



Pro Bono Legal Advice and Representation Service:

Terms of Reference

Background

The Pro Bono Legal Advice and Representation Service (“The Pro Bono Service”) originates and operates as a legacy of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Members of the original London 2012 Pro Bono Legal Advice & Representation Service, operated by Sport Resolutions, assisted athletes, and others with Games accreditation, by providing pro bono legal advice on any Games related matter.

Purpose & Scope

The purpose of the Service is to:

- Provide pro bono legal advice and assistance to athletes and individuals of limited financial means, who:
 - are involved in proceedings administered by Sport Resolutions and request assistance from the Service. These include matters administered on behalf of International Federations, matters determined by the National Anti-Doping Panel, the National Safeguarding Panel, and other ad hoc arbitrations and mediations administered by Sport Resolutions, or
 - are involved in UK Sport funded high performance sport, or
 - request assistance from the Service through the British Elite Athletes Association.

Assistance may include summary advice and/or representation in relation to athlete eligibility, selection, disciplinary, anti-doping, and classification matters. This list is non-exhaustive.

Membership and Composition

The Service will be composed of barristers and solicitors appointed by the Panel Appointments and Review Committee (“PARC”), in accordance with the appointment criteria. If appointed to the Service, the Member need only consider a request for pro bono assistance – there is no compulsion on the part of any Service Member to accept any pro bono request. Service membership may be given to an individual lawyer or barrister, a solicitors’ firm or a barristers’ chambers.

Term

Appointment to the Service is for a period to be specified by the PARC and notified to the Service Member. PARC reserves the right to review Service Membership and/or categories of Service Membership from time to time. Service Members may withdraw from the Pro Bono Service at any time.

Criteria for Appointment to the Pro Bono Panel:

- Members of the Service (whether it be as an individual or a firm/chambers) should have recent experience in at least two of the following areas; anti-doping, safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults, athlete selection, eligibility, Paralympic classification, corporate governance, sport disciplinary procedures, integrity issues in sport, commercial contracts, employment and discrimination or any other area identified by Sport Resolutions as targets for service provision;
- Service Members are not required to make any fixed time commitment beyond making reasonable efforts to be available to offer pro bono advice and assistance when asked to do so.
- The PARC will be able to accept/reject applications at its discretion and will consider the current and potential needs of those requiring the support of the Service when exercising that discretion. Potential factors to consider may be to fill gaps in experience and/or geographical spread and/or to meet diversity requirements, and/or anticipate trends.

Expectations

- Members of Sport Resolutions' Pro Bono Service are expected to adhere to Sport Resolutions' Panel Code of Conduct.
- Law firms and chambers are entrusted to provide representation only if one of their employees or members has the skills, experience, knowledge and resources to provide appropriate assistance for the request.