


NEWSLETTER

MEET THE BOARD

Genevieve Gordon-Thomson
Vice Chair



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How did your career in sports law begin?

Having sustained a life-changing injury playing rugby I couldn't really understand how the club of the player who 'dumped' me had no care or interest in whether I would ever walk again. Nor did the player for that matter. It seemed a little odd to me, during my rehab researching rules of the game, that you consented to the harm on the pitch.

About the same time, I noticed that a new type of law was being bandied about – sports law. It made absolute sense to me at that point to apply to the LLM International Sports Law and learn as much as I could so I could hold the player accountable. I was angry!

It turns out I loved learning the sports law topics and confirmed it was the area in which I wanted to work.

I started out by helping on pro-bono cases in polo and general equestrian and then moved to MLBI where I worked for several years focussing on MLB academies and commercial for the World Series and World Baseball Classic.

Career Highlight

Simple – after four years of negotiating contracts in a female dominated sport, and four years of requesting, the GB agreeing to a maternity and paternity clause in their professional contracts.

[Click here to Read More about Genevieve's Career.](#)

BASL MASTERCLASS SERIES

The 2021 BASL Masterclass Series is currently underway after launching in February. Our first four sessions of the Masterclass Series have proven to be a great success. The series is currently amidst a hiatus for the summer holiday but will be returning with 3 more sessions in September, October and November to end the year.

BASL is also excited to announce that because of the immense support and success of the Masterclass Series, it will be returning for a second year in 2022. More details will become available in the coming months. We look forward to seeing you at the remainder of the 2021 sessions, and are excited to build upon the success in 2022.

[Click Here](#) to learn more about the 2021 BASL Masterclass Series.

UPCOMING MASTERCLASSES



Integrity in Sport: Challenges
and Consideration

Dawning of a New Era: Sport
Emerging from a Pandemic

Management of Care in Sport

MASTERCLASS REVIEW

For those who sadly missed the most recent sessions of the BASL Masterclass Series we hope you attend the remainder, so you do not miss out on such an incredible programme.

In March, the Masterclass Series featured Ian Smith of ESIC and Michele Verroken discussing the law regulation and integrity challenges. This class dove into the rapidly expanding Esports industry as the governance continues to work to keep up with the changing landscape. This class also featured a vignette by Justin Jacobson of The Jacobson Firm in NYC. Justin is a leading esports attorney who offered his unique insight into the industry.

After a short break in April, the series returned in May with Richard Bush of Bird & Bird for a session devoted to Safeguarding in Sport. This session offered participants the opportunity to gain an in depth understanding of safeguarding, from the basics to the regulations and procedures and even potential future developments in the field. The session featured 3 wonderful vignettes from Dr Daniel Rhind of Loughborough University, Matt Mancini of the British Horseracing Authority and Anne Tiivas OBE of Safe Sport International.

Our final session of the first half of 2021 was offered by Dr Andrew Harvey of Swansea University. Offered during Pride month, this class discussed Trans* and Intersex Athletes and the issues that these athletes face daily in order to compete. Dr Harvey offered a well-rounded programme that included discussing various case studies such as the well-known Caster Semenya case as well as discussing the questions that this case forces us to acknowledge of the basis of sport competition on and the ethical problems that may be involved. Dr Harvey also featured vignettes from Dr Veronica Ivy who is a philosophy professor, champion cyclist and transgender rights activist, as well as Richard Morris of Racing Pride.

The first half of the 2021 BASL Masterclass Series brought with it fascinating classes with open discussion and an incredible interactive experience for the participants. The remaining classes on the schedule promise to only build on the successes of the first half. You surely won't want to miss out!

BASL PGCERT REVIEW

BY ANDREW BENNETT

The Practice Perspectives module presented the opportunity to listen and learn from some of the most highly thought of individuals within the world of sports law, including colleagues. The aspect I appreciated the most from the module was the variety of topics covered. What I thought I would be most interested in before the course has now since changed and it is because of gaining a more in-depth insight into that area by someone immersed in it. I now hope to continue to research, and eventually practice, in that field.

Unfortunately, the course is coming to end, with just one more assignment left to hand in. Whilst I will not miss studying part-time (I am looking forward to having my weekends back guilt-free), I will miss furiously scribbling down notes on a Thursday evening on an ever-evolving area of the law.

I would like to thank BASL and De Montfort University, particularly Gen Gordon, for the opportunity they have given me this year. I am sincerely grateful.

BASL PGCERT REGISTRATION



Registration for the 2021/2022 BASL PGCert academic session beginning September 2021 is currently live! We are excited for yet another incredible session, as we continue to build on the success of previous sessions. As a part of this program, interested parties may apply for the BASL Bursary Scheme for up to £2,500. For more information on the scheme, [Click Here](#).

Don't wait to get started at DMU, for more information and to apply for the PGCert Program [Click Here!](#)

COMING UP

BASL MASTERCLASS SERIES

Integrity in Sport: Challenges and Considerations

24th September 2021

Dawning of a New Era: Sport Emerging from a Pandemic

October 2021

Management of Care in Sport

19th November 2021

BASL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BASL is extremely excited for the return of the BASL Annual Conference. Information on speakers, venue and booking will be available soon.

24th February 2022

COMING SOON: BASL CASE LAW DIGEST

BASL are delighted to be re-igniting their Sports Law Journal initiative. Watch out for further announcements over the coming months for the launch of our all new Case Law Digest - a selection of peer and academic reviewed edited case notes and articles.

FIRESIDE CHAT

We welcomed Stuart McInnes MBE, Squire Patton Boggs (UK) LLP and Louis Weston QC, Outer Temple Chambers who gave the inaugural Fireside Chat. The audience were treated to a plethora of all consuming sports law conversation, opinion and anecdotes. We raced through a myriad of topics from greyhound racing to drug taking, exemptions and beauty competitions for camels to namebut a few!

The purpose of the Fireside Chats are to provide an informal setting where you can hear more from the wonderful people in sports law. Keep a look out for the next one which will be coming soon. If of course, you would like to be the subject of a Fireside Chat please email basl-enquiries@hotmail.com.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please do remember to follow our social media channels to receive up-to-date information on our events, education, and conferences.

You can find us on LinkedIn by searching British Association for Sport and Law, you can follow us on Twitter @BASL_Sport_Law or Facebook @BritishAssociationforSportandLaw.

