an excellent leader and strategist and a fearsome advocate.”

– CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2023

Year of call: **1981**
Appointed to silk: **1999**
Degree: **MA (Cantab)**



Ian Mill KC regularly appears in the Chancery Division, in the Commercial Court, in the Court of Appeal and in international and domestic arbitrations. He has a formidable reputation for his skills as an advocate (including for his techniques in cross-examination), his clarity of thinking and expression and his attention to detail. He has also been appearing with increasing frequency in foreign courts, such as Hong Kong, where he was instructed in a very substantial and high profile dispute over the will of Nina Wang, who was when she died reputed to have been the richest woman in Asia. He also sits as an arbitrator resolving international and domestic sports related disputes.

Ian was appointed to the Sports Advocacy Section of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Pro Bono Legal Advice and Representation Service.

In October 2014 Ian was appointed as an Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer for world tennis, hearing Tennis Integrity Unit cases. He also chairs International Tennis Federation Anti-Doping cases, PGA Disciplinary Panels and ECB Child Protection appeals, and sits as a Steward of Appeal of the British Boxing Board of Control and as an FA Premier League Panel member.

In June 2015, Ian was appointed an independent member of the Sports Broadcast Monitoring Committee.

In December 2013, Ian was ranked as one of Chambers UK’s Top Silk Bar 100, in their inaugural listing of the top barristers practising at the Bar of England & Wales: “he is unafraid of any court and able to dominate any courtroom” “his commitment to working as part of a team to achieve the very best for the client is unsurpassed.”

Ian is highly recommended in the latest editions of both the leading independent legal directories, Chambers UK and Legal 500, across a range of specialists disciplines: commercial litigation, civil fraud, intellectual property, international arbitration, media & entertainment and sport. He was also named The Lawyer’s Barrister of the week in February 2021.

Recent quotes include:

- "Ian Mill is an excellent leader and strategist and a fearsome advocate." - Chambers UK, 2023
- "Hard working, forceful advocate and terrific cross-examiner." - Legal 500, 2023

Previous quotes include:

- "Clients really respect and appreciate his opinions. He has a real presence, even in client calls." - Chambers UK
- "Incisive and intelligent with real gravitas.", "A ferocious advocate, particularly in his cross-examination of witnesses." - Legal 500

EXPERIENCE

Commercial

Ian has established his position as a Leading Silk in this field through the clarity of his contractual analysis, and through his performance, in particular as a trial lawyer, in cases involving such diverse subjects as jurisdiction and conflicts of laws, commercial fraud, professional negligence, media & entertainment, intellectual property and sport.

“Outstanding at trial.”

– CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2023

Cases

Navigator Equities v Deripaska

Acting for the Claimants in a claim relating to enforcement of an LCIA arbitral award against the Defendant. Hearing in July 2020 before Andrew Baker J concerned allegations of contempt and breach of contract relating to undertakings given by the Defendant.

John Lobb Ltd v John Lobb Sa

Acting for the claimant in claim relating to ownership of trademarks

Re a Premier League Club

Advising a Premier League Club on its commercial contracts in the light of Covid 19

Re a major broadcaster

Advised a major broadcaster in relation to certain of its sports related commercial contracts in the light of Covid 19

Dean & Dunsire v Legal & General

Acting for the claimants in claim for breach of contract relating to modular home constructions

Re Arcelor Mittal

Acting for the Claimants who are seeking to enforce a arbitral award for an amount in excess of US\$ 1.5 billion. Appeared in the Cayman Court of Appeal in November 2019 resisting an appeal against a Norwich Pharmacal Order. Judgment still awaited.

Process & Industrial Development v Federal Republic of Nigeria

Acting for the Claimant in application under Section 66 of the Arbitration Act 1996 to enforce a US\$10 billion arbitral award against the Defendant. Succeeded before Butcher J in August 2019. The Defendant has permission to appeal to the Court of Appeal. Appeal yet to be heard. The Defendant has applied under Sections 67/68 of the AA 96 to set aside the arbitral award on the grounds of fraud. Hearing of application to apply out of time before Sir Ross Cranston in July 2020. Judgment awaited.

NF Football Investments (1) Nottingham Forest FC Limited (2) v (1) NFFC Group Holdings Ltd (2) Fawaz Al Hasawi

Acted for Nottingham Forest in its appeal against an adverse judgment at trial obtained by the Claimant arising out of his sale of the club (Ian did not appear below). Issues of contractual construction. Hearing before Court of Appeal in November 2019. Appeal allowed in part.

Haider v Credit Suisse

Acted for Claimants in an action against the Defendant bank for mis-selling financial products. Succeeded at trial before Andrew Baker J in 2017. The Defendant's application for permission to appeal was refused.

Harb v Prince Abdul Aziz

Acted for the Defendant in proceedings brought by an alleged former wife of King Saud of Saudi Arabia. The Claimant alleged an oral agreement made by the Defendant to provide financial assistance. Trial before Peter Smith J in July 2015. The Claimant succeeded in her claim. Permission to appeal granted on all five grounds (including apparent bias of the trial judge). Hearing before the Court of Appeal in May 2016. The Court ordered a re-trial. The Defendant succeeded at that re-trial before Arnold J in February 2018. Permission to appeal was refused.

Pakistan Cricket Board v Board of Control of Cricket in India

Acted for the Respondent in an ICC Arbitration. The Claimant was seeking very substantial damages for breach of an alleged contractual obligation upon the Indian cricket team to undertake specified bipartite series. The Claimant's claim was dismissed.

Re an LCIA Arbitration

Acted for Claimant in LCIA arbitration proceedings alleging fraud relating to a substantial African construction project.

Rosalina Investments v New Balance Athletic Shoes

Acted for the Defendant in a commercial dispute relating to the Belgium international footballer, Marouane Fellaini. Claim succeeded in application to strike out claim.

Burrell & Ors v Helical (Bramshott Place) Ltd

Acting for the Defendant in an action brought by property owners alleging that contractual terms are unenforceable pursuant to the Unfair Terms in Consumer Contract Regulations 1999. Settled prior to trial.

Executive Aircraft Sales v AZAL

Acted for the Defendant in commercial dispute relating to the sale and leasing of aircraft. Case settled before trial.

Cobham Trade v Soans

Acted successfully for the Claimant in a fraud case against a former employee.

Pyrrho Investments Limited v MWB Property Limited & Ors

Acted for the Fourth Defendant to Chancery Division proceedings alleging fraudulent breaches of fiduciary duties in the operation of a corporate group. Trial fixed for June 2017. Case settled.

Re Bonhams

Acted for the auction house, Bonhams, in four related pieces of litigation in the Commercial Court arising out of the sale of a very rare Ferrari motor car in June 2014. Multiple allegations of fraudulent conduct were made. Trial listed for April 2016 before Flaux J. Settled at the commencement of trial.

Re Salford Capital Partners Inc

Acted for the former General Partner of a BVI LP which has very substantial assets formerly owned by a very wealthy (now deceased) Georgian. Participating in and advising on multiple foreign (BVI) and UK court proceedings and LCIA arbitrations involving and arising from disputes over Salford's entitlement to share in the value of those assets following the termination of the partnership. The client was unsuccessful in its appeal to the Privy Council in June 2015 from a decision of the Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal.

Orb & Ors v Ruhan & Ors

Acted for Defendants to Counterclaim in very substantial commercial fraud proceedings in the Commercial Court. Trial (14-16 weeks) fixed to commence in December 2016 has recently settled.

T&L Sugars Limited v Tate & Lyle Industries Limited

Acted for the Claimant in Commercial Court proceedings arising out of the sale and purchase of parts of the Defendant's business. Succeeded on trial of preliminary issues before Flaux J [2014] EWHC 1066 (Comm). Trial in May 2015 before Simon J. Obtained judgment for the Claimant for €25 million.

Formula 1 arbitration re: Guy van der Garde

Succeeded in obtaining an Award, in an arbitration under Swiss International Arbitration Rules, in favour of the Formula 1 racing driver, Guy van der Garde, requiring the F1 team, Sauber, to honour its English law contractual obligation to nominate him as one of their two race drivers for the 2015 F1 Season. An order was made by an Australian Court (in advance of the first F1 race in Melbourne 14/15 March 2015) enforcing that Award as an order of that Court. This is, it is believed, the first time that a contract of service has been enforced specifically in such a context.

Dramatico Entertainment Ltd & Ors v BSKyB Ltd & Ors; EMI Records Limited & Ors v BSKyB Limited & Ors

Instructed by the Claimants (who are representative members of the entire UK record industry) to participate in and oversee multiple and ongoing claims under Section 97A of the Copyright, Designs & Patents Act 1988 for orders against all the major UK internet service providers requiring them to block their subscribers' access to the websites that serially infringe those members' copyrights, including the world's largest Bittorrent tracker site, The Pirate Bay. Blocking orders have so far been made against well over 50 such sites. Further applications are to follow. This approach is at the forefront of the UK record industry's response to the disastrous financial consequences to it of internet piracy. Similar actions have also been brought on behalf of the FA Premier League.

Bankas Snoras v Antonov & Anor

Acted for the first Defendant to proceedings brought in the Commercial Court which claim some €500 million allegedly defrauded from the Claimant bank. Case currently stayed.

England & Wales Cricket Board v Kaneria

Acted for the ECB in its arbitral disciplinary proceedings against the Pakistani international cricketer, Danish Kaneria, over spot fixing allegations involving the English cricketer, Mervyn Westfield. Offences established before a Cricket Disciplinary Panel and an Appeal Tribunal. Kaneria was given a lifetime ban. Kaneria's appeal against that ban to the Commercial Court was dismissed by Hamblen J [2014] EWHC 1348 (Comm). His application for permission to appeal to the Court of Appeal was subsequently rejected. In 2013, Cooke J in the Commercial Court ruled that the disciplinary proceedings were arbitrations for the purposes of the 1996 Act. He laid down guidance on that issue [2013] EWHC 1074 (Comm).

Shearman v Hunter Boot Limited

Acted for the Defendant in Commercial Court proceedings involving issues under the Commercial Agents Regulations. Settled prior to trial.

BSkyB v Thomson & Anor

Acted for the Defendants in Commercial Court proceedings concerning the fitness for purpose of set top boxes used by Sky customers. Settled prior to trial.

Arbitration

Ian has a substantial practice in both domestic and international commercial arbitrations as an advocate, and in arbitrations in a sporting context both as an advocate and as a decision-maker.

“A consummate advocate and clever tactician who is prepared to roll his sleeves up and work with the team.”

– LEGAL 500, 2022

Cases

Pakistan Cricket Board v Board of Control of Cricket in India

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Navigator Equities v Deripaska

Acting for the Claimants in a claim relating to enforcement of an LCIA arbitral award against the Defendant. Hearing in July 2020 before Andrew Baker J concerned allegations of contempt and breach of contract relating to undertakings given by the Defendant.

Re Arcelor Mittal

Acting for the Claimants who are seeking to enforce a arbitral award for an amount in excess of US\$ 1.5 billion. Appeared in the Cayman Court of Appeal in November 2019 resisting an appeal against a Norwich Pharmacal Order. Judgment still awaited.

Crystal Palace FC v Pulis

Acted for the club in substantial contract claims (featuring allegations of fraudulent conduct) against its former manager. Arbitration hearing took place in February 2016. Award made. Section 68 and enforcement proceeding were brought before the Commercial Court. The Section 68 challenge by Mr Pulis failed. The enforcement proceedings were successful.

EFL v Watford FC & Riva

Acted for the English Football League in an investigation over the submission to it by Watford FC of forged bank letters of guarantee, followed by disciplinary proceedings against the club. The club, in August 2017, agreed to pay a record fine. The club's former chairman was also banned for an indefinite period.

Re an LCIA Arbitration

Acted for Claimant in LCIA arbitration proceedings alleging fraud relating to a substantial African construction project.

FIA v A Driver

Acted for a driver facing disciplinary proceedings brought by the FIA.

Tennis Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer

Acted on numerous occasions as an international tennis Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer in proceedings brought against participants.

Steward of appeal of the British Boxing Board of Control

Acted as Steward of appeal of the British Boxing Board of Control to resolve a number of appeals from arbitral decisions of the Board.

International Tennis Federation Doping Tribunals

Acted as chair of a number of International Tennis Federation Doping Tribunals.

Cardiff City dispute

Acted as member of panel to hear claims between the former Cardiff City Manager and the club.

PGA Disciplinary Panel

Acted as chair of a PGA Disciplinary Panel which decided proceedings brought against the English golfer, Simon Dyson.

Watford FC and Football League dispute

Acted as member of a panel to decide issues between the Football League and Watford FC.

Southampton FC dispute

Acted as chair of a panel to resolve issues between the former Southampton FC manager and the club.

London Welsh RFC appeal

Acted as member of a panel to resolve the appeal by London Welsh RFC against the RFU's refusal to admit it to the Premiership.

Re BHA

Advised the BHA on the consequences of the inclusion within its Disciplinary Panels of a member whose relationship with the BHA had given rise to allegations of apparent bias.

Cardiff City FC v Segal & Ors

Acted for a defendant to a claim alleging conspiracy against him and others. Section 9(4) application to stay for arbitration was successfully made.

Inter Milan v Sunderland AFC

Acted for Sunderland in a dispute as to the status of the player Ricardo Alvarez and the commercial rights as between Inter Milan and Sunderland under a loan agreement. Award of the FIFA Players' Status Committee issued in April 2016. Both parties appealed to CAS. Award of CAS in 2017.

Re Salford Capital Partners Inc

Acted for the former General Partner of a BVI LP which has very substantial assets formerly owned by a very wealthy (now deceased) Georgian. Participating in and advising on multiple foreign (BVI) and UK court proceedings and LCIA arbitrations involving and arising from disputes over Salford's entitlement to share in the value of those assets following the termination of the partnership. The client was unsuccessful in its appeal to the Privy Council in June 2015 from a decision of the Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal.

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Crosby Worldwide & Anor v Oldknow

Acted for the Claimants in an application to enforce an ICDR arbitral award against a former employee threatening to join a competitor in breach of restrictive covenants. Settled before hearing.

England & Wales Cricket Board v Kaneria

Acted for the ECB in its arbitral disciplinary proceedings against the Pakistani international cricketer, Danish Kaneria, over spot fixing allegations involving the English cricketer, Mervyn Westfield. Offences established before a Cricket Disciplinary Panel and an Appeal Tribunal. Kaneria was given a lifetime ban. Kaneria's appeal against that ban to the Commercial Court was dismissed by Hamblen J [2014] EWHC 1348 (Comm). His application for permission to appeal to the Court of Appeal was subsequently rejected. In 2013, Cooke J in the Commercial Court ruled that the disciplinary proceedings were arbitrations for the purposes of the 1996 Act. He laid down guidance on that issue [2013] EWHC 1074 (Comm).

FAPL Rule S arbitration

Acted successfully for the Premier League in an FAPL Rule S arbitration brought by a former Premiership football club manager who claimed to be a "Football Creditor" under the Premier League Rules.

Civil Fraud, Asset Recovery & Injunctive Relief

Ian has for many years acted for claimants and defendants in substantial and often multi-jurisdictional fraud claims.

"Ian has huge gravitas. He is a great advocate and great at coming up with solutions."

– CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2023

Cases**Re Arcelor Mittal**

Acting for the Claimants who are seeking to enforce a arbitral award for an amount in excess of US\$ 1.5 billion. Appeared in the Cayman Court of Appeal in November 2019 resisting an appeal against a Norwich Pharmacal Order. Judgment still awaited.

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Bankas Snoras v Antonov & Anor

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Professional Negligence

Ian has been instructed in substantial cases over the years dealing with professional negligence, for the most part involving the legal profession. In addition to the cases listed below, he has brought a successful claim by a commercial organisation against Slaughter & May, and successful claims for two Formula One racing teams against their respective solicitors, Linklaters and Baker & McKenzie. He also represented a barrister in defence of the most substantial claim brought against a member of the Bar, in relation to tax advice given by him.

“He gives absolute clarity of advice.”

– LEGAL 500, 2018

Cases

Mamadou Sakho (2) Ms Top Limited v Word Anti-Doping Agency

Acted for the Defendant in a professional negligence claim brought by a Premier League footballer. Settled shortly before hearing of preliminary issues.

Haider v Credit Suisse

Acted for Claimants in an action against the Defendant bank for mis-selling financial products. Succeeded at trial before Andrew Baker J in 2017. The Defendant's application for permission to appeal was refused.

A Premier League Club v a Major Law Firm

Advising a Premier League Club over possible proceedings for professional negligence against a major law firm.

CMP v Brabners

Acted for the Claimant in proceedings against the Defendant firm of solicitors alleging negligence in advising on and drafting commercial agreement in the music industry. Settled prior to trial.

Miller v Sutton

Acted for the Defendant solicitors before the Court of Appeal, successfully resisting the Claimant's appeal against the striking out of his professional negligence claim against the firm.

IIG Capital v Hazelwoods

Acted for the Claimant in a professional negligence action where the principal allegation was a failure on the part of the defendant accountants to unearth/disclose a serious fraud perpetrated by its client. Case settled prior to trial.

Media & Entertainment

Ian is the standalone top rated silk in this area of practice in the latest editions of Chambers UK and The Legal 500. He has appeared in many of the major recent cases in this field (involving both contract and intellectual property issues). He has advised and acted for a large number of famous performers, as well as all the major record companies and music publishers, all the principal music industry trade bodies and collecting societies and numerous film, theatre, TV and radio companies, directors and producers.

Ian announced (at the PPL 2010 AGM) the establishment of the PPL Dispute Resolution Procedures, an arbitration and mediation service designed to achieve rapid and cost effective resolutions to music industry disputes. Ian drafted the arbitration rules and is the Chairman of the panel of arbitrators.

In addition to the work referred to below, Ian gives a great deal of advice to media rights owners, and their representative bodies, on an ongoing basis in relation to their attempts to combat infringing activities conducted through the use of the internet.

“A masterclass in advocacy; he's brilliant, faultless.”

– CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2023

Cases

Duchess of Sussex v Associated Newspapers Limited

Acted as the Duchess of Sussex's Leading Counsel on her copyright claim in one of The Lawyer's Top 20 Cases of 2020. The Duchess' dispute with Associated Newspapers concerned their misuse of private information, following their publication of a letter written by her to her father. The Judge granted her application in its totality (save for one minor aspect of her copyright claim, which will be dealt with as part of a future assessment of the financial relief to which she is entitled).

Sheeran & Ors v Chokri & Ors

Acting for Ed Sheeran and others, the co-writers and publishers of the song "Shape of You". The Claimants seek a declaration that they have not infringed any copyrights of the Defendants in writing and exploiting that song. Trial fixed in early 2022.

Johnnie Moylett v Robert Geldof

Acted for Sir Bob Geldof in defence of a claim by the keyboard player of the Boomtown Rats that he had co-written "I Don't Like Mondays". Case settled on the eve of Trial in April 2018.

Phonographic Performance Limited – Public Performance Tariff for specially featured entertainment

Acting for PPL who are defending Copyright Tribunal proceedings brought by the hotel, pub and night club representatives.

UK Music & Ors re the Private Copying Exception

Acted for UK Music and other music representative bodies in a successful judicial review of the Government's introduction of the private copying exception into UK law. Judgment of Nicholas Green J in July 2015. Regulation quashed.

Spilt Milk Management v Amy Wadge

Acted for Spilt Milk in its claim for management commission against the Defendant writer. Settled before trial.

Hall v Mute Records

Acting for the Claimant songwriter and recording artist, Moby, in claim relating to online exploitation and royalty accounting.

PRS re Concerts and Festivals Tariff

Advised PRS in a dispute with concert and festival promoters over increases to PRS's Concerts and Festivals Tariff. Revised tariff implemented by the Copyright Tribunal.

Gloucester Place Music v Le Bon & Ors

Acted for the Claimant in proceedings against the members of Duran Duran in relation to the future rights to exploit those members' musical compositions in the USA. Succeeded before Arnold J. Case settled before the Court of Appeal hearing.

BSI Enterprises & Anor v Blue Mountain Music Limited

Acted for the Defendant music publisher in relation to the ownership of copyright in 13 musical compositions written by Bob Marley, including "No Woman No Cry". Trial before Richard Meade QC in the Chancery Division in May 2014. Successful on all issues.

Yorke & Ors v Parlophone Records

Acted for the Claimant members of Radiohead in a claim against their former record company over their entitlement to royalties from online exploitation of their performed recordings. Trial listed for June 2016. Case settled.

ITV v PRS for Music

Acted for the Claimant in Copyright tribunal proceedings relating to the licence terms on which the Claimant is entitled to broadcast the Defendant's members' musical compositions.

Dramatico Entertainment Ltd & Ors v BSKyB Ltd & Ors; EMI Records Limited & Ors v BSKyB Limited & Ors

Instructed by the Claimants (who are representative members of the entire UK record industry) to participate in and oversee multiple and ongoing claims under Section 97A of the Copyright, Designs & Patents Act 1988 for orders against all the major UK internet service providers requiring them to block their subscribers' access to the websites that serially infringe those members' copyrights, including the world's largest Bittorrent tracker site, The Pirate Bay. Blocking orders have so far been made against well over 50 such sites. Further applications are to follow. This approach is at the forefront of the UK record industry's response to the disastrous financial consequences to it of internet piracy. Similar actions have also been brought on behalf of the FA Premier League.

Sony ATV Music Publishing v Le Bon & Ors

Acted for the Claimant owner of copyrights in Lennon/McCartney songs over a documentary film of a Beatles concert which the Defendant sought to exploit in the US. Succeeded on all issues at trial before Arnold J in June 2015. Permission to appeal granted. Action settled prior to Court of Appeal hearing.

Modest Management v Ferguson

Acted for the Claimant in its dispute with its formerly managed artist, Rebecca Ferguson. Settled prior to trial.

Avalon Management Group Limited v Harry Hill

Acted for Avalon in its financial dispute with its former client, the comedian Harry Hill. Actions settled prior to trial.

Reid v Onward Music

Acted for the Claimant, the lyricist of "A Whiter Shade of Pale", in proceedings against his publisher over his royalty entitlements in the light of the decision of the Supreme Court in Fisher v Brooker. Action settled shortly before trial.

Molko & Ors v Hewitt

Acted for the Claimants in relation to a dispute over the value of the name in the group Placebo. Case settled shortly before trial.

Intellectual Property

Ian is rated as a leading practitioner in the field of intellectual property in the latest editions of both Chambers UK and The Legal 500. His work in this field is largely but not exclusively limited to soft IP (copyright, passing off, confidential information). However, he has also become increasingly involved in recent years in patent licensing disputes.

“Ian is a great advocate who is very forceful in his arguments.”

– CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2022

Cases

Johnnie Moylett v Robert Geldof

Acted for Sir Bob Geldof in defence of a claim by the keyboard player of the Boomtown Rats that he had co-written "I Don't Like Mondays". Case settled on the eve of Trial in April 2018.

John Lobb Ltd v John Lobb Sa

Acting for the claimant in claim relating to ownership of trademarks

Sheeran & Ors v Chokri & Ors

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BetGenius Ltd and Genius Sports Group Limited

Advising Betgenius/Genius in a breach of confidence/unlawful means conspiracy claim against Sportradar relating to data acquired during professional football matches. Sportradar has commenced proceedings in the CAT against Betgenius/Genius.

The Racing Partnership & Ors v Labrokes & Ors

Acting for the Claimants in breach of confidence/unlawful means conspiracy claim relating to betting shows and key race data. Succeeded in part at trial. Both parties appealed to the Court of Appeal. Appeal heard in July 2020. Judgment awaited.

Re a Norwich Pharmacal Application

Applied successfully for a Norwich Pharmacal order to assist in identifying the sender of offensive messages on Facebook.

Phonographic Performance Limited – Public Performance Tariff for specially featured entertainment

Acting for PPL who are defending Copyright Tribunal proceedings brought by the hotel, pub and night club representatives.

Trailfinders Ltd v Travel Counsellors Ltd

Acting for the First Defendant to breach of confidence claim relating to client information generated by former employees of the claimant travel firm. Decision of HHJ Hacon in March 2019. Appeal to Court of Appeal in 2021.

UK Music & Ors re the Private Copying Exception

Acted for UK Music and other music representative bodies in a successful judicial review of the Government's introduction of the private copying exception into UK law. Judgment of Nicholas Green J in July 2015. Regulation quashed.

PRS v Coral Racing & Ors

Acted for the Claimant in infringement proceedings against bookmakers in relation to music played by gaming machines in their premises. Case settled before trial.

BSI Enterprises & Anor v Blue Mountain Music Limited

Acted for the Defendant music publisher in relation to the ownership of copyright in 13 musical compositions written by Bob Marley, including "No Woman No Cry". Trial before Richard Meade QC in the Chancery Division in May 2014. Successful on all issues.

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Football Association Premier League v BSKyB & Ors

Acted for the Claimant in obtaining blocking orders in relation to websites unlawfully streaming Premier League football games into the UK.

PRS re Concerts and Festivals Tariff

Advised PRS in a dispute with concert and festival promoters over increases to PRS's Concerts and Festivals Tariff. Revised tariff implemented by the Copyright Tribunal.

PCL v Kek Gardner

Acted for the Defendant in expedited proceedings raising ip and contractual claims relating to their respective businesses. Trial in 2016, Court of Appeal in 2017.

Sport

Ian is rated as a leading silk for sports disputes by both Chambers UK and The Legal 500. He has specialist knowledge of a wide range of sporting issues, having acted for many individuals, teams, organisers, managers, governing bodies and sports broadcasters.

As well as acting for parties, Ian has established himself as an experienced decision-maker in sporting disputes. Since UK Athletics appointed him to sit as Chairman of its Disciplinary Committee to hear the so-called "nandrolone" doping cases involving 6 athletics (including Linford Christie, Dougie Walker and Mark Richardson) shortly after he took silk, he has developed a reputation for decision making across a wide range of sports and in a wide variety of contexts (including both disciplinary processes and contractual disputes). For example, the FA has appointed him to chair a number of appeals from FA Disciplinary Commissions; he has been appointed and has sat as an FA Premier League Panel Member, a Chairman of the Sport Resolution's Panel of Arbitrators, Chairman of an International Cricket Council Tribunal and of several ECB Child Protection Appeal Panels, Chairman of several International Tennis Federation Anti-Doping Tribunals, a Football Association Arbitrator, a Football League Arbitrator, an RFU Disciplinary Appeal Chairman and an Appeal Steward of the British Boxing Board of Control. In September 2010, he was appointed by the World Professional Billiards & Snooker Association to hear its disciplinary proceedings against the snooker player, John Higgins. He was appointed a Tennis Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer in 2014 and has since conducted a number of cases as such.

His most recent decision-making experiences have included the following:

"He is a perfect cross-examiner."

– CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS, 2023

- Acted as an international tennis Anti-Corruption Hearing Officer in a number of proceedings brought against players and other participants in the sport.
- Acted as Steward of appeal of the British Boxing Board of Control to resolve a number of appeals from arbitral/disciplinary decisions of the Board.
- Acting as chair of a number of International Tennis Federation Doping Tribunals (most recently in March 2017).
- Acted as member of panel to hear claims between the former Cardiff City Manager and the club (2014).
- Acted as chair of a PGA Disciplinary Panel which decided proceedings brought against the English golfer, Simon Dyson (2013).
- Acted as member of a panel to decide issues between the Football League and Watford FC (2013).
- Acted as chair of a panel to resolve issues between the former Southampton FC manager and the club (2013).
- Acted as member of a panel to resolve the appeal by London Welsh RFC against the RFU's refusal to admit it to the Premiership (2012).

Ian was appointed to the Sports Advocacy Section of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Pro Bono Legal Advice and Representation Service.

He is also a consulting editor of the International Sports Law Review, the co-author of the Arbitration chapter in Sports Law (Lewis & Taylor, 2nd Edition), and co-author of the Arbitration chapter in the forthcoming publication, The Law Relating to Football.

Cases

Re a major broadcaster

Advised a major broadcaster in relation to certain of its sports related commercial contracts in the light of Covid 19

Re Man City FC

Acted for seven Premier League clubs in application relating to Man City's recent CAS appeal

Re a Premier League Club

Advising a Premier League Club on its commercial contracts in the light of Covid 19

Re ECB

Advising ECB on certain regulatory issues relating to player eligibility

South Shields FC v FA

Acted for the Claimant club in an unsuccessful claim to set aside the FA decision to render the 2019/20 season in National League 3 null and void.

Middlesborough FC v EFL and Derby County FC

Acting for the Claimant in prospective proceedings against the regulator of the Football League and Derby County relating to alleged breaches of the EFL's profitability and sustainability rules.

BetGenius Ltd and Genius Sports Group Limited

Advising Betgenius/Genius in a breach of confidence/unlawful means conspiracy claim against Sportradar relating to data acquired during professional football matches. Sportradar has commenced proceedings in the CAT against Betgenius/Genius.

Mamadou Sakho (2) Ms Top Limited v Word Anti-Doping Agency

Acted for the Defendant in a professional negligence claim brought by a Premier League footballer. Settled shortly before hearing of preliminary issues.

FA v Kiko Casilla

Acted for the Leeds United goalkeeper who was charged with using racist language during a match. Hearing in January 2020.

CJ Motorsport Consulting Limited v Mr Sam Bird

Acted for Defendant (a professional racing driver) in a claim for management commission. Succeeded on reverse Part 24 and strike out application. Judgment in July 2019.

Sports Mantra India Private Ltd v Force India Formula 1 Team Ltd (in administration)

Acted for the Defendant to a claim for agent's commission. Succeeded on reverse Part 24 and strike out application. Judgment in September 2019.

NF Football Investments (1) Nottingham Forest FC Limited (2) v (1) NFFC Group Holdings Ltd (2) Fawaz Al Hasawi

Acted for Nottingham Forest in its appeal against an adverse judgment at trial obtained by the Claimant arising out of his sale of the club (Ian did not appear below). Issues of contractual construction. Hearing before Court of Appeal in November 2019. Appeal allowed in part.

A Premier League Club v a Major Law Firm

Advising a Premier League Club over possible proceedings for professional negligence against a major law firm.

EFL v Watford FC & Riva

Acted for the English Football League in an investigation over the submission to it by Watford FC of forged bank letters of guarantee, followed by disciplinary proceedings against the club. The club, in August 2017, agreed to pay a record fine. The club's former chairman was also banned for an indefinite period.

FIA v A Driver

Acted for a driver facing disciplinary proceedings brought by the FIA.

Pakistan Cricket Board v Board of Control of Cricket in India

Acted for the Respondent in an ICC Arbitration. The Claimant was seeking very substantial damages for breach of an alleged contractual obligation upon the Indian cricket team to undertake specified bipartite series. The Claimant's claim was dismissed.

Rosalina Investments v New Balance Athletic Shoes

Acted for the Defendant in a commercial dispute relating to the Belgium international footballer, Marouane Fellaini. Claim succeeded in application to strike out claim.

Cardiff City FC v Segal & Ors

Acted for a defendant to a claim alleging conspiracy against him and others. Section 9(4) application to stay for arbitration was successfully made.

FA of Wales v FIFA

Acted for the FA of Wales in its appeal to CAS against the imposition of financial penalties for the wearing and use of the red poppy symbol in international matches. FIFA have now changed their policy and rescinded those penalties.

FA v Leeds United & Cellino

Acted for Leeds and its owner, Massimo Cellino, on their appeal against the FA Regulatory Commission decision relating to the transfer of Ross McCormack from Leeds to Fulham in July 2014. Hearings before an FA Appeal Board and Rule K Arbitral Panel in 2017. Sanctions against both clients reduced.

Crystal Palace FC v Pulis

Acted for the club in substantial contract claims (featuring allegations of fraudulent conduct) against its former manager. Arbitration hearing took place in February 2016. Award made. Section 68 and enforcement proceeding were brought before the Commercial Court. The Section 68 challenge by Mr Pulis failed. The enforcement proceedings were successful.

Re BHA

Advised the BHA on the consequences of the inclusion within its Disciplinary Panels of a member whose relationship with the BHA had given rise to allegations of apparent bias.

Formula 1 arbitration re: Guy van der Garde

Succeeded in obtaining an Award, in an arbitration under Swiss International Arbitration Rules, in favour of the Formula 1 racing driver, Guy van der Garde, requiring the F1 team, Sauber, to honour its English law contractual obligation to nominate him as one of their two race drivers for the 2015 F1 Season. An order was made by an Australian Court (in advance of the first F1 race in Melbourne 14/15 March 2015) enforcing that Award as an order of that Court. This is, it is believed, the first time that a contract of service has been enforced specifically in such a context.

Inter Milan v Sunderland AFC

Acted for Sunderland in a dispute as to the status of the player Ricardo Alvarez and the commercial rights as between Inter Milan and Sunderland under a loan agreement. Award of the FIFA Players' Status Committee issued in April 2016. Both parties appealed to CAS. Award of CAS in 2017.

New Zealand Cricket v Neo Sports & Anor

Acted for the Claimant in Commercial Court proceedings alleging breach of contract against a very substantial Indian sports broadcaster. Obtained summary judgment.

Football Association Premier League v BSKyB & Ors

Acted for the Claimant in obtaining blocking orders in relation to websites unlawfully streaming Premier League football games into the UK.

Warren v Burns

Acted for the Claimant, the well known boxing promoter and manager in his dispute with the boxer, Ricky Burns. Obtained judgment for the Claimant following a trial before Robin Knowles J in October 2014.

England & Wales Cricket Board v Kaneria

Acted for the ECB in its arbitral disciplinary proceedings against the Pakistani international cricketer, Danish Kaneria, over spot fixing allegations involving the English cricketer, Mervyn Westfield. Offences established before a Cricket Disciplinary Panel and an Appeal Tribunal. Kaneria was given a lifetime ban. Kaneria's appeal against that ban to the Commercial Court was dismissed by Hamblen J [2014] EWHC 1348 (Comm). His application for permission to appeal to the Court of Appeal was subsequently rejected. In 2013, Cooke J in the Commercial Court ruled that the disciplinary proceedings were arbitrations for the purposes of the 1996 Act. He laid down guidance on that issue [2013] EWHC 1074 (Comm).

MTC (UK) Limited v Wiggins

Acted for the Claimant, the former agent of the cyclist, Sir Bradley Wiggins, in the financial dispute between them. Settled before trial fixed for March 2015.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Selected earlier reported cases

Commercial

- Lissack v Manhattan Loft Corporation (2012)
- Standard Bank v Al Jaber (2012)
- Duet Real Estate & Anor v ESO Capital (2012)
- Slocom Trading & Anor v Tatik Inc. & Ors (2012)
- Rugby Football Union v Viagogo [2011] EWCA Civ 1585; [2012] SLR 31
- Fulham FC v FA Premier League & Anor (2011 – 2012)
- Grayken v Grayken (2011)
- Masri v Khoury (2011)
- Proactive Sports Management v Rooney [2011] SLR 36, [2010] EWHC 1807 (QB)
- Fulham FC v FA Premier League & Anor (2011 – 2012)
- Drafted a set of arbitral rules in relation to, and established a panel of arbitrators to resolve, music industry disputes under the auspices of Phonographic Performance Limited. Announced at the AGM of PPL in 2010.
- Masri v Khoury (2011)
- Rusal & Anor v Corbiere & Anor (2011)
- Grayken v Grayken (2011)
- Chinachem Charitable Foundation v Tony Chan & Ors (2009)
- Rayden v Edwardo (2009)
- Hitchcox & Anor v Handelsman & Ors
- Sheffield United FC v West Ham United FC (2007- 2009)
- Bertram & Ors v Baker Tilly & Anor (2008)
- Neo Sports Broadcast v Star India (2008)
- El Nasharty v J Sainsbury plc [2008] 1 Lloyd's Rep 360
- Sheffield United FC v FA Premier League (Premier League arbitration, 2007)
- Williams FI and McLaren Racing v Linklaters and Baker & McKenzie (2006)
- El Nasharty & Ors v Sainsbury's [2004] 1 Lloyd's Rep 309, [2008] 1 Lloyd's Rep 360.
- Lewis v Eliades & Ors [2003] 1 All ER (Comm) 850, [2004] 1 WLR 692; [2004] 1 All ER 1196)
- Summit Financial Group Limited v Slaughter & May (1999)

Arbitration

- Fulham FC v FA Premier League & Anor (2011 – 2012)
- Drafted a set of arbitral rules in relation to, and established a panel of arbitrators to resolve, music industry disputes under the auspices of Phonographic Performance Limited. Announced at the AGM of PPL in 2010.
- Sheffield United FC v West Ham United FC (2007- 2009)
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- El Nasharty v J Sainsbury plc [2008] 1 Lloyd's Rep 360
- Sheffield United FC v FA Premier League (Premier League arbitration, 2007)
- El Nasharty & Ors v Sainsbury's [2004] 1 Lloyd's Rep 309), [2008] 1 Lloyd's Rep 360.

Civil Fraud, Asset Recovery & Injunctive Relief

- Duet Real Estate & Anor v ESO Capital (2012)
- Slocom Trading & Anor v Tatik Inc. & Ors (2012)
- Grayken v Grayken (2011)
- Masri v Khoury (2011)
- Rusal & Anor v Corbiere & Anor (2011)
- Chinachem Charitable Foundation v Tony Chan & Ors (2009)
- Rayden v Edwardo (2009)
- El Nasharty v J Sainsbury plc [2008] 1 Lloyd's Rep 360
- El Nasharty & Ors v Sainsbury's [2004] 1 Lloyd's Rep 309), [2008] 1 Lloyd's Rep 360.
- Lewis v Eliades & Ors [2003] 1 All ER (Comm) 850, [2004] 1 WLR 692; [2004] 1 All ER 1196)

Professional Negligence

- Bertram & Ors v Baker Tilly & Anor (2008)
- Williams FI and McLaren Racing v Linklaters and Baker & McKenzie (2006)
- Summit Financial Group Limited v Slaughter & May (1999)

Media & Entertainment

- ITV v PRS/MCPS (2012)
- Remus v BBC & Ors (2012)
- Molko & Ors v Hewitt (2012)
- Crosstown Music Company v Taylor & Anor (2010)
- VPL v CSC (2010)
- PPL v BHA (2010)
- Winwood v Blackwell (2010)
- Buchanan v Range & Anor
- McLelland v Lightbody & Ors (2009)
- Taylor v Le Bon & Ors (2010)
- McPhail & Anor v Bourne & Ors (2008)

- Wadlow v Samuel (2007)
- Taylor v Rive Droite Music Limited [2006] EMLR 4)
- Spice Girls Ltd v Aprilia World Service BV [2000] EMLR 478, [2001] EMLR 174)
- Jonathan Shalit v Charlotte Church & Ors (2000)
- Hadley & Ors v Kemp & Anor [1999] EMLR 589
- Panayiotou & Ors v Sony Music Entertainment [1994] EMLR 229.

Intellectual Property

- Generics v Yeda & Teva (2012)
- ITV v PRS/MCPS (2012)
- Remus v BBC & Ors (2012)
- Hudson Bay v Umbro (2010)
- VPL v CSC (2010)
- PPL v BHA (2010)
- Crosstown Music Company v Taylor & Anor (2008)
- Philips Electronics & Ors v Alba & Anor (2010)
- McPhail & Anor v Bourne & Ors (2008)
- BPI & Ors v Music Alliance [2008] EMLR 5
- Novello & Co Ltd v Keith Prowse Music Publishing Co Ltd [2004] EMLR 296, [2005] EMLR 477)

Partnership

- Buchanan v Range & Anor
- McLelland v Lightbody & Ors (2009)
- Taylor v Le Bon & Ors (2010)

Sport

- IWF v Lapikov (2012)
- Rugby Football Union v Viagogo [2011] EWCA Civ 1585; [2012] SLR 31
- FA v QPR (2011)
- Fulham FC v FA Premier League & Anor (2010 – 2012)
- Proactive Sports Management v Rooney [2011] SLR 36, [2010] EWHC 1807 (QB)
- WPBSA v Higgins (2010)
- Sports Network v Calzaghe [2009] ISLR 43
- Sheffield United FC v West Ham United FC [2009] ISLR 25
- Re Vodafone McLaren Mercedes (“FerrariGate”) (2007 – 2008)
- Sheffield United FC v FA Premier League [2007] ISLR 77
- Re Christine Ohuruogu (2006 - 2007)
- Chelsea FC v Adrian Mutu [2007] ISLR 32
- Re The Indianapolis Grand Prix (2005)

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