

Robin Leach

Year of Call: 1979

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Sports law

Robin is recognised as a Leading Junior at the London Bar in the field of sports law (in the Media, Entertainment and Sports section) and is particularly recognised for his specialisation in horseracing cases.

Robin successfully represented the horse trainer, John Wainwright, and a professional gambler, John Wright, on corruption charges where the main evidence – albeit flawed – was given by the jockey who rode the horse that was the subject of the inquiry.

Robin has represented jockeys and trainers in horse racing disciplinary hearings over the last 14 years and has been involved in many high profile cases in that time.

Robin has represented jump jockey Richie McGrath and flat jockey Michael Stainton in two high profile corruption cases. The successful result in the McGrath case led partly to the BHA Integrity Review which has seen the BHA review its processes and procedures in disciplinary cases.

Recommendations

Recognised as a leading junior in horse racing disputes who gets frequent appointments from the Jockey Club, BHA and HRA. He is adept at representing jockeys in cases concerning alleged corruption, safety matters and riding offences.

"He's solid and reliable and has great understanding of the sport of racing."

Recent work: Represented a professional gambler and a flat trainer who were charged with corruption in an allegation that they had told a jockey to stop a horse from being placed or winning.

Chambers UK 2019/Sport – The Regions (Bar) – Band 2

Strengths: "He is very good, very experienced and he knows the sport."

Chambers UK 2018/Sport – The Regions (Bar) – Band 2

'Has recently represented jockeys in high-profile matters involving accusations of corruption.'

Chambers UK 2017/Sport – The Regions (Bar) – Band 1

'One of the country's foremost experts on horse-racing cases. He has amassed considerable depth of knowledge on the full range of corruption, disciplinary and regulatory issues that jockeys, trainers and others face in the sport.'

Chambers UK 2016/Sport – The Regions (Bar) – Band 1

'Noted for his expertise in horse racing, frequently defending jockeys and trainers against a wide range of disciplinary matters, including safety and riding offences, as well as against allegations of corruption.'

Chambers UK 2015/Sports Law – The Regions

'has a strong reputation in the equestrian world, and represents both jockeys and trainers in disciplinary actions and

licensing cases.'

Chambers UK 2014/Sports Law – The Regions – Band 1

'Recommended for representing jockeys and trainers in disciplinary matters.'

Legal 500 2015/London Bar – Sport – Leading juniors

'His passion for horse racing supports his determination to do a proper job.'

Legal 500 2014

'seasoned, accessible'

Legal 500 2013/14/Leading Junior – London Bar – Media, Entertainment and Sport expertise.

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Standing Counsel to Revenue & Customs Prosecution Office (North Eastern Circuit)
- Appointed Counsel to the National Trainers' Federation
- Non-executive Director of the Professional Jockeys' Association
- Legal Assessor to the Nursing and Midwifery Council

Professional bodies

- British Association for Sport and Law (BASL)
- CPS Prosecutor Grade 4 on the Serious fraud and Organised crime panels