The primary purpose of Marquette’s Sports Law Program is to enhance our students’ legal education by learning about the law within the sports context. Sports law students learn about many specialized areas of law and how they work within the sports industry and apply more generally outside of the sports industry (e.g., antitrust, labor, intellectual property, federal disability, and gender discrimination laws, etc.). Students develop contract negotiation and drafting, research and writing, alternative dispute resolution, business planning, and transactional skills. Students also learn how several related areas of law combine to govern a complex industry and how courts resolve competing policy concerns when different bodies of law intersect and conflict. The knowledge and skills developed by students in sports law courses and internship experiences are readily transferable and useful in serving clients in the sports industry and other industries as well.

Students who are admitted to Marquette University Law School do not need to apply separately to be part of the Sports Law Program. Students learn about the Sports Law Program and receive guidance on how to participate in each aspect through an annual fall orientation program, spring course planning session, and individual meetings with Professor Anderson, Director of the Sports Law Program.

FACULTY

Our experienced faculty provide sports law students with practical training to prepare them for working in the legal field and in any part of the sports industry.

Paul M. Anderson, L’95, Director, Sports Law Program and National Sports Law Institute

Mary K. Braza, Retired Partner and Co-Chair, Sports Industry Team, Foley & Lardner, LLP

Martin Greenberg, L’71, Founder of the National Sports Law Institute, long-time sports agent, lawyer, sports facility developer, and managing member, the Law Offices of Martin J. Greenberg, LLC

Jessica Kumke, L’08, Associate Athletic Director for Compliance and Enrollment Services, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Athletic Department

Jamie McGaver, L’07, Director of Compliance, Marquette University Athletic Department

Jim McKeown, Partner and Member, Management Committee and Antitrust Practice Group, Foley & Lardner, LLP

Matthew J. Mitten, Executive Director, National Sports Law Institute and LL.M. in Sports Law Program for Foreign Lawyers

Chad Oldfather, Professor of Law, Marquette University Law School

Richard Reider, Marketing professional and President, RaR Consulting, LLC

Allan “Bud” Selig, Commissioner Emeritus, Major League Baseball, and Distinguished Lecturer in Sports Law and Policy

Martin Tierney, Partner, and Group co-leader, employee benefits Michael Best & Friedrich LLP

COURSES

Our broad, well-rounded courses are designed to provide law students with both a theoretical and practical education concerning legal regulation of the United States amateur and professional sports industries as well as an understanding of Olympic, international, and comparative sports law issues.

- Advanced Legal Research in Sports Law
- Amateur Sports Law
- Professional Sports Law
- Seminar: Selected Topics in Sports Law
- Seminar: The Jurisprudence of Sport
- Sports Industry Taxation Issues
- Workshop: Legal and Business Issues in Collegiate Athletics
- Workshop: Legal Issues in Youth, High School, and Recreational Sports
- Workshop: NCAA Governance and Compliance
- Workshop: Representing Professional Athletes and Coaches
- Workshop: Sports Industry Governance
- Workshop: Sports Sponsorship—Legal and Business Issues
- Workshop: Sports Venues
- Workshop: The Impact of Gender Equity Law on Sport

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Sports Law Program supports a large variety of internships for students within the sports industry over all levels of sports from positions at area high school athletic departments, to positions at collegiate athletic departments, professional sports teams like the Milwaukee Bucks and Milwaukee Brewers, and national organizations like the NCAA and US Speedskating, to name a few. In recent years, Sports Law Program students also have been selected as interns or externs with national sports industry organizations including NIKE, NASCAR, and Wasserman Media Group.
SPORTS LAW CERTIFICATE

Sports Law Program students have the opportunity to earn a Sports Law Certificate from the National Sports Law Institute, demonstrating that they have completed the most rigorous requirements in the country including both coursework and experiential learning. Sports Law Program students register as Certificate candidates during their first semester in law school. Only Sports Law Certificate candidates are eligible to be selected for Sports Law Program internships or sports law skills development competitions. To earn the Sports Law Certificate, students must complete all of the following requirements:

• Amateur Sports Law
• Professional Sports Law
• A sports law workshop
• A seminar focused on writing a comprehensive research paper on a sports law topic
• Advanced legal research in sports law
• An alternative dispute resolution course
• A substantive law course that impacts the sports industry
• One year as a member of the Marquette Sports Law Review
• A sports law practice/research internship of at least one semester in length

Sports Law Program alumni and members of the NSLI’s Board of Advisors support numerous awards and scholarships recognizing student academic performance, writing, and service to the Sports Law Program.

The joint J.D./M.B.A. in Sports Business degree is offered through Marquette University’s Law School and the Graduate School of Management. Sports Law Certificate Program students who are also enrolled in the M.B.A. program generally can earn both degrees in less time than if each degree were pursued separately.

The LL.M. in Sports Law program is open to individuals with foreign first law degrees interested in earning a master’s in law degree focusing on the study of U.S. and international sports law.
OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

The Sports Law Society is the largest student group at Marquette University Law School. The Society brings students together for various social events and service opportunities.

Sports law students edit and publish the Marquette Sports Law Review under the leadership of a student editorial board. The Marquette Sports Law Review is the nation’s preeminent sports law publication of its type.

Competitions

The Sports Law Competition Board hosts an internal and external sports law negotiation competition and coordinates student teams who compete in various national competitions. Only Sports Law Certificate candidates are eligible to compete in a variety of national sports law moot court, arbitration, negotiation, and arbitration competitions.

SPORTS LAW EVENTS

By attending the numerous sports law events held within Eckstein Hall each semester, Sports Law Program students have unique networking opportunities with alumni and other individuals working in many segments of the sports industry. These events include an annual sports law conference and summer sports and entertainment law seminar, and multiple events in the Sports Law Speaker and Conversation Series, along with career panels featuring alumni, lawyers, professionals working within and outside of the sports industry, and many other events each year.

The number of guest speakers the Marquette Sports Law Program welcomed in 2019

70
NATIONAL SPORTS LAW INSTITUTE

Founded in 1989, the National Sports Law Institute is affiliated with Marquette’s Sports Law Program. Its mission is to be the leading national educational and research institute for the study of legal, ethical, and business issues affecting amateur and professional sports from both an academic and practical perspective.

Professor Paul Anderson is the Director of the Sports Law Program and National Sports Law Institute as well as a Marquette University Law School alumnus, former President of the Sports Law Society, and former Editor-in-Chief of the Marquette Sports Law Journal.

Professor Matt Mitten is the Executive Director of the National Sports Law Institute and LL.M. in Sports Law Program for Foreign Lawyers.

SPORTS LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Members of the Sports Law Alumni Association significantly benefit and support sports law students by hosting student interns, participating in various Sports Law Program events and competitions, providing career advice and mentorship, and teaching various sports law courses.

BOARD OF ADVISORS

The National Sports Law Institute Board of Advisors is a group of sports lawyers, sports industry executives and professionals, sports law professors and teachers, and others who assist the Institute’s Directors by participating in and sponsoring events, providing internships and career opportunities for students and alumni, supporting scholarships for students, and teaching various sports law courses. Members include sports law alumni Eryn Doherty, L’00, Vice President for Labor Relations, NBC Universal Media LLC; Greg Heller, L’96, Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, Atlanta Braves; and Craig Pintens, L’01, Athletic Director, Loyola Marymount University; as well as industry professionals Michael Lenard, Vice President, International Council of Arbitration for Sport, Lausanne, Switzerland; and Gary Way, General Counsel – Jordan Brand, NIKE, Inc., among many others.

Sports Law Program
National Sports Law Institute
Marquette University Law School
Eckstein Hall, Room 138A
1215 West Michigan Street
Milwaukee, WI 53233

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414.288.5815