

CHRISTOPHER STONER KC

Call 1991 | Silk 2010



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Christopher Stoner KC specialises in both **Property & Estates** litigation and the **Regulatory & Disciplinary** aspects of **Sports Law**.

Chris undertakes work in all aspects of property litigation encompassing **Real Property**, **Commercial Landlord & Tenant** and **Residential Landlord & Tenant** work.

In the field of **Real Property** Chris has developed a particular specialism in the law relating to canals and water. This work often involves consideration of difficult issues relating to riparian rights and ancient title documentation, as well as the understanding and application of aged private Acts of Parliament.

Chris has acted extensively for British Waterways, now known as the Canal & River Trust, but also for other public authorities, including the Port of London Authority, as well as for private individuals on canal and water based matters.

Chris also regularly advises and litigates on registration, option, easement and covenant issues. As a corollary of his work relating to waterways, Chris also has expertise in advising on Human Rights issues relating to property interests.

In the field of Landlord & Tenant Chris has particular expertise in service charge disputes (especially in the context of representative actions for large numbers of tenants) as well as extensive experience of matters such as the 1954 Act, dilapidations claims, options and the construction and enforcement of tenant covenants.

In **Sports Law**, Chris has many years of experience in appearing before various tribunals, from domestic disciplinary hearings to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Switzerland as well as in High Court litigation.

Chris is particularly well respected for his work in relation to selection issues and Paralympic classification issues.

Chris has acted for numerous governing bodies in sports as diverse as football, swimming, diving, cricket, tennis, rugby and boxing and as well as prosecuting (or defending) regulatory and disciplinary matters. Chris has been appointed to chair numerous disciplinary panels.

Chris joined Guildhall Chambers as a Door Tenant in 2019.

Expertise

Professional Negligence

Chris has extensive experience of acting in a number of property related Professional Negligence claims, principally against solicitors and surveyors.

Regulatory & Discipline

As well as his extensive experience in the field of Sports Law on Regulatory & Disciplinary matters, Chris also has experience of acting in non-sports matters, including in the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal and before the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the Royal College of Psychologists & the Council for Licensed Conveyancers.

Administrative & Public Law

As a result of his work for the Canal & River Trust and also his Regulatory & Disciplinary work, Chris has been instructed in Judicial Reviews.

Featured Administrative & Public Law cases

R (on the application of David Frank Devere) v Land Registry & the Canal & River Trust (Interested Party) [2013] EWHC 2477

Acting for the CRT in resisting the grant of permission.

R (on the application of Nick Brown) v Canal & River Trust (unreported)

Acting for the CRT in an application where the Claimant discontinued after the first morning of argument.

Property, Trusts & Estates

Chris has considerable experience of litigating both real property and landlord and tenant matters in the High Court, the County Court and forums that now form part of the First – Tier Tribunal (Property Chamber).

Featured Property, Trusts & Estates cases

Horsford v Horsford [2020] EWHC 584 (ch)

A propriety estoppel claim relating to a family farm.

Leigh Ravenscroft v Canal & River Trust [2017] EWHC 1874

The principal issue was as to the meaning of ‘main navigable channel’ for the purposes of the British Waterways Acts and the consequent management of the inland waterways by the Canal & River Trust.

Port of London Authority v Mendoza [2017] UKUT 146 (TCC)

Established that the ‘mere’ mooring of a vessel, without more, was insufficient to establish adverse possession of the river bed (namely the River Thames).

Jones v Canal & River Trust [2017] 3 WLR 516

Consideration of the correct approach to article 8 claims by the courts when boaters raise an article 8 defence to a claim for removal of a vessel from the waterway.

Stapleford Frog Island (Rainham) Limited v Port of London Authority [2017] UKUT 444 (TCC)

Proper construction of a lease and whether that prevented a claim for adverse possession.

Sports Law

Chris has vast experience in the field of Sports law.

Featured Sports Law cases

British Swimming and others v FINA (CAS 2015/A/4189)

Successfully obtained ratification of world records, which had previously not been ratified due to administrative errors.

Selection appeals

Acted in numerous major games selection appeals

Appointed as an arbitrator and as an investigator in disciplinary matters

Club Eskisehirspor v Kris Boyd (CAS 2012/A/2910)

Successfully upheld decision of the FIFA Dispute Resolution Chamber relating to the termination of Kris Boyd's contract and the sums due to him consequent upon that termination.

Leeds Rugby Limited v Iestyn Harris (1) Bradford Bulls Holdings Limited (2) [2005] EWHC 1591

Preliminary issue on whether agreement between the Claimant and Iestyn Harris was unenforceable as being an unlawful restraint of trade.

Korda v International Tennis Federation (t/a International Tennis Federation) The Independent 21st April 1999 CA

Whether there was a contract between parties relating to anti-doping provisions. Ability of ITF to pursue appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Wilander & Anor v Tobin & Anor (No2) [1997] 1 Lloyd's Rep 195 CA

Enforcement of anti-doping provisions.

Appointments

- Judge of the FIA Cost Cap Adjudication Panel
- Sport Resolutions Arbitration Panel Member