

onside law

FIFA is the focus of this month's Onside law bulletin following our invitation to appear on the BBC News to discuss the US corruption charges. We also report below on our suggested improvements to FIFA's democratic election process as well as tumbling FA Premier League records. How is all this content linked to historic luminaries Churchill, Plato and Marx as well as modern day legends Eden Hazard, Stan Wawrinka and others? Read on to find out....

Has democracy failed FIFA?

We asked Founding Partner, Jamie Singer, if the FIFA issue can be resolved. He thinks it can...

As lawyers we are, of course, staunch defenders of the rule of law and transparent democracy is invariably crucial to underpinning this. However, democracy is not perfect. Churchill famously referred to it as "the worst form of government...except for all the others".

FIFA operates democracy in its purest form, one nation one vote. Whilst this sounds laudable it can produce undemocratic or at least unbalanced results. It gives the Comoros Islands and Aruba, representing less than a million people collectively, the same power and votes as Germany and Brazil, representing nearly 285 million.

Read more [here](#) for our solution.



Onside Law on The BBC

Click [here](#) to view Adam Leadercramer's interview on the BBC News. Adam was invited to give an expert legal opinion and a practical insight into the ongoing US corruption proceedings against named FIFA officials.



Onside Law have recently advised:



Ryder Cup Europe on the bidding process and Host Nation contracts for The 2022 Ryder Cup Match with bidders Austria, Germany, Italy & Spain.



PFA Player of the Year, **Eden Hazard**, on his contract extension with Chelsea.



Victoria Pendleton on her "saddle switch" from cycling to horse racing with the aim to ride at the 2016 Cheltenham Festival.



The England and Wales Cricket Board in relation to all aspects of the hosting and staging rights for international cricket in the 2017-2019 period, including the ICC Champions Trophy 2017 and ICC Cricket World Cup 2019.

Premier League records tumble

Jamie Singer and Richard Bush have been published in the Global Sports Law and Taxation Reports.

Their article analyses sports media rights in the context of the Premier League's recent sale of its live UK broadcast rights for Seasons 2016/17-2018/19, which netted the astronomical sum of £5.136bn.

A melancholic introduction reflecting on the state of English football immediately prior to the inception of the Premier League is followed by an in-depth consideration of the commercial, competition and regulatory challenges faced by rights holders in granting sports media rights and protecting those rights once granted.

Jamie and Richard conclude that sports media rights will remain a source of commercial and legal challenge in the foreseeable future.

Read the full article '*The English Premier League's Record Sale of TV Rights: The Current State of Play Concerning Sports Media Rights*' [here](#) .



The **Lawn Tennis Association** on its suite of commercial agreements for the Aegon Tournaments.

Congratulations to...



Former Onside Law trainee, **Eni Aluko**, who is playing in the Women's World Cup. She is joined in the squad in Canada by Onside Law client, **Casey Stoney MBE**.



French Open Champion, **Stan Wawrinka**, who we have recently advised on his racquet and clothing deal with Yonex.
