



Master (MBA) Leadership in International Sports Law



Welcome to the MBA Leadership in International Sports Law

The global sports industry is a fast-growing and dynamic sector that demands skilled leaders capable of navigating its complex legal and organizational challenges. The MBA Leadership in International Sports Law at the Academy of Leadership Sciences Switzerland (ALSS) is specifically designed to empower professionals to lead with confidence, integrity, and expertise in this exciting field.

Our program integrates advanced sports law knowledge with innovative leadership strategies. Whether you aim to advance your career in sports organizations, legal practices, or compliance roles, this MBA equips you with the tools and insights to make a meaningful impact in your field.

Join us to enhance your abilities, broaden your perspectives, and become a catalyst for positive change in the global sports arena.

About ALSS

Academy of Leadership Sciences Switzerland

Founded in 2014, the Academy of Leadership Sciences Switzerland (ALSS) is a leading educational institution offering Bachelor's, Master's, and PhD programs in specialized fields, including sports and sports law.

Based in Zurich, ALSS provides innovative and high-quality academic programs that foster intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and practical skills.



What makes us so unique?

1

Tailored Learning Experiences:

Programs designed to meet the needs of working professionals.

2

Global Reach:

A diverse network of faculty and students from around the world.

3

High-Quality Education:

Evidence-based curricula delivered by top experts.

4

Flexibility:

100% online

5

Personalized Support:

Dedicated mentors and advisors for every student.

An Overview of the MBA Leadership in International Sports Law

The MBA Leadership in International Sports Law is a graduate-level program tailored for professionals involved in or aspiring to enter the sports industry. It is ideal for both legal and non-legal professionals. This program bridges the gap between leadership principles and the legal frameworks governing sports, equipping graduates to address the challenges of a globalized and highly regulated sports sector.

Who is this program for?

- Legal professionals seeking to specialize in sports law.
- Non-legal professionals in sports organizations looking to enhance their legal, governance, and compliance expertise.
- Individuals aiming to start a career in the sports industry.

Conditions

- **Duration:** 12–24 months, adaptable to individual needs.
- **Credits:** 60 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System).
- **Study Mode:** 100% online for maximum flexibility.
- **Tuition Fees:** CHF 16500,00 (flexible payment options and scholarships available).
- **Start Dates:** Two annual intakes , March 1 and October 1.

Why Choose This MBA?

Key Features of the Program

- **Global Perspective:** Explore the legal and leadership challenges faced by sports organizations worldwide. Equip yourself with the skills to thrive in diverse, multicultural environments.
- **Interdisciplinary Approach:** Gain a well-rounded education combining sports law, governance, leadership, and practical applications.
- **Flexible Learning Options:** 100% online format to accommodate your professional commitments.
- **Expert Faculty:** Learn from internationally recognized experts in sports law and leadership, including experienced arbitrators, legal advisors, and compliance officers.
- **Career Advancement:** Acquire practical skills and build industry connections to propel your career in legal, managerial, or governance roles within the sports sector.
- **Practical Applications:** Engage in case studies, simulations, and capstone projects to tackle real-world challenges.

Program Modules

The MBA program includes five modules and a Master Thesis, each designed to provide in-depth knowledge and practical skills in leadership and sports law



Leadership and
Sports (10 ECTS)



Sports Law and Business; Labor Law,
Contracts, Media Rights in Sports (10
ECTS)



Dispute Resolution in
Sports (10 ECTS)



Introduction to Sports
Law (10 ECTS)



Integrity in Sports: Safeguarding,
Anti-Doping, Integrity, Match-
Fixing, and Good Governance (10
ECTS)



Master Thesis (10 ECTS)

Leadership and Sports (10 ECTS)

This module delves into the unique leadership challenges and opportunities within the sports industry, offering advanced theories and practical strategies designed specifically for sports organizations. Participants will develop essential skills to lead teams effectively, make strategic decisions, and promote equity and inclusion in leadership roles. The course emphasizes ethical practices and the ability to navigate complex transitions and challenges in the dynamic sports environment.

- Introduction to Leadership in Sports
- Emotional Intelligence in Sports
- Developing and Sustaining Neuroleadership in Sports
- Brain-Based Communications for Leaders in Sports
- Ethical Leadership in Sports
- Leadership Styles and Their Impact in Sports
- Competencies for Effective Leadership in Sports
- Cultural and Gender Perspectives in Sports Leadership

Introduction to Sports Law (10 ECTS)

This foundational module offers a broad introduction to international sports law, equipping participants with essential knowledge of the legal frameworks that govern the sports industry. Topics include governance structures, compliance requirements, and dispute resolution mechanisms. Participants will also gain insights into the globalization of sports, esports law, and sports-specific regulations.

- Introduction to International Sports Law
- Globalization of Sports
- Autonomy of Sport
- Legal Frameworks
- National and international regulation of sport and Sports Law
- Dispute Resolution in Sports
- Artificial Intelligence in Sports
- Introduction to Esports Law

Law and Business: Labor Law, Contracts, Media Rights in Sports (10 ECTS)

This module provides an in-depth examination of the critical legal aspects shaping the sports industry, including employment relationships, contracts, and media rights. Participants will gain practical knowledge in drafting and negotiating player and coach contracts, understanding the legal implications of athlete transfers, managing sponsorship agreements, and navigating the complexities of broadcasting and media rights. Additionally, the module addresses intellectual property, taxation, and risk management strategies crucial for sporting events and organizations.

- Employment Law in Sports
- Contract Drafting and Negotiation
- Player/Coach Contracts
- Sponsorship Agreements
- Media Rights in Sports
- Intellectual Property in Sports
- Taxation in Sports
- Risk Management for Sporting Events

Integrity in Sports: Safeguarding, Anti-Doping, Integrity, Match-Fixing, and Good Governance (10 ECTS)

This module provides a deep dive into the ethical, legal, and regulatory challenges that impact the integrity of sports globally. Participants will explore the principles of good governance and transparency, along with strategies to combat corruption, match-fixing, and doping. The course also emphasizes safeguarding and data protection frameworks critical for protecting athletes and organizations, ensuring compliance, and fostering trust in the sports ecosystem. By examining real-world case studies and best practices, students will gain the tools to address integrity risks effectively while promoting a safe and ethical sporting environment.

- Good Governance in Sports
- Human Rights in Sports
- integrity in Sports
- Safeguarding in Sports
- Anti-Doping in Sports
- Criminal Law in Sports
- Anti- Corruption in Sports
- Data Protection in Sports

Dispute Resolution in Sports (10 ECTS)

This module provides a comprehensive exploration of dispute resolution mechanisms in the world of sports, covering both national and international perspectives. Participants will learn about the creation and benefits of a specific dispute resolution system for sports, with a focus on the roles of FIFA and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). The module emphasizes practical applications and challenges of handling contractual, regulatory, and employment-related disputes in sports.

- Introduction to Dispute Resolution in Sport
- National and International Sports Disputes
- Types of Sports Disputes
- National Dispute Resolution Chambers in Sports
- Dispute Resolution in Sport at FIFA
- Disciplinary Disputes in Sports
- CAS (Court of Arbitration for Sport)
- Practical Aspects of CAS

Master Thesis (10 ECTS)

The Master Thesis serves as the capstone of the MBA program, providing participants with the opportunity to showcase their analytical, research, and practical expertise in sports law. Students can choose between two options to complete this requirement:



Master Thesis

Conduct original research on a critical issue in sports law. Under the guidance of expert supervisors, students will develop a comprehensive thesis that demonstrates their ability to apply theoretical knowledge to practical challenges in the sports industry.



Internship and Report

Complete a 3-6 month internship with a sports organization. During the internship, participants will engage in real-world projects and tasks, gaining hands-on experience. The final requirement is a detailed report analyzing the organization's operations, challenges, and insights gained during the internship.

Both options allow students to deepen their expertise, enhance their professional skills, and contribute meaningful insights to the field of sports law and leadership. This module culminates in a presentation of findings, showcasing students' capabilities and readiness for advanced roles in the sports industry.

Key Deadlines

Spring Intake



Application deadline - February 15

Fall Intake



Application deadline - September 15.

Faculty Presenters



Agim Citaku, LL.M.

Agim Citaku is a lawyer and the founder of Citaku & Partners, with over a decade of experience in international sports law. He also serves as the director of the Institute for Sports Law at the Academy of Leadership Sciences Switzerland. Mr. Citaku provides legal advice and representation to clubs, associations, and athletes across all sports, both at the amateur and professional levels. His expertise particularly focuses on sports contract law and matters related to club and association regulations.



Dr. Petra Pocrnic Perica

Petra Pocrnic Perica is an internationally recognized sports lawyer, arbitrator, and consultant. She serves as an arbitrator for the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in the Anti-Doping. Additionally, she is a director, lecturer, and speaker at international sports law programs and conferences, an active member of the Women in Sports Law Partnership and Education Committee, and leads No.9 Sports Law & Consulting, operating in Croatia and Switzerland.



Andrea Sherpa-Zimmermann, LL.M.

Andrea Sherpa-Zimmermann, LL.M. Besides her activities as an entrepreneur and leader of charity projects, Andrea Sherpa-Zimmermann is a specialist Sports Law Attorney working for over a decade at the Court of Arbitration for Sport, in Lausanne, Switzerland. She has thus an extensive. Experience in sports dispute resolution at international level.



Farai Rozano, LL.M.

Farai specializes in sports and entertainment law, offering comprehensive legal advice to sports governing bodies, clubs, agents, intermediaries, and athletes. His expertise spans regulatory and commercial matters as well as litigation and dispute resolution. Farai's work is focused on navigating the complex legal frameworks that govern the sports and entertainment industries, ensuring compliance and resolving disputes effectively.



Catherine Pitre, LL.M.

Catherine Pitre is an international sports lawyer with experience of both the Canadian and international sport landscape. She has worked for two different national sports tribunals in Canada and in the UK, where she has over the years overseen more than a thousand sportsrelated proceedings. This unparalleled experience has allowed her to have insight into a wide range of legal matters arising in the sport sector, including both in the Olympic context, and commercial side.



Juan de Dios Crespo

Juan de Dios Crespo is a Partner at Ruiz-Huerta & Crespo Law Firm, is a specialist in sports, EU, and international law. Formerly an external lawyer for the Spanish Football League (2000–2010), he now advises football clubs, players, agents, federations, and leagues globally. With extensive experience, he has acted in over 450 CAS procedures and serves as an arbitrator for prominent institutions, including the European Handball Federation, International Chamber of Commerce, and Sports Resolutions (UK). Additionally, he lectures in Sports Law Master's programs worldwide.



Livia Silva Kägi

Livia Silva Kägi has been active in sports law since 2011. After a decade as a lawyer in FIFA's Players' Status Department, she established her own consultancy, Silva Kägi Law. She also serves as Deputy Chairwoman of the Dispute Resolution Chamber of the FIFA Football Tribunal, becoming the first woman to hold this position.



Dr. Julia Kleen

Dr. Julia Kleen, is an attorney at Rosenstein Kleen Rechtsanwälte PartGmbH, specializes in labor and sports law. She advises associations, clubs, and athletes on sports labor and federation law. Previously, she worked with a CAS judge and earned her doctorate in Cologne on doping control in sports law. A former basketball player, she competed in the youth national team and the DBBL second division.



Achta Mahamat Saleh

Achta Mahamat Saleh is an international sports lawyer with extensive experience in legal and compliance roles. She began her career at the Confederation of African Football (CAF) in 2006 and later worked in FIFA's Player's Status Department. Achta returned to CAF in 2018 as Director of Legal Affairs and Compliance, overseeing key legal and regulatory matters. Since 2021, she has been Of Counsel at Morgan Sports Law, specializing in sports law and governance.



Prof. Dr. Marion Keim

Prof. Marion Keim, UNESCO Chair of Sport, Development, and Peace, is an expert in Olympic education, leadership, and sport for inclusion. An Advocate of the High Court of South Africa, she has led global sport projects, advised the South African Minister of Sport, and serves on the IOC Commission for Culture and Olympic Education. She is also Secretary General of the African Pierre de Coubertin Committees and author of over 30 books.



Tammi Gaw

Tammi Gaw is an international sports lawyer and consultant based in Scotland, uniquely licensed as both an attorney and in sports medicine. She specializes in risk management, athlete welfare, and corporate governance, with experience in in-house counsel, non-profit leadership, and largescale event planning. Tammi also serves on the National Antidoping Panel and chairs The Drake Group Education Fund.



Anna Thorstenson

Anna Thorstenson has over 15 years of experience in international sports law, specializing in anti-doping. She serves as a legal advisor at the International Equestrian Federation (FEI) and has worked with sports organizations, public authorities, and athletes on disciplinary processes, arbitration, and regulatory disputes. Anna has appeared before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) and holds roles in disciplinary and anti-doping panels. Since March 2023, she also serves as WADA's anti-doping ombudsman, supporting athletes in doping matters.



Lindsay Brandon, LL.M.

Lindsay Brandon is the Director of Safeguarding for the Women's Tennis Association (WTA), the first to hold this role. Previously, she worked at the Law Offices of Howard L. Jacobs, representing athletes and coaches in sports arbitration cases, including anti-doping and safeguarding disputes. She has advocated before the Court of Arbitration for Sport and is admitted to practice in California, Washington State, and several federal courts.



Omar Ongaro, LL.M.

Omar Ongaro, a CAS arbitrator, is a renowned expert in football regulatory matters. With almost 20 years at FIFA, he held key roles, including managing players' agents' affairs and coordinating CAS appeal procedures involving FIFA. He also played a pivotal role in FIFA's recognition of CAS jurisdiction. As a trusted advisor, he continues to contribute his extensive experience to football regulatory and arbitration matters..



Prof. Dr. Karim Adyel

Dr. Karim Adyel, a French State Doctor in Comparative Law and Court of Cassation lawyer, is Vice-President of the European Association of Lawyers (AEA) and President of the Commission for the Status of French Nationals Abroad. Specializing in Sports Law, he serves as an arbitrator at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (TAS-CAS) in Lausanne and advises the Moroccan Union of Professional Footballers (UMFPro) as a Legal Advisor and International Consultant.



Christine Stridsberg, LL.M.

Christine Stridsberg, an experienced sports lawyer, served as legal counsel at the Swedish Football Association (2020–2023) and is secretary of the National Sports Board. A mediator at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) and member of the Swedish Sports Juridical Association, she has extensive expertise in sports law and dispute resolution. Currently a legal secretary at the Supreme Court, she is also a respected guest lecturer at Swedish universities.



Bryan Boo

Bryan Boo is a lawyer and gamer active in esports since 2012, advises players, streamers, team owners, tournament organizers, and sponsors. He contributed to legal matters for the esports events at the Hangzhou 2022 Asian Games and consults for the Asian Electronic Sports Federation on governance, commercialization, stakeholder rights, tournament rules, and dispute resolution.



Antonio Quintero, LL.M.

Antonio Quintero, LL.M., is a lawyer specializing in Sports Law and a member of Laurea Lex Sportiva. Recognized as a global leader in Sports Law by Who's Who Legal from 2017 to 2023, he has worked with Murray Advogados in Brazil and contributes to various media outlets like El Estimulo. Antonio is also a member of the International Association of Football Lawyers and a champion of the Víctor Carlos García Moreno International Competition (2006).



Prof. Dr. Fadil Çitaku

Prof. Dr. Fadil Çitaku is a professor of Leadership and Emotional Intelligence at the Academy of Leadership Sciences Switzerland (ALSS). He is the founder and CEO of ALSS. With over 23 years of experience in graduate and postgraduate teaching, he has developed curricula and projects internationally. Prof. Çitaku is also the developer of two leadership models: 1. Leadership Competency Model Çitaku, and 2. Leadership Competency Model-Drenica.



Anna Smirnova, LL.M.

Anna Smirnova, LL.M., is an attorney specializing in international sports law and dispute resolution before the CAS, FIFA Tribunal, and UEFA disciplinary bodies. Since 2009, she has handled over 100 CAS cases and advises on football transfers, contracts, employment, image rights, and agency matters. Anna is also a member of the World Athletics Disciplinary Tribunal (since 2017) and the International Table Tennis Tribunal (since 2021).



Gianpaolo Monteneri

Gianpaolo Monteneri, an expert in international sports and football law, specializes in sport-related disputes, particularly in football, and advises on transfers, employment, agency, and sponsorship contracts. A Swiss lawyer, he served as Head of FIFA's Players Status Department from 1997 to 2005, leading a team handling commercial and labor disputes. Gianpaolo has represented clients in over 200 cases at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) and numerous proceedings before FIFA, UEFA, and in adhoc arbitrations.



Janie Soublière

Janie Soublière, a Chartered Arbitrator with over 15 years in sports dispute resolution, serves on key arbitration bodies, including the Court of Arbitration for Sport, the Anti-Corruption Panel of the International Tennis Integrity Agency, Zwift E-Sports, Ultimate Fighting Championships, and the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada. She has authored over 300 awards on topics such as anti-doping, anti-corruption, safeguarding, eligibility, carding, selection, discipline, jurisdiction, breach of contract, provisional measures, etc.



Mag. Martina Spreitzer-Kropiunik

Martina Spreitzer-Kropiunik, Vice President of the Criminal Court for Vienna, has been a criminal judge for 30 years, specializing in anti-doping. An arbitrator at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) since 2018, she served on the CAS-ADD during the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics and also at Paris 2024. Passionate about increasing women's representation in sports, she is a Board Member of WISLaw (Women in Sports Law).



Ennio Bovolenta

Ennio Bovolenta, an Attorney-at-Law with 15 years of experience in international sports law, began his career in an Italian law firm before joining FIFA in 2016. At FIFA, he managed player-club disputes, represented the organization at CAS, and later led global integrity efforts against corruption and match-fixing. Now an independent Ethics and Disciplinary Inspector for UEFA.



Stella Riberti

Stella is Counsel at Clifford Chance. Her practice focuses on Sports & Entertainment law, advising on commercial, regulatory and contentious matters.

She assists clients in relation to domestic and international sports-related regulatory matters (including on audiovisual rights, doping, and UEFA Financial Sustainability), international transactions (including sponsorships, transfers of players, and IPRs and media rights licensing) and contentious matters (including before FIFA, FIBA and the Italian sports courts).

She is an arbitrator at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).



Danielle Maiolini

Danielle Maiolini Mendes, a football lawyer with over ten years of experience, specializes in sports consulting for clubs such as Palmeiras, Red Bull Bragantino, Cruzeiro, Coritiba, São Paulo FC, and City Group. She also handles cases before FIFA and CAS arbitration courts and advises on investment operations involving Football Corporations



Pierre Trochet

Pierre Trochet is a President of International Federation of American Football (IFAF). Since 2021, Pierre has led the global expansion of American football and flag Football and under his leadership, IFAF has achieved historic milestones, including the inclusion of flag football in the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games, a testament to the federation's efforts to position American football on the world's biggest stage. With 75 member nations and more than 20 million players across 100 countries, IFAF continues to grow, thanks to his leadership and collaboration with key partners, particularly the NFL.



Dr. Marwan Hellal

Dr. Marwan Hellal is a sport ethicist, a licensed Pharmacist and a Lecturer at Western University in Canada within the Department of Health Sciences. He holds a PhD from Western University, where he specializes in sport integrity, particularly in the fields of anti-doping, artificial intelligence, and emerging technologies. He is a member of the Executive Board of the International Centre for Olympic Studies (ICOS). Hellal's previous roles include serving as a Doping Control Officer for the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) and UFC.



Joëlle Monlouis, LL.M.

Joëlle MONLOUIS is a lawyer specializing in Sports Law and Football Law. She is a member of the Paris Bar and holds various significant positions within the legal and football communities. She serves as an active member of the Bar Council, holds the position of Vice President of the Football League of Paris IDF, and is recognized as FIFA ProBono Counsel. Additionally, Joëlle is a member of the Panel of International Arbitrators of Sport Resolutions and a member of the International Association of Football Lawyers (AIAF).



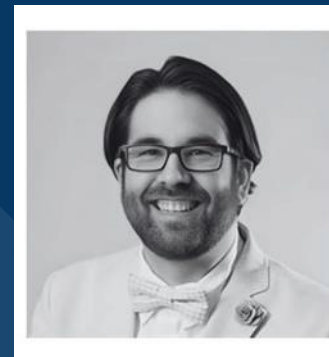
Penny Konitsioti, Msc.

Penny Konitsioti is an international sports lawyer with extensive experience in international sports landscape. Her practice focuses on international contracts, sports law, and dispute resolution before FIFA bodies and the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). She specializes in transfer and employment-related disputes as well as intermediary contracts.



Lyrique Du Plessis, LL.M.

Lyrique Du Plessis is a specialist Sports Law Attorney with experience acting in high profile matters for clubs, players, federations, and associations, appearing in national and international sport tribunals such as FIFA and the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Switzerland, as well as appearing and acting for SAIDS in various anti-doping cases.



Bobby Click

Bobby Click, Executive Director at EMFIGSport Safety, brings extensive experience and dedication to combatting abuse in sports. Previously, he worked as a civil and criminal litigator in the Southeast. Notably, he served as Vice President of Response and Resolution at the US Center for SafeSport, managing misconduct reports in the US Olympic Movement. Bobby's contributions include developing policies and educational initiatives to prevent abuse nationwide, earning him widespread respect in the sports community.

How to Apply ?

Admission Requirements:

- A bachelor's degree or equivalent.
- Proficiency in English

Application Steps:

- 1. Online Application Form:** Complete the application form on the ALSS website.
- 2. Document Submission:** Upload a CV, academic transcripts, and a personal statement.
- 3. Interview:** Participate in a virtual interview with the admissions team.
- 4. Acceptance:** Receive an offer letter and confirm your place in the program.



ACADEMY OF
LEADERSHIP SCIENCES
SWITZERLAND

For More Information Contact Us !

Agim Citaku, LL.M.

Director, MBA Leadership in International Sports Law

email: agim.citaku@alss-edu.ch **phone:** +41764633477

www.alss-edu.ch