

## Daniel Saoul QC

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*Absolutely outstanding: he is the complete counsel*

- Chambers & Partners

**Daniel Saoul QC has a commercial practice encompassing business disputes, sports law and public law. He is one of the leading barristers practising in these fields.**

He took silk in 2019, after just ten years at the Bar, and was recognised by the legal press as one of the most outstanding barristers taking silk that year. He is described as "*the complete counsel*", as an "*outstanding advocate*" who "*commands the court*", and as being "*excellent strategically*" and "*exceptionally good to work with*". He is also described as having "*a brilliant intellect*" and "*thoroughly commercial instincts*".

The legal directories rank him as a leading silk in six areas: commercial dispute resolution, international arbitration, civil fraud, professional negligence, sports law and costs litigation. Prior to taking silk he was also a member of the Attorney General's Panel of Counsel, and he continues to advise UK Government departments and agencies on sensitive and complex legal matters.

His practice is wide-ranging, spanning the full spectrum of commercial, civil fraud, banking and finance and professional negligence matters, as well as sports law. He is also instructed on cases involving public and regulatory law, often connected to his other areas of practice. His work is frequently international in nature, including English Court litigation involving cross-border legal issues or foreign law, and includes an extensive international arbitration practice as well as instructions in relation to litigation in overseas jurisdictions, in particular offshore. The cases in which he is instructed often involve allegations of dishonesty or other intentional wrongdoing and he has been instructed in some of the biggest commercial fraud cases to come before the English Courts in recent years.

His work also frequently arises out of, or is connected to, corporate collapse, and he has substantial experience of related areas of insolvency law and insurance law. He is also an expert in the law relating to solicitors' costs, typically acting in matters connected with substantial commercial litigation.

He has appeared in leading cases across all of his areas of expertise, both at trial and appellate level, including as advocate in the Supreme Court. He is a highly experienced cross-examiner and also has substantial experience of heavyweight and often urgent applications, including for freezing and other injunctive relief as well as for committal for contempt of Court, in respect of which he has appeared in a number of legally groundbreaking cases.

Recent comments from Chambers & Partners, Legal 500 and Who's Who Legal include:

- "*Absolutely outstanding. He is the complete counsel: he has a brilliant intellect, he's always able to find one extra first-rate*



*point of argument, he's excellent at paperwork and he's a particularly outstanding advocate"*

- *"He commands the court and is extremely eloquent"*
- *"A first class arbitration advocate"*
- *"Has a razor-sharp mind combined with thoroughly commercial instincts"*
- *"Incredibly astute and intelligent"*
- *"His commerciality and passionate advocacy make him stand out from the crowd"*
- *"A tough opponent, who knows his stuff and will always give you a hard fight"*
- *"Technically excellent and has an excellent feel for a case, he is exceptionally good to work with"*
- *"Excellent strategically, he integrates himself seamlessly into the team"*
- *"He creates solutions to complex problems"*

Dan joined 4 New Square after training and practising as a solicitor-advocate at City firm Herbert Smith (now Herbert Smith Freehills). He has also worked as a litigator in the British Virgin Islands for leading offshore firm Conyers Dill & Pearman and was called to the Bar of the BVI in 2009.

He has served on the Executive Committee of both the Commercial Bar Association (COMBAR) and the British Association for Sport and Law (BASL).

More information about Dan's specific areas of practice is set out below.

### **Privacy Policy**

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## **Areas of Expertise**

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### **Offshore**

**Dan's practice is focused on commercial litigation and arbitration of all varieties, often with a cross-border / offshore element.**

In 2009 Dan worked for Conyers Dill & Pearman in the British Virgin Islands, during which time he was called to the Bar of the BVI and appeared in a number of very substantial cases before the BVI Commercial Court.

Since then Dan's work has frequently involved an offshore element: he is regularly instructed on matters proceeding in the BVI, Cayman and other offshore jurisdictions, as well as in matters featuring offshore entities or corporate vehicles, or where litigation is proceeding both in an offshore jurisdiction and in England. He is an expert in the obtaining of injunctive relief in England or the BVI in support of a main action elsewhere.

He also has significant experience of dealing with cross-border issues or foreign law relating to other, onshore, foreign jurisdictions, such as Switzerland, the USA, Russia and the CIS, the Middle East and North Africa, China, India and elsewhere.

For further information about Dan's international work, please contact the clerks.



## Qualifications & Memberships

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Before commencing practice Dan gained prize-winning first class degrees from the University of Edinburgh (incorporating a year at the University of California, Berkeley) and the University of Oxford, where he was elected to a scholarship. He also taught trusts law at the University of Southampton.

He is a member of COMBAR, CFLA, PNBA and BASL.

He speaks fluent French and has a working knowledge of Spanish.