



Susan Rodway KC

Year of call: 1981 | Silk: 2002

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"She wholeheartedly embraces her clients' cases and then fights them every inch of the way." "She is a very experienced, well-known and respected silk." "A formidable opponent." Chambers and Partner, Clinical Negligence, 2022

Susan has a wealth of experience across a wide spectrum of civil and commercial litigation, domestic and international arbitration, in particular sports arbitration, and mediation. She is renowned for her advocacy skills, particularly in cross examining experts in specialist scientific, medical and sports arenas. She has been instructed in numerous leading cases arising out of clinical negligence, catastrophic injuries, group litigation, professional negligence including accountants and solicitors, sports law and domestic and international sports arbitration, in particular arising out of motorsports, cycling or equine competition including anti-doping issues. Susan is currently the sole Leading Counsel acting for all Claimants in the concussion litigation arising out of the contact sports of rugby union, rugby league and football. In addition Susan has significant experience in issues of safeguarding in sport and in particular allegations of historic sexual abuse. She has acted in complex claims of historic sexual abuse related to schools and other institutions as well as in the sporting arena.

Areas of expertise

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Clinical Negligence

Personal Injury (including Abuse)

Sports Law

Sports Law

Susan is an active and competitive rider and motorcyclist and drives sports and supercars on and off track. Susan is a mediator and arbitrator and regular lecturer on international sports law. Her past and current work covers design and construction of racecourses and motorsports tracks (all weather surfaces/portable hurdles/safety barriers); product liability: equine and motorsports equipment; insurance coverage; regulatory, selection and eligibility and anti-doping (various sports); appearing in many of the leading cases decided under the Animals Act 1971.

Susan has a Master's degree in International Sports Law. She also heads up chambers' Sports Law group and the newly created Safeguarding in Sport Group.

Susan is currently acting for numerous Claimants in the contact sports concussion litigation across the sports of rugby union, rugby league and football.

Cases of note

- Adam Hughes and others v World Rugby and others. Susan is instructed by Richard Boardman of Rylands Garth Ltd. to act for a large number (now about 300) of professional rugby union players in their actions against the Rugby Football Union (RFU)/WRU and World Rugby arising out of permanent brain damage due to concussions and sub-concussive injuries suffered during their professional career. The claim is brought in negligence and is based upon allegations of failings in the introduction and implementation of rules and regulations to identify, reduce or prevent damage due to repetitive head injuries in match play and in training sessions. It is likely that proceedings will be issued in early 2021 and that the claimants will apply for a Group Litigation Order in order to manage the claims.
- Michael Edwards and others v Rugby Football League and others. The action in respect of concussion and sub-concussion in rugby league.
- Jarvis and others v IFAB and others. The similar proceedings in respect of Association Football.

Recommendations

- *"A dynamic and fearsome advocate who is very bright. She is down to earth, approachable and works extremely hard." "She gets straight to the heart of a case and has a very caring approach. She is a really effective advocate."* Chambers and Partners, Personal Injury, 2022
- *"She wholeheartedly embraces her clients' cases and then fights them every inch of the way." "She is a very experienced, well-known and respected silk." "A formidable opponent."* Chambers and Partner, Clinical Negligence, 2022
- *"A great advocate – definitely someone you want on your side."* The Legal 500, Personal Injury, 2022
- *"Susan is fearless. She is a fantastic advocate and will go the extra mile."* The Legal 500, Clinical Negligence, 2022

Memberships

- Personal Injury Bar Association
- Professional Negligence Bar Association
- Court of Protection Bar Association
- Inter Pacific Bar Association

Qualifications

Education

- King's College, London
- City University

Additional information

Appointments

- Master of the Bench of Middle Temple (2009)

- Arbitrator appointed to Sports Resolution (2021)

Languages

- French (fluent)
- Italian (conversational)
- Spanish (conversational)
- German (conversational)

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