



The Duane Morris Sports Law Group is a dynamic and experienced team dedicated to providing comprehensive legal services across all levels of the sports industry, from professional leagues, teams and athletes to early- and growth-stage companies, sports-focused venture capital and private equity firms. As one of the top law firms in this industry, we understand the unique challenges and complexities facing athletes, teams, coaches, leagues, companies and private capital in this fast-paced and highly regulated sector.

At Duane Morris LLP, our Sports Law Group stands ready to guide our clients through the evolving landscape of sports law, setting them up for success at every level of competition. Whether representing maturing companies in the sports technology space or top professional athletes, our lawyers bring an unparalleled level of dedication, experience and strategic insight to every matter.

AREAS OF EXPERIENCE

- ▶ LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
- ▶ STADIUM FINANCING AND CONSTRUCTION
- ▶ CONTRACT NEGOTIATION AND DRAFTING
- ▶ COMMERCIAL AND ANTITRUST LITIGATION
- ▶ INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
- ▶ COMPLIANCE AND GOVERNANCE
- ▶ RISK MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY
- ▶ ENDORSEMENTS AND SPONSORSHIPS
- ▶ EARLY- AND GROWTH-STAGE COMPANIES

PROFESSIONAL AND COLLEGIATE SPORTS

In the world of professional sports, we work with teams, leagues, athletes, players' associations, agents and sponsors to address a broad range of issues. Our firm has extensive experience in negotiating and drafting stadium financing deals, player contracts, team ownership deals, collective bargaining agreements, sponsorship deals, endorsement contracts, and

executive compensation and employment contracts. We are similarly well-versed in representing clients through complex litigation, arbitration and dispute resolution processes, handling everything including bet-the-company antitrust lawsuits, vendor-contract disputes, ownership disputes, salary disputes, image rights protection, trademark and copyright protection, and player safety concerns.

Our Sports Law Group also provides cutting-edge legal counsel to collegiate athletic departments, universities, coaches, athletes and other key stakeholders. With the evolving landscape of NCAA rules, name, image and likeness (NIL), and evolving conference realignments, our team of experienced attorneys help our clients navigate these shifting dynamics.

EMERGING LEAGUES AND SPORTS

Duane Morris sports attorneys are at the forefront of advising clients involved in emerging sports and new sports leagues. As the landscape of professional sports continues to evolve, we assist entrepreneurs, investors and organizations in navigating the legal complexities of launching and growing new leagues and sports entities. Whether it's a niche sport gaining traction or a completely new competition model, our team provides strategic counsel on league formation, governance, intellectual property protection, media rights, sponsorship deals and player agreements.

PRIVATE EQUITY AND VENTURE CAPITAL

Our Sports Law Group has significant experience advising private equity and venture capital firms in structuring investments and deploying capital within the sports industry. We assist investors in navigating the complex regulatory, financial and operational landscapes of the sports sector while providing them with the best opportunity for their investments to be well-structured and aligned with their strategic goals. Whether focusing on acquiring professional teams, investing in sports technology startups or funding media and sponsorship ventures, our team provides comprehensive counsel to maximize value and minimize risk.

EARLY- AND GROWTH-STAGE COMPANIES

At Duane Morris we understand the rapid pace of innovation in early-stage sports technology companies from wearables and performance analytics to fan engagement platforms and digital content solutions. Our team works closely with entrepreneurs, investors and emerging companies to navigate the unique legal challenges associated with the commercialization of sports technology and manufacturers. We provide counsel on entity formation and structuring, equity agreements, intellectual property protection, data privacy and security, licensing agreements, venture funding and regulatory compliance.

OUR CLIENTS

Our sports attorneys have represented a range of clients including:

- ▶ Professional sports leagues, executives and officials
- ▶ Professional sports teams, owners and coaches
- ▶ Collegiate and professional athletes, including Olympic gold medalists
- ▶ Early- and growth-stage companies providing products and/or services to the sports industry
- ▶ Venture capital, private equity and portfolio companies
- ▶ Sports agencies
- ▶ University athletic departments
- ▶ Sports equipment manufacturers
- ▶ Sports venues, clubs and resorts
- ▶ Sports and recreation associations
- ▶ Merchandisers
- ▶ Health and wellness brands

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- ▶ Earned dismissal of a Sherman Act Section 2 monopolization claim alleged against **Bellator/Professional Fighters League** at the motion to dismiss stage in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey.
- ▶ Representing the **National Football League Players Association** in employment law matters.
- ▶ Representing client in executive leadership contract negotiations for **professional women's volleyball league**.
- ▶ Represented **New York Football Giants Inc.** in intellectual property matters.
- ▶ Represented **NFL team** in deal regarding new ownership stake.
- ▶ Representing stakeholders in various intellectual property matters involving NASCAR, the Minnesota Vikings, Major League Baseball, individual NFL teams and Tom Brady.
- ▶ Represented **Fubo Gaming Inc.**, a subsidiary of the leading sports-first live TV streaming platform fuboTV Inc. (NYSE: FUBO), in entering into a market access agreement.
- ▶ Represented the acquiring ownership group with respect to National Football League consents and approvals and various stadium-related issues in connection with the purchase of the NFL's Atlanta Falcons from The Five Smiths Inc.
- ▶ Represented the **San Francisco 49ers** with respect to the structuring of its private stadium company financing and its relationship with the Santa Clara Stadium Authority.

- ▶ Representing an **MLB franchise** in an ongoing audit involving the taxation of parking, amusements, and food and beverages under four different city taxes.
- ▶ Represented a **Miami Heat star player** in a dispute involving multiple business ventures and claims for breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty and trademark infringement.
- ▶ Successfully represented two professional sports agents before the trial court, the Appellate Division and the New York Court of Appeals to recover fees from a famous athlete.
- ▶ Advising **USA Track & Field** in sports wagering matters, including proposals and opportunities from sports data providers.
- ▶ Represented leading online sportsbook **Fanatics Betting and Gaming** as regulatory counsel in its \$225 million acquisition of the U.S. businesses of PointsBet USA.

We also keep up-to-date alerts on the rapid changes to the collegiate sport landscape in our **Duane Morris Sports Law Blog**. blogs.duanemorris.com/sportslaw

OFFICE LOCATIONS & REACH



UNITED STATES

Atlanta Miami
Austin New Jersey North
Baltimore New Jersey South
Boca Raton New York
Boston Philadelphia
Chicago Pittsburgh
Dallas San Diego
Fort Worth San Francisco
Houston Silicon Valley
Las Vegas Washington, D.C.
Los Angeles Wilmington

INTERNATIONAL

Hanoi Shanghai
Ho Chi Minh City Singapore
London Sydney
Myanmar

- ▶ Also satellite offices, including Portland, Maine; Berwyn, Pennsylvania; and Seattle, Washington
- ▶ Alliances in Mexico and throughout Latin America
- ▶ Leadership position with international network of independent law firms

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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