

Sports injuries

This case demonstrates our team's approach to sports injury claims; to get to the issues on liability early on; being prepared for the arguments regarding consent to some risk of injury; and fighting legitimate claims to secure compensation for our clients.

We acted for the claimant who suffered a fractured spine whilst participating in the television game show 'Gladiators'. The injury occurred when the claimant's opponent, one of the resident 'Gladiators', disobeyed the game rules which ultimately led to him being disqualified.

A number of important issues were raised in this case not least the argument that the claimant had consented to the risk of injury. We were able to demonstrate that the incident was not purely an error of judgement on the part of the 'Gladiator', as he had been warned by the referee several times, but an act of negligence.

Ironically, as often happens with sporting injuries, the claimant carried on competing in the show and actually won the episode. It was later when the adrenalin had worn off that the severity of his injuries came to light. The case settled for a significant sum shortly before trial.

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The team handling this case was led by Jonathan Clement, Partner and Personal Injury Team Leader.

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