serle court

Christopher Stoner KC

Call: 1991 | Silk: 2010

Christopher deals with difficult issues and provides clear and practical advice.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2026

cstoner@serlecourt.co.uk +44 (0)20 7242 6105

Christopher Stoner KC's practice primarily focuses on property litigation and sports disciplinary and regulatory work.

Chris practices in all aspects of property litigation encompassing real property work. He has developed a particular expertise in the law relating to inland waterways: a recent quote in Chambers & Partners said he "*...is a go to person for specialist law, particularly around boat licensing and navigation. He knows the legislation extremely well and is certainly pre-eminent in that area.*"

Chris also has a particular interest in rights of light and is co-author of the shortly to be published 4th edition of Rights of Light: The Modern Law (LexisNexis) together with Andrew Francis and Tom Weekes KC.

In sports law, Chris combines acting as an advocate in some matters with 'sitting' to determine sports disputes in others, having over the years appeared before many domestic and international disciplinary and regulatory tribunals. Chris has particular interest in selection and Paralympic classification and is the co-author of the chapter on 'Selection' in the 4th Edition of *Sport: Law & Practice* (Bloomsbury Professional).

Expertise

Property

Chris undertakes work on all aspects of property litigation, including issues arising from covenants, easements, option agreements, development agreements and land registration, as well as having particular interests in rights of light and the law relating to inland waterways.

Contact

6 New Square
Lincoln's Inn, London, WC2A 3QS

DX 1025 LDE
Telephone +44 (0) 20 7242 6105
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Out of hours

Nick Hockney: +44 (0)7702 159953
Dan Wheeler: +44 (0)7714 853641

General enquiries

clerks@serlecourt.co.uk

Recent Cases

- *Horsford v Horsford* [2020] EWHC 584 (Ch) – Proprietary estoppel claim relating to a family farm.
- *Ravenscroft v Canal & River Trust* [2017] EWHC 1874 – The principal issue was the meaning of 'main navigable channel' for the purposes of the British Waterways Acts.
- *Port of London Authority v Mendoza* [2017] UKUT 146 (TCC) – Established that the 'mere' mooring of a vessel, without more, was insufficient to establish adverse possession of the riverbed.
- *Jones v Canal & River Trust* [2018] Q.B. 305 – Consideration of the correct approach when an Article 8 defence is raised to a claim for removal of a vessel from a waterway.
- *Stapleford Frog Island (Rainham) Limited v Port of London Authority* [2017] UKUT 444 (TCC) – Proper construction of a lease.
- *Phillips v Francis* [2015] 1 W.L.R. 742 – Decision of the Court of Appeal as to the correct approach to the consultation requirements contained in the Landlord & Tenant Act 1985 and accompanying regulations in respect of the recovery of service charges for qualifying work.
- *BOH Limited & Another v Eastern Power Networks (formerly EDF Energy Networks (EPN) plc* [2011] 2 EGLR 105 – Court of Appeal determination on issues relating to the continuation of a tenancy in circumstances of a split reversion including merger and whether service of notice of a s.25 notice as to part was valid.
- *Scottish & Newcastle Plc v Raguz* [2008] 1 W.L.R. 2494 (House of Lords) – Whether valid notice was served pursuant to s.17 of the Landlord & Tenant (Covenants) Act 1995.

Media, Entertainment & Sport

Chris combines acting as an advocate in some sports matters with sitting to determine sports disputes in others. He has experience across a wide variety of sports. He is a Sport Resolutions Arbitration Panel Member and served a term as a judge of the FA Cost Cap Adjudication Panel.

Recent Cases

- *England & Wales Cricket Board Limited v Michael Vaughan* (2023) – Successfully represented Michael Vaughan in his defence of a charge of breaching ECB directive 3.3. by allegedly using racist or discriminatory language prior to a game which took place nearly 13 years prior to the charge. The hearing attracted widespread publicity and comments in the press about Chris included: "It helped Vaughan's case that one of the key witnesses … gave every impression of preferring to have faced the great West Indies bowling attacks of the 70s and 80s rather than Vaughan's counsel, Christopher Stoner KC" (The Guardian); "A furiously competent KC" (The Guardian); "An old school silk of stout bearing and stentorian tones"; "Stoner did not so much blow a hole in it as a crater" (Daily Telegraph); "A measured but meticulous litigator" (The Times).
- As a member of The Football Association's Judicial Panel determining many disputes, including *The FA v Lucas Paqueta* & *Nottingham Forest FC v The FA*.
- CAS 2015/A/4189 – Acted for British Swimming, Adam Peaty, Francesca Halsall, Jemma Lowe and Chris Walker-Hebborn against world governing body FINA and successfully obtained ratification of world records.

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Professional Negligence

Chris has extensive experience of acting in a number of property related professional negligence claims, principally against solicitors and surveyors.

Regulatory

As a corollary to Chris' extensive experience in the field of sports law on regulatory and disciplinary matters, Chris also has experience of acting in non-sports matters, including in the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal and before the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the Royal College of Psychologists and the Council for Licensed Conveyancers.

Administrative & Public Law

Chris has experience of acting in Judicial Review matters.

Testimonials

"Christopher deals with difficult issues and provides clear and practical advice."

Chambers & Partners 2026

"He is absolutely top class."

Chambers & Partners 2026

"Christopher is my go-to property silk. He is very responsive, always goes the extra mile and cares about what he is doing."

Chambers & Partners 2026

"Christopher Stoner is a go-to person for specialist law, particularly around boat licensing and navigation. He knows the legislation extremely well and is certainly pre-eminent in that area."

Chambers & Partners 2025

"A very useful person to have in your corner."

Chambers & Partners 2024

"Christopher Stoner understands the commercial background to work, is tremendously hard-working and gets on incredibly well with clients."

Chambers & Partners 2023

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"He is very hard-working, good on his feet and good on paper. Judges like his manner, and lay clients love him because he is credible and easygoing. He's a very talented technical lawyer and dependable advocate."

Chambers & Partners 2022

"He is an excellent barrister, great with clients, bright and quick on his feet."

Chambers & Partners 2021

"'He always goes above and beyond with both his work and his engagement with the client'. 'Really good on his feet'. 'Has vast experience, knowledge and real gravitas'."

Chambers & Partners 2020

"A hugely talented barrister with an ability to grapple the most difficult legal problems."

Legal 500 2020

Appointments

- Appointed a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn (2016)
- Sport Resolutions Arbitration Panel Member

Recommendations

- Property Litigation (The Legal 500)
- Real Estate Litigation (Chambers & Partners)

Publications

- Author of numerous published sports law articles in Sport Law Administration & Practice and also on LawinSport
- Joint author of the chapter on Selection Disputes in Lewis & Taylor – Sport: Law & Practice (3rd & 4th Editions)

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Memberships

- Chancery Bar Association
- Property Bar Association

Education & Qualifications

- LLB (First Class), University of East Anglia

Additional Information

- Formerly a judge of the FIA Cost Cap Adjudication Panel

BSB Registration

Christopher Paul Stoner KC

VAT Number

577839473

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