



## खेल वकील

A Sports Lawyer is a licensed legal professional who handles the legal side of sport for athletes, teams, leagues, federations and sponsors. They draft player contracts and sponsorship deals, negotiate transfers and endorsements,...



### Scan for everything on this career

Salary, exams, colleges, the routes in and the steps after — all on the portal.

[career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/sports-lawyer](https://career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/sports-lawyer)

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### सुशील कुमार शर्मा

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### श्री चेनाराम चौधरी

प्रधानाचार्य, डाइट बाड़मेर  
Principal, DIET Barmer



### श्रीमती संघमित्रा

वरिष्ठ व्याख्याता, डाइट बाड़मेर (सहयोग)  
Sr. Lecturer, DIET Barmer (Support)



### भरत चौधरी

अभिकल्पना व विकास · व्याख्याता (इतिहास)  
Designed & developed · Lecturer (History)

### विशेष धन्यवाद · SPECIAL THANKS



### सुरेन्द्र सिंह राठौड़

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. कानाना



### सुरेश कुमार सैन

व्याख्याता (भूगोल) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



### वनिता कुमारी

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



### कमलेश चौधरी

व्याख्याता (राजनीति विज्ञान) · रा.उ.मा.वि. टापरा

करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बाड़मेर (14-17 जुलाई 2026) में विकसित व लोकार्पित  
Developed & unveiled at the Career Guidance Workshop, DIET Barmer (14-17 July 2026)

यह एक स्वतंत्र परियोजना है, जो सरकार की आधिकारिक करियर-मार्गदर्शन सामग्री पर आधारित है। · An independent project based on the Government's official career-guidance content.

## 1 About this career

A Sports Lawyer is a licensed legal professional who handles the legal side of sport for athletes, teams, leagues, federations and sponsors. They draft player contracts and sponsorship deals, negotiate transfers and endorsements, defend clients in doping and disciplinary cases, advise on the governance and compliance of sports bodies, and protect intellectual property such as brands, logos and broadcast rights. When disputes arise, they represent clients in arbitration and before courts or sports tribunals. With India's fast-growing market in cricket, Olympic sports, football, kabaddi and e-sports, it is becoming an exciting and respected career.

## 2 At a glance

|                       |                                                                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Minimum qualification | LLB/integrated law degree after Class 12 + Bar enrolment           |
| Course duration       | 5 years (integrated) or 3 years (LLB after graduation)             |
| Starting salary       | ₹30,000–60,000/month                                               |
| Work mode             | Advocacy, contracts and dispute resolution at law firm/sports body |

## 3 What you need

### INTERESTS

- Deep interest in both sport and law
- Enjoy reading and understanding contracts, rules and policy
- Interest in justice, reasoning and argument

### ABILITIES

- Sharp reading, clear writing and strong reasoning
- Attention to detail and maintaining confidentiality
- Negotiation, presentation and staying calm under pressure

**KEY SKILLS**

- Drafting and negotiating contracts, sponsorship and endorsement deals
- Legal defence in doping and disciplinary cases
- Arbitration and dispute resolution
- Negotiation and crisis-management skills
- Understanding sports governance, compliance and the National Sports Code
- Protecting intellectual property (trademarks, broadcast and media rights)
- Legal research, drafting and advising clients

**4 How to get there**

- 1 After Class 12, take an entrance test like CLAT to join a 5-year integrated BA/BBA-LLB, or do a 3-year LLB after graduation.
- 2 During law school choose subjects and electives in sports law, contracts, IP and arbitration; take a certificate course in sports law.
- 3 Gain practical experience through internships at a sports law firm, sports federation or franchise.
- 4 After the LLB, pass the All India Bar Examination (AIBE) and enrol as an advocate with a State Bar Council.
- 5 Begin practising with a senior sports lawyer or firm and gradually build your own clients and expertise.
- 6 With experience, pursue an LLM or international specialisation in sports law to become a senior counsel/partner.

**MAIN EXAMS**

- Common Law Admission Test (CLAT) — for admission to National Law Universities
- All India Bar Examination (AIBE) — to obtain the licence to practise after LLB

**5 Where to study****GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES**

- नेशनल लॉ यूनिवर्सिटी, जोधपुर (NLUJ) — Jodhpur, Rajasthan ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_Law\\_University,\\_Jodhpur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Law_University,_Jodhpur))
- नेशनल लॉ स्कूल ऑफ इंडिया यूनिवर्सिटी (NLSIU) — स्पोर्ट्स लॉ कोर्स — Bengaluru, Karnataka (<https://www.nls.ac.in/course/sports-law-2020-21/>)
- नेशनल लॉ यूनिवर्सिटी, दिल्ली — स्पोर्ट्स लॉ सर्टिफिकेट कोर्स — New Delhi (<https://nludelhi.ac.in/>)

- राजीव गांधी नेशनल यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ लॉ (RGNUL) — स्पोर्ट्स लॉ सर्टिफिकेट कोर्स — Patiala, Punjab (<https://www.rgnul.ac.in/>)

#### PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- सिम्बायोसिस लॉ स्कूल — सेंटर फॉर स्पोर्ट्स लॉ एंड पॉलिसी (CSLP) — Hyderabad/Pune (<https://www.slsh.edu.in/csllp>)
- जिंदल ग्लोबल लॉ स्कूल (O.P. Jindal Global University) — Sonapat, Haryana (<https://jgu.edu.in/jgls/>)

#### ONLINE

- MNLU मुंबई व भारतीय खेल प्राधिकरण (SAI) — ऑनलाइन स्पोर्ट्स लॉ सर्टिफिकेट — Online (<https://mnlumumbai.edu.in/>)
- LawInSport — खेल कानून लेख, करियर व लर्निंग संसाधन — Online (<https://www.lawinsport.com/careers>)

#### FEES

At government National Law Universities (e.g. NLU Jodhpur) a 5-year law course costs roughly ₹2–3 lakh per year; at private law schools (e.g. Jindal, Symbiosis) it can be ₹3–8 lakh per year. Short sports-law certificate/online courses typically cost ₹3,000–25,000. Scholarships and fee waivers are available for economically weaker and SC/ST/OBC students.

#### SCHOLARSHIPS

- राष्ट्रीय छात्रवृत्ति पोर्टल (National Scholarship Portal) (<https://scholarships.gov.in/>)
- सामाजिक न्याय एवं अधिकारिता विभाग, राजस्थान (SJE Rajasthan Scholarships) (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- Buddy4Study — लॉ छात्रवृत्तियाँ (Law Scholarships) (<https://www.buddy4study.com/scholarships/law-scholarships>)

## 6 What the work is like

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#### WHERE YOU WORK

Sports-specialist law firms, sports desks of large corporate law firms, sports federations and boards (e.g. BCCI, National Olympic bodies), IPL/league franchises, sponsor brands, and arbitration forums and courts.

#### WORK CULTURE

Work is mainly in the office and courtroom, but tournaments, meetings and hearings also involve travel. Hours can be long and deadline-driven, especially during deals and disputes. The field is open to women and persons with disabilities and rewards merit and hard work.

**WHO HIRES**

- Sports-specialist law firms (e.g. LawNK, Krida Legal)
- IPL, Pro Kabaddi and other league franchises
- Sports management agencies, sponsor brands and broadcasters
- National sports boards and federations (e.g. BCCI, Indian Olympic Association, AIFF)
- Large corporate law firms and their sports/media practice groups
- Sports arbitration/tribunals and courts (e.g. sports arbitration, anti-doping appeal panels)

**DEMAND (2026)**

India's sports economy is growing rapidly — leagues like the IPL, rising sponsorship and media-rights deals, the boom in e-sports and fantasy gaming, the new National Sports Code and anti-doping rules are all driving steady demand for lawyers who understand sports law. Specialists are still few, so there is big opportunity for those who enter the field early.

**7 Career growth**

- 1 Law Intern / Junior Associate
- 2 Associate (Sports Law)
- 3 Senior Associate / Managing Associate
- 4 Partner / Principal Lawyer or In-house Legal Head (sports body)

**EARNINGS**

|              |                        |
|--------------|------------------------|
| Starting     | ₹30,000–60,000/माह     |
| Mid level    | ₹1,00,000–2,50,000/माह |
| Senior level | ₹4,00,000+/माह         |

Starting pay depends on the firm and city; large law firms pay more. Per SalaryExpert (2026), a Sports Lawyer in India earns an average of about ₹21 lakh per year (roughly ₹1.77 lakh/month). Experienced partners, independent counsel and lawyers for top athletes/leagues earn considerably more.

## 8 The good parts · The challenges

### The good parts

- A chance to turn a passion for sport into a respected profession
- Big opportunity due to few specialists in a fast-growing sports economy
- Good earnings, prestige and work with top athletes/organisations

### The challenges

- Requires long, demanding legal study and passing the Bar exam
- Takes time and patience to get established at the start
- Deadline-driven work with pressure and irregular hours

## 9 Real-life journeys

### Nandan Kamath

Founder & Principal Lawyer, LawNK; Managing Trustee, GoSports Foundation

Nandan Kamath is one of India's most respected sports lawyers. After studying law at the National Law School of India, Bengaluru and earning further degrees from Oxford and Harvard, he founded his sports-law firm LawNK, where he advises athletes, teams, leagues and sports bodies on contracts, governance and intellectual property. He co-founded the GoSports Foundation to support the country's top athletes and helped shape policies such as the National Sports Code and the TOPS scheme. His journey shows how combining a passion for sport with a deep grasp of law can build an extraordinary career.

LawInSport · <https://www.lawinsport.com/topics/features/item/how-lawyer-nandan-kamath-is-helping-shape-the-future-of-indian-sports>

### Manali Kulkarni

Sports Lawyer; former Chief Operating Officer of LawInSport

Manali Kulkarni is an Indian sports lawyer who earned a specialist LLM in sports law and rose to become Chief Operating Officer of the global sports-law platform LawInSport. She has written and researched extensively on Indian sports law, especially issues like the gender divide in sport, and has worked with international bodies such as the World Players Association. Her journey inspires girls interested in both law and sport, proving that with hard work and specialisation women can build international recognition in this emerging field.

LawInSport · <https://www.lawinsport.com/item/manali-kulkarni>

## 10 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance – Sports Lawyer — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/%e0%a4%96%e0%a5%87%e0%a4%b2-%e0%a4%b5%e0%a4%95%e0%a5%80%e0%a4%b2/>
2. National Law School of India University – Sports Law course — <https://www.nls.ac.in/course/sports-law-2020-21/>
3. LawInSport – Nandan Kamath and Indian sports law — <https://www.lawinsport.com/topics/features/item/how-lawyer-nandan-kamath-is-helping-shape-the-future-of-indian-sports>
4. SalaryExpert – Sports Lawyer Salary in India (2026) — <https://www.salaryexpert.com/salary/job/sports-lawyer/india>
5. All India Bar Examination (Bar Council of India) — <https://www.allindiabarexamination.com/about.html>



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