Visiting Professor Seminar Series
Athlete privacy and publicity rights

Visiting Professor:
Professor Geoffrey Scott, Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University and Director of the Art, Sports and Entertainment Law Clinic

Commentator:
Paul Czarnota, Barrister, Victorian Bar and Attorney, New York, USA

Chair:
Gordon Hughes, Professional in Residence, Faculty of Law, Monash University and Senior Consultant, Ashurst.

The private lives and activities of athletes are regularly reported on, and scrutinised, in media and social media circles, and in particular when there is a scandal involved. When this occurs, vexed questions arise as how the law should strike a balance between the rights of athletes to a personal life and to protect their professional, commercial interests, and the public interest in reporting and commentary on such issues.

About the presenters

Professor Scott has a wide range of teaching and scholarly interests, but his focus is in intellectual property and on the intersection of the worlds of artistic and scientific expression and the law. He has given particular attention to the protection of cultural properties in both Europe and Asia, to domestic and international entertainment issues with an emphasis on music, and to the representation of the individual professional athlete. He received a Fulbright Scholar award in 2004-2005 for his research in the protection of cultural and ethnographic properties in Asia. He is a Fellow with the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in London, and is the founder and supervisor of the Penn State Arts, Sports and Entertainment Law Clinic. He teaches “International Entertainment Law” in the Monash Master of Laws program.

Paul Czarnota has experience advising and appearing for athletes and governing bodies in various sporting disputes including doping, match-fixing, and disciplinary matters. He also has prior experience sitting as a board member for BMX Victoria, as a tribunal member for Basketball Victoria and Touch Football Australia, and is appointed as an arbitrator to the AFL Players’ Association’s arbitration panel. He is a member of the Victorian Bar, the New York State Bar Association, the Australia and New Zealand Sports Law Association (ANZSLA), the Sports Lawyers Association (USA), and is a committee member and monitor of the Sports Law Section of CommBar. He teaches the unit “Current Issues in Sports Law” in the Monash Master of Laws program.