

Sports Law

Sports Law

Cases and Materials

NINTH EDITION

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Contents

Table of Cases	xvii
Preface	xxxii
Acknowledgments	xxxiii

Part I · Amateur Sports and the Law

Chapter 1 · Legal Relationships in Amateur Sports	3
A. Introduction to Amateurism and the Administration of Amateur Athletics	3
B. Rights Arising from the Athletic Scholarship Problem	4
<i>Taylor v. Wake Forest University</i>	5
<i>Ross v. Creighton University</i>	8
Notes and Comments	13
Capstone Problem	14
C. The Athlete as Employee	15
1. Workers' Compensation	15
Problem	16
<i>Waldrep v. Texas Employers Insurance Association</i>	17
Notes and Comments	24
2. Athletes' Rights under the Labor Laws	25
<i>Northwestern University and College Athletes Players</i> <i>Association (CAPA), Petitioner</i>	25
Notes and Comments	31
Chapter 2 · Amateur Sports Organizations: Constitutional and Eligibility Issues	33
A. Threshold Constitutional Issues	33
Problem	33
<i>Defrantz v. United States Olympic Committee</i>	34
<i>National Collegiate Athletic Association v. Tarkanian</i>	38
<i>Brentwood Academy v. Tennessee Secondary School</i> <i>Athletic Association</i>	44
Notes and Comments	48
B. General Eligibility Issues	50
Problem	50

<i>Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. v. Avant</i>	51
<i>Tiffany v. Arizona Interscholastic Association, Inc.</i>	56
Notes and Comments	59
Capstone Problem	61
Chapter 3 · Collegiate Athletic Issues	71
A. NCAA Structure, Principles, and Procedures	71
1. Introduction and Overview of the NCAA	71
Notes and Comments	74
2. Amateurism and the Student Athlete	75
a. Extra Benefits	75
<i>Bloom v. National Collegiate Athletic Association</i>	75
b. Agents	82
<i>Oliver v. National Collegiate Athletic Association</i>	82
Notes and Comments	91
c. Academics Issues	92
d. Enforcement	94
Report of the National Collegiate Athletic Association	
Division I Infractions Appeals Committee	96
Binding Consent Decree Imposed by the National	
Collegiate Athletic Association and Accepted by	
the Pennsylvania State University	106
Notes and Comments	109
B. Coaching and Institutional Contracts	110
Problem	110
<i>Rodgers v. Georgia Tech Athletic Association</i>	111
<i>O'Brien v. The Ohio State University</i>	117
Notes and Comments	126
Notes and Comments	129
Capstone Problem	130
Chapter 4 · Sex Discrimination in Amateur Athletics	131
A. Introduction	131
B. Constitutional Issues	132
<i>Hoover v. Meiklejohn</i>	132
<i>Williams v. School District of Bethlehem</i>	140
Notes and Comments	142
C. Title IX	144
<i>Cohen v. Brown University</i>	146
<i>Biediger v. Quinnipiac University</i>	157
Problem	171
Notes and Comments	175
D. Employment Discrimination	177
Problem	177

<i>Stanley v. University of Southern California</i>	178
<i>Bowers v. Baylor University</i>	184
Notes and Comments	187
Capstone Problem	188
Chapter 5 · Amateur Sports and Antitrust Law	189
A. Introduction	189
B. Collegiate Sports Antitrust Issues	190
Problem	190
<i>National Collegiate Athletic Association v. Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma</i>	191
<i>Law v. NCAA</i>	200
<i>O'Bannon v. National Collegiate Athletic Association</i>	209
<i>In re NCAA Ath. Grant-In-Aid Cap Antitrust Litig.</i>	222
Notes and Comments	239
Capstone Problem	240
Part II · Professional Sports Issues	
Chapter 6 · League Formation, Governance, and Decision Making	247
A. Introductory Comments	247
B. Sports League Operations—Fundamental Characteristics	247
C. Sports League Operations—General Structure	253
D. Sports League Operations—Application of Antitrust Laws	255
Problem	257
<i>American Needle, Inc. v. National Football League</i>	257
Notes to the File	263
Notes and Comments	264
E. Sports League Operations—The Baseball Antitrust Exemption	266
Problem	269
<i>Flood v. Kuhn</i>	269
<i>City of San Jose v. Office of the Commissioner</i>	280
Curt Flood Act of 1998	283
Notes and Comments	284
F. League Decision Making—Membership	289
Problem	289
<i>Morsani v. Major League Baseball</i>	290
<i>New Orleans Pelicans Baseball Club, Inc. v. National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, Inc.</i>	293
<i>Piazza v. Major League Baseball</i>	298
Notes to the File	301
<i>Levin v. National Basketball Association</i>	302
Notes and Comments	304
G. League Decision Making—Relocation	312
Problem	313

<i>Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Commission</i> <i>v. National Football League</i>	313
<i>National Basketball Association v. SDC Basketball</i> <i>Club, Inc.</i>	322
<i>St. Louis Convention & Visitors Commission v. National</i> <i>Football League</i>	324
Notes and Comments	333
H. League Decision Making—Merchandising/Broadcasting	338
Problem One	344
Problem Two	344
<i>National Football League Properties, Inc. v. Dallas</i> <i>Cowboys Football Club, Ltd.</i>	345
<i>Chicago Professional Sports Limited Partnership v.</i> <i>National Basketball Association</i>	351
Notes to the File	353
<i>Laumann v. NHL</i>	354
Notes and Comments	358
I. League versus League—Monopoly	363
Problem	364
<i>American Football League v. National Football League</i>	365
<i>United States Football League v. National</i> <i>Football League</i>	375
Notes and Comments	383
Capstone Problem	388
Chapter 7 • Authority of League Commissioners	389
Problem One	390
Problem Two	392
Problem Three	393
<i>Charles O. Finley & Co., Inc. v. Kuhn</i>	393
<i>National Football League Players Ass'n v. National</i> <i>Football League</i>	400
Notes to the File	404
Roger I. Abrams, <i>Off His Rocker: Sports Discipline</i> <i>and Labor Arbitration</i>	407
Notes and Comments	409
Capstone Problem	414
Chapter 8 • Labor Relations in Professional Sports	417
A. Introductory Comments	417
B. Collective Bargaining—Generally	420
C. Antitrust Law, Labor, and the “Nonstatutory Exemption”	422
D. Labor Relations Issues	423
Problem One	423
<i>Brown v. Pro Football, Inc.</i>	424

<i>Mackey v. National Football League</i>	431
<i>Robertson v. National Basketball Association</i>	437
Notes and Comments	440
Problem Two	446
<i>Silverman v. Major League Baseball Player Relations Committee, Inc.</i>	447
<i>In the Matter of the Arbitration between Major League Baseball Players Association and the 28 Major League Clubs</i>	452
Notes to the File	457
Notes and Comments	459
Capstone Problem	461
Chapter 9 • Enforcement of Sports Contracts	463
A. Introductory Comments	463
B. The Law of Contracts	463
1. Generally—Player and Club	463
2. Threshold Question: Personal Jurisdiction	464
Problem	465
<i>Minnesota Muskies, Inc. v. Hudson</i>	467
<i>Munchak Corp. v. Cunningham</i>	472
<i>Dallas Cowboys Football Club, Inc. v. Harris</i>	473
Notes and Comments	477
C. Grievance Arbitration	480
1. Player-Team Contract Disputes—Generally	480
2. Grievance Arbitration in Professional Sports	481
Problem	481
<i>Major League Baseball Players Ass’n v. Garvey</i>	483
<i>Dryer v. Los Angeles Rams</i>	487
<i>Morris v. New York Football Giants, Inc.</i>	492
<i>In re Elmer Nordstrom, Managing Partner, et al., d/b/a Seattle Seahawks and the National Football League Players Association (Sam McCullum)</i>	494
<i>In re Major League Players Association and the Twenty-Six Major League Baseball Clubs, Major League Baseball Arbitration Panel, Grievance No. 86-2</i>	495
<i>Nordstrom v. National Labor Relations Board</i>	496
Notes and Comments	499
D. Salary Arbitration	506
1. Introductory Comments	506
2. Baseball Salary Arbitration—Generally	507
Capstone Problem	513

Notes and Comments	514
Chapter 10 · Representation of Professional Athletes	517
A. Introductory Comments	517
1. Player Agent Functions	517
2. Historical Overview	518
3. Professional Sports Today	518
4. Need for Regulation	519
B. Player Agent: Capacity to Contract: Eligibility and Registration under Regulations	519
Problem	521
NFLPA Regulations Governing Contract Advisors	522
<i>Collins v. National Basketball Players Association</i>	525
<i>Total Economic Athletic Management of America, Inc. v. Pickens</i>	528
<i>Speakers of Sport, Inc. v. Proserv, Inc.</i>	534
Notes and Comments	537
C. Player Agent: Regulatory Limitations on Formation of Player Agent Services Contracts; Resolution of Disputes between Player and Agent	541
Problem	542
NFLPA Regulations Governing Contract Advisors	543
<i>In the Matter of the Arbitration Between William (Bucky) Woy, Grievant, and Bob Horner, Respondent</i>	546
Notes and Comments	551
D. Player Agent: Duties Imposed by Common Law, Statutes, and Regulations; Remedies	553
Problem	554
NFLPA Regulations Governing Contract Advisors	555
<i>Sports Management Network v. Busch</i>	555
<i>Detroit Lions, Inc. v. Argovitz</i>	558
<i>Brown v. Woolf</i>	563
Notes and Comments	565
Chapter 11 · Negotiation of Sports Contracts	571
A. Introductory Comments	571
B. Negotiation Theory	571
1. Structure of the Conflict	571
2. Best Alternative to Negotiated Agreement (BATNA)	575
3. Shadow of the Law	576
4. Psychological Traps, Biases/Brain Science	576
C. Negotiation of the Player-Team Contract	576
1. Background—The Paradigm	577
2. Shadow of the Law	577

3. Economic Realities/Club Business Model	577
4. Custom and Tradition	579
5. Use of Analytics	580
6. The Case	580
7. Threshold Note—Use of Player Association Resources by Player Agent	581
8. Salary Matters	581
9. Bonuses	582
10. Matrix	583
Notes to the File	586
Notes and Comments	597
D. Negotiating the Endorsement Contract	600
Notes and Comments	601
Chapter 12 · Stadium and Arena Issues	603
A. Introductory Comments	603
B. Prologue—Economic Feasibility	603
C. Public Funding—Legal Issues	604
Problem	604
<i>Brower v. State</i>	605
<i>King County v. Taxpayers of King County</i>	611
Economic and Fiscal Impact of BankOne Ballpark and Arizona Diamondbacks	617
Notes and Comments	619
D. Assurances—Contracts between Club and Facility	622
Problem	622
<i>City of New York v. New York Yankees</i>	623
<i>City of New York v. New York Jets Football Club, Inc.</i>	627
Notes and Comments	632
Part III · Issues Common to Amateur and Professional Sports	
Chapter 13 · Criminal Liability of Sports Participants	637
<i>Regina v. Bradshaw</i>	637
<i>Regina v. Maki</i>	639
<i>Regina v. Green</i>	642
Notes and Comments	646
Capstone Problem	656
Capstone Problem	657
Chapter 14 · Torts and Sports	661
A. Liability of One Participant to Another	661
<i>Bourque v. Duplechin</i>	665
<i>Nabozny v. Barnhill</i>	667

<i>Hackbart v. Cincinnati Bengals, Inc.</i>	670
<i>Gauvin v. Clark</i>	673
Notes and Comments	675
Capstone Problem	685
B. Spectator as Plaintiff	690
Notes and Comments	691
Capstone Problem	699
C. Medical Malpractice in Athletics	708
<i>Rosensweig v. State</i>	709
<i>Colombo v. Sewanhaka Central High School District No. 2</i>	710
Notes and Comments	711
Problem One	723
Problem Two	723
Capstone Problem	725
D. Products Liability for Defective Athletic Equipment	726
<i>McCormick v. Lowe & Campbell Athletic Goods Co.</i>	728
<i>Dudley Sports Co. v. Schmitt</i>	729
<i>Hauter v. Zogarts</i>	731
<i>Nissen Trampoline Company v. Terre Haute First National Bank</i>	735
Problem	737
Notes and Comments	738
E. Defamation and Invasion of Privacy	743
1. Profile of the Tort of Defamation at Common Law: The Plaintiff's Prima Facie Case—A Strict Liability Tort	743
2. The Matrix of Relevant Supreme Court Cases	745
<i>New York Times Co. v. Sullivan</i>	745
<i>Curtis Publishing Co. v. Butts</i>	747
<i>Rosenbloom v. Metromedia, Inc.</i>	748
<i>Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc.</i>	749
<i>Time, Inc. v. Firestone</i>	751
<i>Dun & Bradstreet v. Greenmoss Builders, Inc.</i>	752
<i>Milkovich v. Lorain Journal Co.</i>	753
3. Invasion of Privacy	754
<i>Time, Inc. v. Johnston</i>	755
<i>Spahn v. Julian Messner, Inc.</i>	760
<i>Namath v. Sports Illustrated</i>	762
Notes and Comments	764
Capstone Problem	768
Capstone Problem	770
F. Intentional Interference with Contractual Relations	774
<i>World Football League v. Dallas Cowboys Football Club, Inc.</i>	775

<i>New England Patriots Football Club, Inc. v. University of Colorado</i>	777
Notes and Comments	779
Capstone Problem	782
Chapter 15 · Intellectual Property Issues in Sports	787
A. Introduction	787
B. Athlete Rights of Publicity	789
Problem	791
<i>C.B.C. Distribution And Marketing, Inc. v. Major League Baseball Adv. Media, L.P.</i>	792
<i>Keller v. Electronic Arts, Inc.</i>	795
<i>Daniels v. Fanduel, Inc.</i>	802
Notes and Comments	803
C. Trademark Protection for Sports Names, Merchandise, and Brands	807
<i>ETW Corporation v. Jireh Publishing, Inc.</i>	809
<i>Indianapolis Colts, Inc. v. Metropolitan Baltimore Football Club</i>	812
<i>Louisiana State University v. Smack Apparel Co.</i>	816
Notes and Questions	824
D. Sports Broadcasting: Copyright Ownership, Protection, and Limitations	827
Capstone Problem	829
<i>Pittsburgh Athletic Co. v. KQV Broadcasting Co.</i>	830
Notes and Comments	833
<i>National Basketball Association v. Motorola, Inc.</i>	835
<i>American Broadcasting Companies, Inc. v. Aereo, Inc.</i>	841
Notes and Comments	851
Chapter 16 · Health and Disability Issues in Sports Law	855
A. Introduction	855
B. Federal Disability Legislation—Key Statutory Definitions and Provisions	856
1. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990	856
2. The Rehabilitation Act of 1973	858
C. Participation Rights and Responsibilities: Eligibility of Athletes with High Medical Risk; Protective Issues	859
Problem	859
<i>Knapp v. Northwestern University</i>	859
Notes and Comments	867
Capstone Problem	871
D. Participation Rights and Responsibilities: Eligibility Standards and Rules	871
1. Age Limits on Athletic Participation	871

Problem One	871
<i>Sandison v. Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc.</i>	872
<i>Johnson v. Florida High School Activities Ass'n, Inc.</i>	876
Notes and Comments	880
2. Academic Requirements for Athletic Eligibility	882
Problem	882
<i>Pryor v. National Collegiate Athletic Association</i>	883
Notes and Comments	885
E. Rules of Play and Reasonable Accommodations	888
Problem	888
<i>PGA Tour, Inc. v. Martin</i>	888
Notes and Comments	896
F. Employment	899
G. Physical Access to Stadiums, Facilities, and Sports Arenas	900
H. Capstone Skills Simulation	901
Chapter 17 · Drug Testing	903
<i>Board of Education v. Earls</i>	903
Notes and Comments	914
Capstone Problem	925
Chapter 18 · Olympic and International Sports Rules and Procedures	943
A. Introduction	943
B. The Olympic Sport Governance Structure	945
C. U.S. Adjudication of Olympic-Related Disputes	948
Problem	948
<i>Reynolds v. International Amateur Athletic Federation</i>	949
<i>Walton-Floyd v. United States Olympic Committee</i>	954
<i>Gatlin v. U.S. Anti-Doping Agency</i>	957
<i>Armstrong v. U.S. Anti-Doping Agency</i>	959
Notes and Comments	963
D. Arbitration of Olympic Disputes	968
1. Domestic Arbitration under the U.S. Amateur Sports Act	969
<i>Lindland v. United States Wrestling Association, Inc.</i>	969
Notes and Comments	972
Problem	973
2. International Arbitration—Court of Arbitration for Sport	974
<i>In the Arbitration Between: Oscar Pistorius and IAAF</i>	977
3. CAS Arbitration of Doping Controversies	983
<i>Tim Montgomery v. U.S. Anti-Doping Agency</i>	984
<i>Reflections on Landis v. U.S. Anti-Doping Agency</i>	989

4. The Russian State-Sponsored Doping Scandal	990
Notes and Comments	993
E. Olympic Trademark, Intellectual Property, and Commercialism Issues	994
Problem	995
<i>O-M Bread, Inc. v. United States Olympic Committee</i>	995
<i>U.S. Olympic Committee v. Xclusive Leisure Ltd.</i>	998
Notes and Comments	1002
F. International Sports and Competition Laws	1004
Index	1005

Table of Cases

- A.H. v. Ill. High Sch. Ass'n, 61
Aaser v. Charlotte, 704
Abdul-Jabbar v. General Motors Corp.,
805, 825
Addyston Pipe & Steel Co., United States
v., 319
Adidas v. Payless Shoesource, Inc., 827
Agar v. Canning, 641
Albach v. Odle, 58
Alden v. Norwood Arena, Inc., 692
Ali v. Playgirl Inc., 803
Allied Chem. & Alkali Workers Local 1 v.
Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., 420
Allis-Chalmers Corp. v. Lueck, 480
Am. Motor Inns, Inc. v. Holiday Inns,
Inc., 219
Amalgamated Association of Street
Employees v. Lockridge, 537, 551
American Broadcast Companies Inc. v.
Aereo, Inc., 362, 833, 841
American Football League v. National
Football League, 363, 365
American League Baseball Club v.
Pasquel, Sup. Ct., 778
American Needle, Inc. v. National
Football League, 257
American Needle, Inc. v. New Orleans
La. Saints, 258, 264
Anderson v. Little League Baseball, Inc.,
869, 900
Andrews v. Merriweather, 568
Arlington, Texas, City of v. Golddust
Twins Realty Corp., 619
Arlosoroff v. National Collegiate Athletic
Association, 48
Armstrong v. U.S. Anti-Doping Agency,
959
Arnold v. State, 692
Associated Gen. Contractors, Inc. v.
California State Council of Carpen-
ters, 299
Associated Press v. Walker, 747
Atcovitz v. Gulph Mills Tennis Club, 714
Atlanta Baseball Co. v. Lawrence, 694
Atlanta National League Baseball Club,
Inc. v. Kuhn, 409
Atwater v. NFLPA, 520, 541
Augusta National, Inc. v. Northwestern
Mutual Life Insurance Co., 807
Avila v. Citrus Community College Dist.,
682, 683
Babych v. McRae, 681
Badgett v. Ala. High Sch. Athletic Ass'n,
868
Ball Club v. Lajoie, 476, 478
Baltimore Orioles, Inc. v. Major League
Baseball Players Association, 833,
837
Banks v. NCAA, 91
Barnes v. Int'l Amateur Athletic Fed'n,
963
Barnett v. Texas Wrestling Ass'n, 176
Barrett v. Faltico, 692
Bartges v. University of North Carolina,
Charlotte, 187
Baseball at Trotwood, LLC v. Dayton
Professional Baseball Club, LLC,
309, 310
Bates v. State Bar of Arizona, 42

- Baum Research & Development Co. v. Hillerich & Bradsby, 240
- Bedard v. Roger Williams University, 188
- Behagen v. Amateur Basketball Ass'n, 50, 240
- Bell v. Hood, 186
- Benitez v. New York City Board of Education, 682
- Benjamin v. State, 705
- Berrum v. Powalisz, 706
- Berst v. Chipman, 109
- Bias v. Advantage International, Inc., 566
- Biediger v. Quinnipiac University, 157
- Bigelow v. Virginia, 764
- Bingham v. Zolt, 568
- Biskup v. Hoffman, 693
- Black v. National Football League Players Association, 552
- Blake v. Fried, 692
- Blast Soccer Associates, 29
- Bloom v. National Collegiate Athletic Association, 75
- Blum v. Yaretsky, 45, 48, 54
- Board of Education v. Earls, 903
- Board of Regents v. Roth, 61, 537
- Bonetti v. Double Play Tavern, 693, 694
- Bonin v. World Umpires Association, 446
- Booth v. Curtis Publishing Co., 763, 764
- Boris v. United States Football League, 459
- Boston Celtics v. Shaw, 480
- Boston Professional Hockey Association v. Dallas Cup & Emblem Mfgs., Inc., 826
- Boston Professional Hockey Association, Inc. v. Cheevers, 419, 478
- Bourne v. Marty Gilman, Inc., 741
- Bourque v. Duplechin, 665
- Bowers v. Baylor University, 184
- Bowers v. NCAA (IV), 884
- Bowers v. NCAA, 887
- Boyd v. Board of Directors, 58
- Bragdon v. Abbott, 869
- Brenden v. Independent School District, 139
- Brentwood Academy v. Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association, 44
- Brett v. Hillerich & Bradsby Co., 742
- Brewster v. Barnes, 180
- Bridewell v. The Cincinnati Reds, 460
- Bridgeman v. National Basketball Association, 423, 446
- Bridges v. Home Guano Co., 113
- Brisson v. Minneapolis Baseball & Athletic Ass'n, 701
- Broadcast Music, Inc. v. Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc., 263
- Brobst v. Columbus Srvs. Int'l, 180
- Brotherson v. The Prof'l Basketball Club, LLC, 621
- Brower v. State, 605
- Brown Univ. v. Cohen, 175
- Brown v. Entm't Merchs. Ass'n, 796
- Brown v. NFL, 675
- Brown v. Pro Football, 284, 424, 443
- Brown v. Woolf, 563
- Bruce Drug, Inc. v. Hollister, Inc., 219
- Bryant v. Fox, 715
- Bunger v. Iowa High School Athletic Ass'n, 60
- Burstein v. United States, 21
- Burton v. Wilmington Parking Authority, 37
- Buse v. The Vanguard Group of Investment Companies, 566
- Butterworth v. National League of Prof'l Baseball Clubs, 285
- C.B.C. Distribution and Marketing, Inc. v. Major League Baseball Adv. Media, L.P., 792
- C.S. v. Ohio High Sch. Ath. Ass'n, 881
- Cachick v. United States, 706
- California State Univ., Hayward v. NCAA, 49
- Campbell v. New Orleans Saints, 505

- Campo v. Scofield (1950), 730
- Cannon v. University of Chicago, 145, 185
- Cantrell v. Forest City Publishing Co., 764
- Cape v. Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association, 139, 143
- Capital Raceway Promotions, Inc. v. Smith, 692
- Carabba v. Anacortes School District No. 103, 675
- Cardtoons, L.C. v. Major League Baseball Players Ass'n, 794, 805
- Carnes v. Transport Insurance Co., 19, 20, 21
- Carolina Portland Cement Co. v. Columbia Improvement Co., 114
- Carr v. CIGNA Securities, Inc., 566
- Carrigan v. Roussel, 692, 693
- Cascott, L.L.C. v. City of Arlington, 619
- Catalano, Inc. v. Target Sales, Inc., 215, 216, 217
- Cates v. Cincinnati Exhibition Co., 701
- Central New York Basketball, Inc. v. Barnett, 478
- Cepeda v. Cowles Magazines and Broadcasting Inc., 764
- Cepeda v. Swift and Company, 765
- Chalenor v. Univ. of N.D., 176
- Charles O. Finley & Co. v. Kuhn, 393
- Chevron U.S.A. Inc. v. Echazabal, 869
- Chicago Bears Football Club, Inc. v. Haynes, 504
- Chicago National League Baseball Club, Inc. v. Vincent, 412
- Chicago Professional Sports Limited Partnership v. National Basketball Association, 265, 351, 384, 833
- Cincinnati Baseball Club Co. v. Eno, 701
- Cincinnati Bengals, Inc. v. Bergey, 464, 479, 780
- Cincinnati, City of ex rel. Ritter v. Cincinnati Reds, L.L.C., 634
- City of (see name of city)
- Clarett v. National Football League, 442
- Clark v. Arizona Interscholastic Association, 143
- Class v. Towson University, 867
- Clay v. Board of Trustees of Neosho Cty. Community College, 187
- CLEAN v. State, 605, 619
- Cleburne, City of v. Cleburne Living Ctr., 858
- Cohen v. Brown University, 146, 175
- Cole v. NCAA, 81
- Colli v. S. Methodist Univ., 14
- Collins v. Day, 55
- Collins v. National Basketball Players Association, 525, 539
- Colombo v. Sewanhaka Central High School District No. 2, 710, 869
- Combined Communications Corp. of Oklahoma v. Boger, 109
- Comedy III Productions, Inc. v. Gary Saderup, Inc., 797, 799, 801
- Conard v. The University of Washington, 60
- Coniglio v. Highwood Services, Inc., 360
- Connecticut Professional Sports Corp. v. Heyman, 464
- Copperweld Corp. v. Independence Tube Corp., 256, 259
- Coronel v. Chicago White Sox, 703
- Cort v. Ash, 185
- Cotton Oil Co. v. Yarborough, 112
- Craig v. Boren, 135, 155
- Cramer v. Hoffman, 714
- Crane v. Kansas City Baseball Exhibition Co., 701
- Crawn v. Campo, 681
- Cremins v. The Atlanta Journal & The Atlanta Constitution, 110
- Crespin v. Albuquerque Baseball Club LLC, 699, 704
- Cronin v. J.B.E. Olson Corp., 740
- Cruz v. Pa. Interscholastic Ath. Ass'n, 881
- Cureton v. NCAA, 92

- Curtis Publishing Co. v. Butts, 747
- Dallas Cowboys Football Club, Inc. v. Harris, 473
- Daniels v. Fanduel, Inc., 802
- Daniels v. Seattle Seahawks, 713
- Darlington Manufacturing Co. v. NLRB, 457
- Davidoff v. Metropolitan Baseball Club, Inc., 701
- Davis v. Baylor University, 782
- Davis v. Electronic Arts, 806
- De Frantz v. U.S. Olympic Committee, 34, 944, 954, 966
- Deli v. University of Minnesota, 187
- DeMarco v. University of Health Sciences, 11
- Dempsey v. Time, Inc., 764
- Dennin v. Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference, Inc., 721
- Dent v. National Football League, 506
- Denver Rockets v. All-Pro Management, 459
- Deppe v. NCAA, 239
- Deroit Lions, Inc. v. Argovitz, 558
- Deutscher Tennis Bund v. ATP Tour, Inc., 263, 301, 306, 353, 387
- Dinnan v. Totis, 112
- Dodson v. Arkansas Activities Association, 144
- Doe v. Baum, 175
- Doe v. Univ. of Cincinnati, 175
- Dooley v. Davidson, 110
- Dotzler v. Tuttle, 677
- Dream Team Collectibles, Inc. v. NBA Properties, Inc., 825
- Driskill v. Dallas Cowboys Football Club, 360
- Dryer v. Los Angeles Rams, 487
- Dryer v. NFL, 804
- Dudley Sports Co. v. Schmitt, 729, 739
- Dun & Bradstreet v. Greenmoss Builders, Inc., 752
- Duplex Printing Press Co. v. Deering, 426
- Duskiewicz v. Carter, 693
- Eastern Associated Coal Corp. v. United Mine Workers of Am., 500
- Eckles v. Sharman, 479
- Edling v. Kansas City Baseball & Exhibition Co., 703, 706
- Elitt v. U.S.A. Hockey, 885
- Equity in Ath., Inc. v. Dept. of Educ., 176
- Estate of (see name of party)
- ETW Corp. v. Jireh Publishing, 806, 809
- Fallon v. State of Illinois, 180
- Fed. Ins. Co. v. WCAB (Johnson), 504
- Federal Baseball Club v. National League, 266, 272, 279, 286
- Filler v. Rayex Corp., 738
- Finlan v. City of Dallas, 619
- Fish v. Los Angeles Dodgers Baseball Club, 697, 701, 712
- Fishman v. Estate of Wirtz, 299, 305
- Fitchett v. Buchanan, 692
- Fleer v. Topps Chewing Gum & Major League Baseball Players Ass'n, 288
- Flip Side Productions, Inc. v. Jam Productions, Ltd., 387
- Flood v. Kuhn, 269
- Florida High School Activities Ass'n, Inc. v. Bryant, 58
- Forbes v. Eagleson, 538
- Forbes, State v., 647
- Foster v. Englewood and Hospital Association, 712
- Franklin v. Gwinnett County Public Schools, 145, 185
- Fraser v. Major League Soccer, L.L.C., 256, 257, 387
- Friends of the Parks v. The Chicago Park District, 619
- Fusato v. Washington Interscholastic Activities Ass'n, 60, 61

- Ganden v. NCAA, 886
Garber v. Office of the Commissioner, 288
Garcia v. Google, Inc., 834
Garvey v. Roberts, 501
Gatlin v. U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, Inc., 944, 945, 957
Gautier v. Pro-Football, Inc., 765
Gauvin v. Clark, 673
Genet Co. v. Anheuser-Busch, Inc., 293
Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc., 749
Gil-De-Rebollo v. Miami Heat Ass'n, Inc., 702
Gill v. Chicago Park Dist., 702
Ginsberg v. Hontas, 677
Gionfriddo v. Major League Baseball, 794
Givens, State ex rel. v. Superior Court of Marion County, 52
Goade v. Elks Lodge 789, 692
Gold Medal v. USA Track & Field, 965
Gomes v. Rhode Island Interscholastic League, 143
Gonyo v. Drake University, 176
Goss v. Lopez, 57
Graham v. Scissor-Tail, Inc., 487, 488
Grahn v. Northwest Sport, 692
Greene v. Athletic Council of Iowa State University, 110
Grove City College v. Bell, 145
Grube v. Bethlehem Area School District, 720
Guerrieri v. Tyson, 713

H.A. Artists, Assoc. v. Actors Equity Association, 538
Haas v. South Bend Community School Corporation, 52
Habetz by Habetz v. Louisiana High School Athletic Association, 143
Hackbart v. Cincinnati Bengals, Inc., 670, 674

Haelan Laboratories, Inc. v. Topps Chewing Gum, Inc., 805
Hagan v. Kassler Escrow, Inc., 565
Hall v. Nat'l Collegiate Athletic Ass'n, 886
Hammel v. Madison Square Garden Corp., 704, 705
Harding v. U.S. Figure Skating Ass'n, 967
Harker v. Utica College of Syracuse Univ., 182
Hart v. Electronic Arts, Inc., 799
Hart v. NCAA, 14
Hauter v. Zogarts, 731
Hayden v. University of Notre Dame, 697
Haywood v. National Basketball Assn., 277
Hearon v. May, 677
Hecht v. Pro-Football, Inc. (I), 386
Hecht v. Pro-Football, Inc. (II), 386, 387
Heike v. Guevara, 61
Hembree v. United States, 21
Henderson Broadcasting Corp. v. Houston Sports Ass'n, Inc., 288
Hennessey v. NCAA, 204
Hill v. Florida, 537
Hill v. NCAA, 915
Hirsch v. S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc., 803, 804
Hollywood Baseball Association v. Commissioner, 304
Hoover v. Meiklejohn, 132
Houston Oilers, Inc. v. Neely, 479
Houston v. Escott, 693
Howard University v. National Collegiate Athletic Association, 48
Hull v. Oklahoma City Baseball Co., 703
Hummel v. Columbus Baseball Club, 701
Hutcheson, United States v., 438, 526
Hysaw v. Washburn University, 60

IHSAA v. Schafer, 54

- IHSAA, State ex rel. v. Lawrence Circuit Court, 52
- In re (see name of party)
- Indiana High School Athletic Ass'n v. Carlberg, 60, 61
- Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. v. Avant, 51
- Indianapolis Colts, Inc. v. Metropolitan Baltimore Football Club, 812
- Industrial Welfare Com. v. Superior Court, 489
- International Boxing Club, United States v., 275
- International News Service v. Associated Press, 832, 835
- International Shoe Co. v. Washington, 465, 537
- J.I. Case Co. v. Borak, 186
- Jackson v. Birmingham Bd. of Education, 187
- Jackson v. Drake University, 14
- Jackson v. Livingston Country Club, Inc., 693
- Jackson v. Metropolitan Edison Co., 37, 49, 50
- Jackson v. NFLPA, 567
- James v. Hillerich & Bradsby Company, Inc., 738, 739
- James v. Rhode Island Auditorium, Inc., 705
- Jaworski v. Kiernan, 677
- Johnson v. Florida High School Activities Ass'n, Inc., 876
- Jones v. Alexandria Baseball Ass'n, Inc., 703
- Jones v. Childers, 566
- Jones v. Three Rivers Management Corp., 702
- Jordan v. O'Fallon Township High School Dist., 60, 61
- Kabella v. Bouschelle, 675
- Kaiser v. Cook, 692
- Kapp v. National Football League, 419
- Kasper v. Buffalo Bills, 706
- Kaufman v. Madison Square Garden Corp., 705
- Kavanagh v. Trustees of Boston University, 25, 683
- Keller v. Electronic Arts, Inc., 211, 795
- Kelley v. Board of Trustees, 176
- Kelley v. Sportsman's Speedway, 692
- Kelo v. City of New London, Connecticut, 619
- Kersey v. Harbin, 712, 713
- Kiley v. Patterson, 677
- King County v. Taxpayers of King County, 611
- Kirton v. Fields, 684
- Kivisto v. NFLPA, 540
- Kleinknecht v. Gettysburg College, 676, 713
- Knapp v. Northwestern University, 859, 867
- Kneeland v. National Collegiate Athletic Association, 109
- Knelman v. Middlebury, 13
- Korellas v. Ohio State Univ., 25
- Kotary v. Spencer Speedway, Inc., 707
- Krueger v. San Francisco Forty Niners, 722
- Kuketz v. Petronelli, 899
- Laffler v. Athletic Board of Control, 49
- Lancaster v. Independent School Dist. No. 5, 128
- Landrum v. Gonzalez, 677
- Laramore v. Illinois Sports Facilities Authority, 619
- Laumann v. NHL, 288, 354, 833
- Law v. NCAA, 190, 200
- Leach v. Texas Tech Univ., 127
- Lee v. Allied Sports Assocs., Inc., 707
- Lee v. Taekwondo Union, 965, 966
- Leek v. Tacoma Baseball Club, 702
- Lemoine v. Springfield Hockey Ass'n, 705
- Lestina v. West Bend Mutual Insurance Co., 681

- Levin v. National Basketball Association, 302
- Libby v. Illinois High School Association, 143
- Lindland v. United States Wrestling Association, Inc., 969
- Linseman v. World Hockey Association, 459
- Long v. Zopp, 60
- Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Comm'n v. NFL (Raiders II), 306, 336
- Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Commission v. National Football League, 313
- Louisiana State University v. Smack Apparel Co., 816
- Lowe v. California League of Professional Baseball, 699, 702
- Lowrey v. Texas A&M University System, 188
- Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council, 287
- Lugar v. Edmondson Oil Co., 45
- Lumley v. Gye, 774
- Lumley v. Wagner, 775
- Machen v. Johansson, 479
- Mackey v. National Football League, 431
- Maddox v. University of Tennessee, 900
- Madison Square Garden Boxing, Inc. v. Shavers, 479
- Maisonave v. The Newark Bears Professional Baseball Club, 699
- Major League Baseball Properties Inc. v. Sed Non Olet Denarius, Ltd., 814, 824
- Major League Baseball Properties, Inc. v. Salvino, Inc., 262, 263, 358
- Major League Baseball v. Butterworth, 285, 288
- Major League Baseball v. Crist, 285, 288
- Major League Players Ass'n v. Garvey, 406, 483
- Major League Rodeo, 29
- Mandeville Island Farms, Inc. v. Am. Crystal Sugar Co., 215
- Mann v. Nutrilite, Inc., 701
- Marchetti v. Kalish, 677
- Marcum v. Dahl, 60
- Marrone v. Washington Jockey Club, 696
- Marshall v. ESPN, 240
- Martin v. IOC, 966
- Martinez v. U.S. Olympic Committee, 954
- Matal v. Tam, 826
- Mathews v. Eldridge, 537
- Matthews v. National Collegiate Athletic Ass'n, 886
- Mattison v. E. Stroudsburg Univ., 61
- Matuszak v. Houston Oilers, Inc., 478
- McCormack v. NCAA, 240
- McCormick v. Lowe & Campbell Athletic Goods Co., 728
- McCormick v. School Dist. of Mamaroneck, 176
- McGurk v. Lincoln Community School District, 676
- McKichan v. St. Louis Hockey Club, L.P., 677
- McNair v. NCAA, 110
- McPherson v. Michigan High School Ath. Ass'n, 880
- Mehr v. FIFA, 964
- Menora v. Illinois High School Ass'n, 60
- Mercer v. Duke University, 175, 176
- Mercurio v. Burrillville Racing Association, 692
- Metropolitan Exhibition Co. v. Ewing, 477
- Metropolitan Sports Facilities Comm'n v. Minnesota Twins Partnership, 632
- Miami Univ. Wrestling Club v. Miami Univ., 176
- Michels v. U.S. Olympic Committee, 954, 968
- Middlesex County Sewerage Auth. v. National Sea Clammers Ass'n, 141
- Mid-South Grizzlies v. National Football League, 298

- Milkovich v. Lorain Journal Co., 753
- Milwaukee Braves, Inc., State v., 288
- Minnesota Muskies, Inc. v. Hudson, 467
- Minnesota Twins Partnership v. State by Hatch, 285
- Miranda v. Selig, 287
- Mitsubishi Motors Corp. v. Soler Chrysler-Plymouth, 499
- Modoc v. City of Eveleth, 705
- Mogabgab v. Orleans Parish School Bd., 676, 713
- Montalvo v. Radcliffe, 869
- Moore Drop Forging Co. v. McCarthy, 778
- Moore v. The University of Notre Dame, 127
- Moran v. School District #7, Yellowstone County, 60
- Morgan et al. v. U.S. Soccer Federation, Inc., Complaint, 967
- Morio v. North American Soccer League, 440
- Morris Communications, Inc. v. PGA Tour, 853
- Morris v. Cleveland Hockey Club, Inc., 704
- Morris v. New York Football Giants, Inc., 492
- Morris v. Union High School Dist. A, 675
- Morsani v. Major League Baseball, 285, 290
- Motschenbacher v. R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., 805
- Mt. Pleasant, City of v. Associated Elec. Coop., Inc., 265
- Munchak Corp. v. Cunningham, 472, 778
- Murray v. National Football League, 311
- Nabozny v. Barnhill, 674, 667
- Namath v. Sports Illustrated, 762, 804
- Nassau Sports v. Peters, 778
- Nat'l Football League Mgmt. Council v. Nat'l Football League Players Ass'n, 404
- Nat'l Hockey League Players' Concussion Litigation, In re, 506
- National Basketball Association v. Minnesota Professional Basketball, Limited Partnership, 338
- National Basketball Association v. Motorola, Inc., 835, 852
- National Basketball Association v. SDC Basketball Club, Inc., 322
- National Collegiate Athletic Association v. Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma, 28, 79, 191, 211, 212, 833
- National Collegiate Athletic Association v. Miller, 49
- National Collegiate Athletic Association v. Tarkanian, 38, 77
- National Football League Management Council, 29
- National Football League Players Association v. National Football League, 400
- National Football League Players Association v. NLRB, 409
- National Football League Players Association v. Pro Football, Inc., 442
- National Football League Properties, Inc. v. Dallas Cowboys Football Club, Ltd., 345
- National Football League Properties, Inc. v. New Jersey Giants, Inc., 824
- National Football League, 29
- National Football League, United States v. (NFL I), 340, 341, 367, 384
- National Football Players' Concussion Injury Litigation, In re, 505
- National Hockey League Players' Association v. Bettman, 409
- National Hockey League Players' Association v. Plymouth Whalers Hockey Club (NHLPA I), 459
- National Hockey League Players' Association v. Plymouth Whalers Hockey Club (NHLPA II), 459

- National Hockey League v. National Hockey League Players Association, 459
- National Wrestling Coaches Ass'n v. Dept. of Education, 176
- NCAA 1-A Walk-On Football Player Litigation, In re, 239
- NCAA Ath. Grant-In-Aid Cap Antitrust Litig., In re, 222, 224
- NCAA Student-Athlete Name & Likeness Licensing Litig. ("Keller"), In re, 211, 795
- NCAA v. AP, 110
- NCAA v. Lasege, 77
- NCAA v. Smith, 175
- NCAA v. Yeo, 61
- Neal v. Board of Trustees of the California State University, 176
- New Boston Television v. ESPN, 851
- New England Patriots Football Club, Inc. v. University of Colo., 479, 777
- New Orleans Pelicans Baseball Club, Inc. v. National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, Inc., 293
- New York Football Giants, Inc. v. Los Angeles Chargers Football Club, Inc., 480
- New York Times v. Sullivan, 681, 745
- New York, City of v. New York Jets Football Club, Inc., 627
- New York, City of v. New York Yankees, 623
- NFL Sunday Ticket Antitrust Litigation, In re, 362, 833
- NFL v. Jacksonville Jaguars, 824
- NFL v. Rondor, 852
- NFL v. TVRadionow Corp., 851
- NFLPI v. Wichita Falls Sportswear, Inc., 825
- Nghiem v. NEC Electronics, 499
- Nissen Trampoline Company v. Terre Haute First National Bank, 735
- NLRB v. Borg-Warner Corp., Wooster Division, 420
- NLRB v. Cosco Products Co., 446
- NLRB v. Denver Building Trades Council, 27
- NLRB v. Mackay Radio & Telegraph Co., 422
- NLRB v. Transportation Management Corp., 506
- No Doubt v. Activision Publishing, Inc., 798
- Nordstrom v. National Labor Relations Board, 496
- North American Soccer League v. National Football League, 306
- North American Soccer League v. NLRB, 440
- North American Soccer League, 29, 320
- North Haven Board of Education v. Bell, 186
- Northwestern University and College Athletes Players Association (CAPA), Petitioner, 25
- O'Bannon v. National Collegiate Athletic Association, 209
- O'Brien v. The Ohio State University, 117
- O'Bryan v. O'Connor, 702, 703
- Oakland, City of v. Oakland Raiders, 337
- Oldfield v. The Athletic Congress, 954
- Olinger v. U.S. Golf Ass'n, 899
- Oliver v. National Collegiate Athletic Association, 82
- O-M Bread, Inc. v. U.S. Olympic Committee, 995
- Ordway v. Superior Court (Casella), 677
- Orr v. Brigham Young University, 713
- Oshinsky, Estate of v. N.Y. Football Giants, Inc., 620
- Oswald v. Township High School Dist. No. 214, 676
- Outlaw v. Bituminous Ins. Co., 692
- Pabst v. O'Brien, 805
- Pahulu v. University of Kansas, 720, 721, 863
- Paladino v. Adelphi Univ., 12

- Palmer v. Schonhorn Enterprises, 765, 805
- Parish v. National Collegiate Athletic Association, 48
- Parker v. Warren, 693
- Pederson v. Louisiana State University, 176
- Pegram v. Nelson, 59
- Perdue v. City of New York, 188
- Peterson v. Kennedy, 499, 500
- Pfister v. Shusta, 677
- PGA Tour, Inc. v. Martin, 888
- Philadelphia World Hockey Club, Inc. v. Philadelphia Hockey Club, Inc., 419
- Piazza v. Major League Baseball, 285, 298
- Pino v. Trans-Atlantic Marine, Inc., 778
- Pittsburgh Athletic Co. v. KQV Broadcasting Co., 830
- Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey, 285
- Plaza Shoe Store, Inc. v. Hermel, Inc., 533
- Plessy v. Ferguson, 137
- Poe v. Hillsborough County, 620
- Portland Baseball Club, Inc. v. Kuhn, 281, 287
- Postema v. National League of Professional Baseball Clubs, 288
- Pottgen v. Missouri High School Activities Ass'n, 875, 880
- Powell v. National Football League, 423
- Powless v. Milwaukee County, 702
- Pro Tect Management Corp. v. Worley, 538
- Professional Baseball Schools & Clubs, Inc. v. Kuhn, 287
- Professional Hockey Corporation v. World Hockey Association, 306
- Pro-Football, Inc. v. Blackhorse, 826
- Pryor v. National Collegiate Athletic Association, 883
- Pugh v. NCAA, 239
- Quast v. United States, 21
- R. v. Ogal, 640
- Radovich v. National Football League, 276, 286
- Rathke v. MacFarlane, 76
- Reaves v. Mills, 721
- Reedy v. Cincinnati Bengals, Inc., 620
- Regan v. Seattle, 692
- Regina v. Bradshaw, 637
- Regina v. Green, 642
- Regina v. Maki, 639
- Regina v. Maloney, 647
- Rendell-Baker v. Kohn, 45, 48, 54
- Rensing v. Indiana State Univ. Bd. of Trustees, 22
- Reynolds v. International Amateur Athletic Federation, 949, 951
- Robbins v. Indiana High School Athletic Ass'n, 59
- Robertson v. National Basketball Association, 437
- Rockwell v. Hillcrest Country Club, Inc., 706
- Rodgers v. Georgia Tech Athletic Association, 111
- Rose v. Giamatti, 411
- Rosenblatt v. Baer, 757
- Rosenbloom v. Metromedia, Inc., 748
- Rosensweig v. State, 709
- Ross v. Creighton University, 8, 10
- S.S. v. Whitesboro Sch. Dist., 869
- Saari v. State, 691
- Salerno v. American League of Professional Baseball Clubs, 285
- San Francisco Arts & Athletics, Inc. v. U.S. Olympic Committee, 966, 998, 1003
- San Francisco Seals, Ltd. v. National Hockey League, 334
- San Jose, City of v. Office of the Commissioner, 280
- Sandison v. Michigan High School Athletic Ass'n, 721, 863, 872, 877, 878

- Sanford-Brown Co. v. Patent Scaffolding Co., 114
- Santangelo v. City of New York, 707
- Scallen v. Minnesota Vikings Football Club, Inc., 387
- Scheff v. Homestretch, Inc., 707
- Schentzel v. Philadelphia Nat'l League Club, 701, 702
- Schneider v. American Hockey and Ice Skating Center, Inc., 698
- School Bd. of Nassau County v. Arline, 875
- Seabury Management, Inc. v. PGA, 265, 266
- Seattle Seahawks, Inc. v. King County, 622
- Seattle Totems Hockey Club, Inc. v. National Hockey League, 310
- Sebastian v. Wood, 664
- Shanney v. Boston Madison Square Garden Corp., 704, 705
- Shaw v. Boston Am. League Baseball Co., 701, 703
- Shaw v. Dallas Cowboys Football Club, 360, 833
- Shubert, United States v., 274
- Shultz v. Hemet Youth Pony League, Inc., 885
- Shurman v. Fresno Ice Rink, 704
- Sicard v. University of Dayton, 677
- Silverman v. Major League Baseball Player Relations Committee, Inc., 441, 447
- Simpson v. Union Oil Co. of Cal., 213
- Slaney v. Int'l Amateur Ath. Fed'n, 957, 964
- Smith v. NCAA, 175
- Smith v. Pro Football, Inc., 419
- Solid Oak Sketches v. Take Two Interactive, 834
- Somerson v. McMahon, 834
- Spahn v. Julian Messner, Inc., 755, 760
- Spain v. Houston Oilers, Inc., 481
- Speakers of Sport, Inc. v. ProServ, Inc., 534
- Speed v. State, 712
- Spencer v. Milton, 478
- Sports Management Network v. Busch, 555
- St. Louis Convention & Visitors Commission v. National Football League, 324
- Stanley v. University of Southern California, 178, 179, 182
- Starego v. N.J. State Interscholastic Ath. Ass'n, 881
- State v. (see name of defendant)
- Stehn v. Bernarr MacFadden Founds., Inc., 676
- Steinberg v. Chicago Medical School, 11
- Steinberg, Moorad & Dunnv. Dunn, 568
- Steinbrenner v. Esquire Reporting Co., 411
- Stern v. Cleveland Browns Football Club, Inc., 360
- Stineman v. Fontbonne College, 712
- Stockstill v. Quinnipiac University, 14
- Stop the Olympic Prison v. United States Olympic Committee, 1003
- Stoutenborough v. NFL, 360
- Stradtner v. Cincinnati Reds, Inc., 703
- Street v. Town of Ripley, 612
- Striebel v. Minnesota State High School League, 143
- Sullivan v. National Football League, 289, 310, 335, 359
- Sullivan v. Tagliabue, 311
- Sutherland v. Onondaga Hockey Club, 704
- Tatum v. NCAA, 885, 887
- Taylor v. Wake Forest Univ., 5
- TCR Sports Broadcasting Holding, L.L.P. v. FCC, 362
- Technical Chemical Co. v. Jacobs, 737
- Telega v. Security Bureau, Inc., 697
- Textile Workers v. Darlington Co., 457
- The Five Smiths, Inc. v. National Football League Players Ass'n, 444
- Thurman v. Clune, 704

- Thurman v. Ice Palace, 704
 Tiffany v. Arizona Interscholastic Association, Inc., 56
 Tiger Stadium Fan Club, Inc. v. Governor, 619
 Tim Montgomery v. United States Anti-Doping Agency, Lausanne, 984
 Time, Inc. v. Firestone, 751
 Time, Inc. v. Hill, 755, 761, 764, 766
 Time, Inc. v. Johnston, 755
 Times-Picayune Publishing Co. v. United States, 353
 Tite v. Omaha Coliseum Corp., 705
 Toolson v. New York Yankees, Inc., 272, 273, 274
 Total Economic Athletic Management of America, Inc. v. Pickens, 528
 Townsley v. State, 693
 Travelers Insurance Co. v. Brown, 19
 Triple-A Baseball Club Assoc. v. Northeastern Baseball, Inc., 287, 305, 306
 Trustees of Boston College v. Big East Conference, 129
 Tuolumne, County of v. Sonora Cmty. Hosp., 218
 Turcotte v. Fell, 681
 Twin City Sportservice, Inc. v. Charles O. Finley & Co., Inc., 282, 288
 U.S. Olympic Committee v. Xclusive Leisure Ltd., 999
 Uhlaender v. Henricksen, 765, 805
 Uline Ice, Inc. v. Neely, 704
 United Paperworkers Int'l Union v. Misco, 500
 United States Football League v. National Football League, 375, 384
 United States v. (see name of defendant)
 United Steelworkers v. American Mfg. Co., 500
 United Steelworkers v. Enterprise Wheel & Car Corp., 500
 United Steelworkers v. Warrior & Gulf Nav. Co., 500
 University of Colorado v. Derdeyn, 916
 University of Kentucky v. Courier-Journal & Louisville Times Co., 109
 University of Nevada v. Tarkanian, 41
 USOC v. IOC, 993
 USOC v. Ruckman, 973
 Uzdavines v. Metropolitan Baseball Club, Inc., 702
 Verizon Communications, Inc. v. Law Offices of Curtis V. Trinko, LLP (Trinko), 385
 Vernonia School Dist. 47J v. Acton, 910, 912
 Viacom Int'l, Inc. v. YouTube, Inc. (Viacom I), 362
 Viacom Int'l, Inc. v. YouTube, Inc. (Viacom II), 362
 Viacom Int'l, Inc. v. YouTube, Inc. (Viacom III), 363
 Virgil v. Time, Inc., 767
 Virginia, United States v., 142
 VKK Corporation v. National Football League, 308, 311
 Vosburg v. Putney, 661
 W.R. Grace & Co. v. Rubber Workers, 500
 Wade v. Watson, 707
 Wagenblast v. Odessa School District, 868
 Waldrep v. Texas Employers Insurance Association, 17
 Walters & Bloom v. Fullwood & Kickliter, 552
 Walters & Bloom v. Harmon, 552
 Walters, United States v., 568
 Walton-Floyd v. U.S. Olympic Committee, 954, 965
 Washington Capitols Basketball Club, Inc. v. Barry, 472, 477
 Washington v. Indiana High Sch. Ath. Ass'n, 880
 Weaver v. Nebo School Dist., 128
 Weinberg v. Silber, 568

- Welch v. Dunsmuir Joint Union School
Dist., 676, 713
- Wells v. Minneapolis Baseball & Athletic
Ass'n, 703
- Welsh v. City of Tulsa, Okla., 863
- Westborough Country Club v. Palmer,
693
- White v. National Football League, 539,
599
- White v. NCAA, 239
- White v. Samsung Electronics America,
Inc., 804
- Who Dat Yat Chat, LLC v. Who Dat, Inc.,
808
- Wiersma v. City of Long Beach, 694
- Williams v. CWI, Inc., 568
- Williams v. Eaton, 60
- Williams v. National Football League,
505
- Williams v. School District of Bethle-
hem, 140
- Williams v. Univ. of Cincinnati, 91
- Winnipeg Rugby Football Club v.
Freeman & Locklear, 478, 778
- Winterstein v. Wilcom, 707
- Wood v. National Basketball Association,
442, 451
- World Football League v. Dallas Cow-
boys Football Club, Inc., 775
- World Skating Federation v. Interna-
tional Skating Union, 964
- Yarde Metals, Inc. v. New England
Patriots, 621
- Yates v. Chicago Nat'l League Ball Club,
703
- Yocca v. Pittsburgh Steelers Sports, Inc.,
620
- Young v. Goodyear Stores, 564
- Zacchini v. Scripps-Howard Broad. Co.,
765, 793, 796, 851
- Zimmerman v. National Football
League, 442
- Zinn v. Parrish, 519

Preface

It has been 30 years since the publication of the inaugural edition of *Sports Law: Cases and Materials*. Its publication coincided with the emergence of sports law as a discrete topic for legal study. The book, the first of its kind, filled a void. It was quickly and widely adopted for classroom use. Competitive books followed soon thereafter.

In this, the Ninth Edition, the overarching organization of the original book holds firm. The dichotomy between so-called “amateur” sports and professional sports appears now to have withstood the legal assault on amateurism. Amateurism—marked most significantly by the peculiarly American phenomenon of big-time college sports played by “student-athletes” on athletic scholarships—will likely be redefined to allow for increased freedom and enhanced emoluments for players. But the big-time intercollegiate sports juggernaut is firmly ensconced in the culture. The College Football Playoff and March Madness are here to stay. So the Ninth Edition, like the first edition, remains in three parts: Amateur Sports, Professional Sports and Issues Common to Both.

From the beginning, the authors committed to a skills-oriented, problem-based approach as the optimal way to study sports law. While the book can be used conventionally—for those who choose to focus on cases, notes, and questions—skills-based problems are featured throughout. Capstone problems and case simulations are designed to facilitate both the review of doctrine and the energy of experiential learning.

Collectively, the authors have more than 100 years of experience teaching sports law. We are unabated in our love for the topic. Surprisingly, the course works as a bar review course—covering a wide variety of substantive areas in the beloved and memorable context of sport.

Sports law is alive. Things happen fast in sports and sports law. Legal issues once on the horizon arise quickly. Our book is comprehensive enough to allow you to select topics that are of most interest to you and your students. It invites you to revisit your syllabus to confront current issues as they arise. The problem-based approach is helpful in this regard. It makes for a great classroom experience.

We are of course grateful to those of you who have chosen to use our book, and we welcome new adopters. Feel free to contact any of us with questions, comments, or suggestions.

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