



## Charles Manzoni KC

Year of call: 1988 | Silk: 2009

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*“Organised, a very good advocate and absolutely exceptional.”*  
Chambers and Partners, Greater China 2022

Charlie is a British lawyer with an international commercial and sports law practice. Having qualified as a mechanical and electrical engineer, he worked as an engineer for five years before turning to the law. His legal practice comprises international litigation, arbitration and mediation as advocate or arbitrator, representing and deciding cases involving both commercial and state entities. He has an active sports law practice. He acts as counsel in the High Courts of London and Hong Kong, in international and domestic arbitrations, acts as a mediator and conciliator in cross-border disputes and regularly sits as a sole arbitrator or as part of a three-man tribunal.

He was appointed QC in London in 2009 and SC in Hong Kong in 2012. He was appointed a part-time judge in Hong Kong in 2015.

## Areas of expertise

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Professional Negligence

Construction

Sport

## Sport

Charles has an active sports law practice and is heavily involved in the administration of sports law disputes within the sport of sailing. He is an active sportsman and regularly competes in sailing competitions, up to and including World Championship level. He was appointed as an arbitrator at the Court of Arbitration for Sport in 2011 and has been on the Court's Panel, including its appeal panel, continuously since. He also sits on the arbitration panel of Sports Resolutions in the UK.

### Cases of note:

- **Party A v Party B** - US\$5m claim by two well-known administrators in the English football industry for breach of consultancy agreements with a Chinese football club.  
The case is significant because the reason for the breach of contract was said to be a result of a

Chinese government mandate as to how Chinese football clubs could run (because of the President of China's extreme interest in football, and his desire to develop the sport nationally within China).

- **Party A v Party B** - A dispute between two football clubs about the transfer of a player at a time when and without disclosure of the fact that he was under investigation by the police in respect of an alleged rape.
- **America's Cup Arbitration Panel** - Appointed as an alternate member of the arbitration panel for the America's Cup.
- **Party A v Party B** - Advocate for an insurer arising out of a sportsman's death occurring during a sporting world record attempt.
- **Party A v Party B** - Advocate for a major national sporting federation (rugby) in proceedings relating to a severe injury occurring to a player during an international match.

## Recommendations

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- *"Excellent in all respects. He is an excellent cross-examiner and gets straight to the core issues after reviewing complicated and voluminous documentation."*The Legal 500 2022
- *"A wealth of experience dealing with complex fraud and insolvency matters."*The Legal 500 2022
- *"A very practical leading counsel, with the ability to turn complexity to simplicity."*The Legal 500 2022
- *"Manzoni doesn't need any introduction: he's brilliant."*Chambers and Partners 2022
- *"Very experienced in many areas."*Chambers and Partners 2022
- *"Organised, a very good advocate and absolutely exceptional."*Chambers and Partners 2022

## Memberships

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- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb)
- Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR)
- Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC)
- Hong Kong Bar Association (HKBA)
- Chartered Institute Of Arbitrators (CIARB)
- Hong Kong Mediation Centre (HKMC)
- Beijing Arbitration Centre (BAC)
- International Court of Arbitration (ICC)
- London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)
- Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration (KLRCA)
- Dubai International Arbitration Centre (DIAC)
- Asia Pacific Regional Arbitration Group (APRAG)
- Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)
- Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS)

## Qualifications

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### Education

- BSc Mechanical Engineering, Bristol University
- Diploma in Law, City University

## Additional Information

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### Languages

- English

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#### London

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