



Sports Lawyers Association

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Reston, VA. – March 18, 2016 – The Sports Lawyers Association (@SportsLawyers), the leading organization of professionals dedicated to the practicing and teaching of sports law in the United States, and one of the leading sports law professional organizations worldwide, announced the lineup for its 42nd Annual Conference today. The conference will take place May 12-14 at the JW Marriott LA Live in Los Angeles.

The SLA conference is the preeminent gathering of sports law professionals and will present a three-day conference featuring leading experts and practitioners spanning all aspects of the industry, domestically and internationally. The conference highlights include: 25 panels and breakout sessions featuring expert analysis and debate of contemporary issues facing the sports industry, a presentation honoring the 2016 Philanthropy Initiative recipient and the announcement of the Law Student Writing Competition winners. In addition, there will be an international breakfast featuring a presentation by a high ranking official from the General Administration for Sport of the People's Republic of China.

"This year's conference will one of the SLA's best ever in terms of interactive discussions among leading experts about the most important and current national and international sports law, business, and ethical issues," said SLA President Matthew Mitten. "It offers an unparalleled opportunity to enhance your professional knowledge and to meet new sports industry colleagues, who will become your friends over time. I look forward to seeing you in LA!"

"What our conference offers, in addition to the great panels and exciting, often times cutting-edge topics, is the most open, attendee-friendly conference anywhere," said 2016 SLA Conference Chair Robert A. Hacker. "Where else can a law student, a young lawyer or even a seasoned veteran of the business have access to the biggest players in the sports law world? Part of what the SLA brings to the legal profession is collegial sharing in the best possible way."

Highlighted panels include:

- **Executive Directors Forum - Invited panelists include: Tony Clark**, Executive Director, MLBPA, **Donald M. Fehr**, Executive Director, NHLPA, **Michele Roberts**, Executive Director, NBPA, **DeMaurice F. Smith**, Executive Director, NFLPA.

- **General Counsel Forum - Invited panelists include: Adolpho A. Birch III**, Vice President of Labor Policy and Government Affairs, NFL, **William Daily**, Deputy Commissioner, NHL, **Daniel Halem**, Chief Legal Counsel, MLB; **Richard W. Buchanan**, Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, NBA

- **The Future of Sports TV – Invited panelists include: Chris Bevilacqua**, Founder, Bevilacqua Helfant Ventures, **Phillip Gharabegian**, Vice President, Business and Legal Affairs, Fox Cable Networks & **Brett T. Goodman**, Senior Vice President, Business & Legal Affairs, NBC Sports Group

- **The Future of the NCAA – Invited panelists include: Lynn Holzman**, Commissioner, West Coast Conference, **Oliver F. Luck**, Executive Vice President of Regulatory Affairs, NCAA & **Larry Scott**, Commissioner, Pac-12 Conference and **Len J. Elmore**, Basketball Analyst for ESPN and CBS Sports.

- **Daily Fantasy Sports: Games of Chance or Games of Skill?**

- **Court of Arbitration for Sport Overview, Olympic Games Ad Hoc Division and Practice (Including CAS Secretary General Matthieu Reeb)**

- **FIFA and Other Scandals: The Evolving Ethical Obligations of U.S. Lawyers**

- **Off-Field Athlete Conduct Issues: Sexual & Domestic Violence (Panel Moderator: Jane McManus, Journalist, ESPN).**

- **Using Athlete Names, Images and Likenesses: Legal Battles Over the Right of Publicity**

- **Women's Emerging Sports Leagues**

- **Continued Growth of eSports**

- **Chinese Sports Law Developments (featuring Chinese lawyers from private practice and IMG)**

- **International Games Bidding and Hosting (featuring, among others, Susan Ahern, general counsel of World Rugby)**

- **Major International Events: Bidding and Hosting**

*Founder and President Emeritus

Highlighted SLA Conference Panels – Continued:

- Major International Events: Bidding and Hosting

The 2016 SLA Conference Committee is chaired by **Robert A. Hacker** (Fox Sports) with vice-chairs **Jeff Benz** (4 New Square (Barristers) and Versus Advocates) and **Mary Kay Braza** (Foley & Lardner, LLP).

Conference registration, a complete agenda, hotel information and other details are available at www.sportslaw.org (Agenda is subject to change). Please follow the Sports Lawyers Association on Twitter @sportslawyers where conference updates and panel highlights will be posted using hashtag #SLAC16.

Please direct media inquiries and credential requests to Sports Lawyers Association Conference Media Contact: Brian Berger – brian@brianbergerpr.com - 503.701.2215 – On Twitter @BrianBergerPR

About Sports Lawyers Association:

The Sports Lawyers Association (SLA) is a non-profit, international, professional organization whose common goal is the understanding, advancement and ethical practice of sports law. There are approximately 1,800 current members: practicing lawyers, in-house counsel, law educators, law students, and other professionals with an interest in law relating to professional and amateur sports spanning the breadth of the entire sports industry. The Association's Annual Conference takes place every May, with the 42nd Annual Sports Lawyers Conference scheduled for May 12-14, 2016 in Los Angeles. Follow SLA online at www.sportslaw.org, on Twitter @SportsLawyers and on Facebook at the Sports Lawyers Association page.

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