

Sports Injuries

A guide to compensation

Expert advice

If you've been injured whilst participating in any kind of sport, as a professional or amateur, which was caused by someone else's negligence, you may be able to claim compensation.

Slater and Gordon has a team of experts who specialise in sport-related injuries. We can advise and assist sports clubs, sporting organisations and governing bodies, as well as individuals in relation to all manner of sport-related problems.

What types of sport can cause injuries?

All sports can cause injuries. These are some of the most common sports where incidents causing injury can occur:

- football
- rugby
- hockey
- cricket
- cycling
- running
- horse riding
- skiing
- snowboarding
- water sports

In what circumstances may you be able to claim for an injury caused by sport?

Team sports

Although many team sports such as football, rugby, hockey and cricket are contact sports, they are governed by rules which are designed to protect players.

If you've suffered an injury as a result of a dangerous tackle, deliberate assault, poor refereeing, dangerous ground conditions or negligent medical advice or treatment, you may be entitled to compensation.

Individual sports

There are occasions when injuries sustained when taking part in individual sports such as cycling, running or horse riding can result in a claim for compensation.

The most common reason for being awarded compensation for personal injury when taking part in an individual sport would be if you have been involved in a road traffic collision.



Winter sports

Everyone who goes skiing or snowboarding knows that accidents do happen. However, if you've been injured as a result of a skiing or snowboarding incident which was due to faulty equipment or due to someone else's negligence, you may be able to claim for compensation.

Water sports

There are various water sport activities such as boating, sailing, water skiing and scuba diving where accidents can occur. If the accident occurred as a result of faulty equipment or because of someone else's negligence, you may have a claim for compensation.

What if the sport injury occurred whilst abroad?

Slater and Gordon has a team of holiday accident and illnesses lawyers who have many years' experience in dealing with sport injuries which have happened whilst abroad.

Accidents which occur abroad can often be complex cases, but our team of experts understand the different laws which apply and can provide you with the necessary professional advice and assistance in making a claim for a sport injury which took place whilst in another country.

Advice on making a claim for compensation

For those who don't have experience of the legal process, contacting a lawyer and making a claim for compensation can be a daunting prospect. However, we're with our clients every step of the way, ensuring they understand the claims process, and relieving the burden of having to deal with a variety of practical issues, at what can be a difficult time.



What should you do if you think you have a claim?

Contact us. Our team of specialists have a vast amount of experience of dealing with sport injuries.

Once we've taken details, we'll tell you whether or not you have a claim. If you're entitled to compensation, we can start work on your case straightaway and begin gathering evidence, such as witness statements, which are important in these types of cases.

There are time limits which apply when making a claim for compensation, so don't delay in contacting us.

What is the cost of making a claim?

We understand that the cost of legal advice can be a worry, but there are options available to fund personal injury cases.

You may have legal expenses insurance under an existing insurance policy which entitles you to free representation. If legal expenses insurance is not in place, we can conduct your case under a Conditional Fee Agreement, also known as a 'No Win, No Fee' Agreement. This means if the case fails, no payment is due.

Once we know the circumstances of your case, we'll be able to discuss your funding options in more detail.

What is the amount of compensation likely to be?

Compensation will be based on the severity of the injury, and also on the personal circumstances of the injured person. For example, if they've been unable to work as a result of their injury, loss of earnings may be accounted for. If the injured person requires rehabilitation, treatment, aids, equipment or adaptations, we'll also seek to recover these costs.

If the injured person passed away and had dependents who relied on them for income and/or services such as household tasks or caring for a relative, this will also be taken into consideration.

How long is the case likely to take?

Every case is different so it's difficult to estimate how long a case is likely to take without first reviewing the circumstances. However, the case will be dealt with by an expert from our sport injuries team who will deal with the case as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Frequently asked questions

Will I have to go to court?

A large majority of cases settle before a trial takes place. However, if the case doesn't settle before trial, attendance at court may be necessary.

What if the injury requires rehabilitation or treatment?

As we have many years' experience working on behalf of people who have suffered serious injuries, we see it as an important part of our role to make sure that our clients get the best quality support to maximise the chances of recovery and future independence.

We work closely with case managers, medical experts and approved rehabilitation providers to ensure that a tailored programme is put in place as soon as possible so rehabilitation can begin without delay.

Where we've proved that the other side was fully or partly to blame, we can obtain interim payments to pay for treatment and other costs before the case reaches settlement.

What if I need assistance in other areas?

We have experts in many areas of law such as employment, family, welfare benefits, trusts, Court of Protection and disability rights and work closely with those departments to ensure that you get the best possible outcome.