

JACK BRETT

Call 2023

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Jack Brett has a busy practice covering a range of **commercial**, **company**, **property** and **insolvency** matters. He regularly advises and represents clients in fast, intermediate and multi-track claims in the County Court and High Court.

Before coming to the bar, Jack worked as a legal consultant for a commercial litigation firm, primarily advising on high-value fraud, sport and construction disputes. Notably, he advised Cardiff City Football Club on its claim for £100m against Nantes Football Club before the Court of Arbitration for Sport and the Swiss Federal Court.

Jack graduated top of his year in his undergraduate law degree. A fluent French speaker, he spent a year abroad in which he earned a French law degree with high honours. He then completed postgraduate studies specialising in commercial law, graduating with distinction. His thesis was published in the European Review of Private Law.

During law school, Jack was a researcher at the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, where he prepared reports on finance law concerning securities in the mining, agriculture and construction industries.

Expertise

General Commercial

Jack has provided drafting, representation and advisory services in commercial disputes, acting for and against lenders, consumers, agents, traders and professionals. Many of his cases involve industry-specific issues as to scope of duty, causation and unfair terms. For example:

- Acting for a Russian trustee-in-bankruptcy (led by Stefan Ramel) in a £35 million claim seeking a declaration of a trust of BVI company shares: [2025] EWHC 890 (Ch).
- Acting for a horse breeder in a 3-day multi-track trial on the satisfactory quality and fitness for purpose of an elite eventing horse.

- Acting for international rugby players defending claims for unpaid commission by a sports agent.
- Representing an investor in a multi-track trial to enforce a joint venture agreement to invest in Bulgaria.
- Acting for a purchaser of a defective Porsche 911 in a multi-track trial claim against a car dealership.
- Acting for a bank in an appeal against an extended civil restraint order against a mortgagor: [2025] EWCC 22.
- Advising on applying for security for costs and Part 18 requests in a High Court claim.
- Settling pleadings in a £2m civil fraud claim regarding a development scheme for real estate in London.
- Drafting witness statements to resist a Part 71 examination and the enforcement of a £10m judgment for debt.
- Acting in negligence claims against solicitors relating to litigation, conveyancing and construction projects and data protection.
- Advising on a negligence claim against Ferrari arising from the defective design of the 458 Spider model.
- Advising on and settling pleadings to enforce arbitration awards.

Construction

Jack has advised and represented clients in misrepresentation, negligence and breach of contract disputes with professionals and contractors in relation to a range of construction, energy and infrastructure projects. His work includes:

- Advising on the failure of fire-related rectification works to the tune of £141,000 due to the corrosion of pipework.
- Acting for an employer against engineers for the failure of a £650,000 air dome.
- Advising on negligence in the project management of wind turbine construction.
- Advising a procurement authority on a contract to install subsea telecommunication cables.
- Advising on contractor negligence in a project to move a gas pipeline.
- Advising on negligence of a registered building control approver in the planning and supervision of building works.
- Acting as trial counsel for a Part 20 Defendant in a claim on flooding due to defective plumbing works.
- Acting as trial counsel for the manufacturer of allegedly defective cisterns.
- Acting for an employer in a claim for non-completion of a steel and oak staircase construction.
- Drafting pleadings, Scott Schedule and witness statements in a claim for defective installation of marble tiles.

Property

Jack accepts instructions on property and chancery matters, including trust, landlord and tenant claims. His experience includes:

- As trial counsel, successfully defending a possession claim for £90,000 of rent arrears at a 4-day multi-track trial.
- Acting as trial counsel in proprietary estoppel and constructive trust claims for a £900,000 property.
- Advising, settling pleadings and representing commercial landlords in possession proceedings against

business tenants.

- Acting for a beneficiary in contempt of court proceedings relating to the administration of an estate.
- Advising on a professional negligence claim for an architect's failure to advise and obtain planning permission.
- Representing a social housing provider in contempt proceedings against tenants for breach of possession orders.
- Advising on misfeasance claims regarding conveyancing transactions.
- Advising and drafting claims for breach of trust and fiduciary duty.
- Representing social housing providers in claims for injunctive relief in respect of anti-social behaviour.
- Representing homeowners in mortgage possession proceedings.
- Settling pleadings, advising and representing clients in possession proceedings.

Company and Insolvency

Jack provides advisory, drafting and advocacy services in company and insolvency proceedings. For example:

- Acting as junior counsel in a claim in the High Court by a Russian trustee-in-bankruptcy for recognition of title to BVI shares and to set aside a charge in a £35 million property under section 423 of the Insolvency Act 1986.
- Advising on a derivative action and petition for unfair prejudice arising from breakdown in management of a corporate gym.
- Advising and representing a software developer in a dispute concerning transfer of shares, removal of a director and entries in the register of companies.
- Representing creditors at hearings to set aside statutory demands.
- Advising directors and car manufacturing companies as to their ability to transfer telematics data to other entities.
- Representing a liquidator in proceedings to set aside preferences and transactions at an undervalue by a director.
- Representing companies seeking validation orders.
- Appearing at hearings of and to set aside winding up petitions.

Awards

- DLA Piper Prize: Highest grade average in undergraduate year
- International Institute for the Unification of Private law Scholarship Grant
- Highest mark on Bar Course in the subjects: Civil Litigation & Evidence, Criminal Litigation & Evidence
- Barrister Training Course Excellence & Advocacy Scholarships
- Werner Melis Award and Eric E. Bergsten Award, Honourable Mentions for Best Memorandum and Best Team Orals in Willem C. Vis Mooting Competition
- Winner, White & Case Frankfurt Moot

Education

- Barrister Training Course: Distinction
- LLM, University College London: Distinction
- Maîtrise en droit français : High Honours
- LLB with French law, University of Exeter: First Class