

Webinar Series – Critical Issues in Collegiate Athletics

Thursday, February 19, 2026 – 2:00-3:30 p.m. ET

Webinar #54

The Litigation Portal: Retention, Recruitment, and the Law

MEET OUR PANELISTS



MATT BROWN, Publisher, Extra Points. Extra Points is a newsletter covering business, policy, and off-the-field issues in college athletics. Brown has covered NIL, athlete labor movements, college athletics legislation, NCAA governance, and other related issues for several years. Brown also created 'Athletic Director Simulator 4000', a simulation computer game used by thousands of college students to help demonstrate what running a D-I athletic department is really like. Prior to starting Extra Points, Brown ran college team site programming at SB Nation, and is the author of "What If? A Closer Look at College Football's Great Questions." Brown lives in Chicago.



ANDREW BRANDT, Executive Director, Moorad Center for the Study of Sports Law, Villanova School of Law. Brandt is a premier sports legal and business expert with over 25 years of experience across the NFL, media, and academia. Currently a Professor of Practice and Executive Director of the Moorad Center at Villanova, Brandt is a recognized thought leader in sports policy and athlete advocacy. His distinguished front-office career includes serving as Vice President of the Green Bay Packers (1999–2008), where he managed the salary cap and player contracts, and consulting for the Philadelphia Eagles. Previously, he was a high-profile player agent for stars like Michael Jordan and Matt Hasselbeck. Brandt currently serves as NIL consultant/strategic advisor to the University of Louisville Athletics and to Villanova University Athletics. In the media, Brandt is a featured columnist for *The Athletic* and *Sports Illustrated*, host of the popular "*Business of Sports*" podcast, and a former long-time analyst for ESPN on programs such as "*Outside the Lines*" and "*SportsCenter*" as well as ESPN radio. A Stanford and Georgetown Law alumnus, he previously lectured at the Wharton School.



CHRISTINE BROWN, Attorney and Founder, Christine Brown and Partners, LLC. With 30 years of experience and a deep-rooted understanding of the higher education system, Brown represents athletes, coaches, and teams facing high-stakes issues—from Title IX investigations, NIL deals and scholarship disputes, transfer eligibility, coaching and employment challenges, and professional sports representation. Brown has led major Title IX cases, guided hundreds of administrative hearings with a 90% success rate, and stood firmly beside individuals navigating serious, life-altering challenges like racial discrimination, injury compensation, hazing, NIL, transfers, and disability rights. Shaped by her early years advocating for her brother with Down syndrome and the influence of her father—a trial lawyer and Division I official— Brown developed a lifelong commitment to standing up for the underdog and protecting the integrity of sports.



LUKE A. FEDLAM, Partner, Amundsen Davis LLC. As Co-chair of the firm’s Entertainment, Sports & Media Law Service Group, Fedlam guides businesses, executives, and athletes through complex legal and strategic challenges. With a foundation in finance and wealth management that inspired his commitment to empowering athletes with legal protection, Fedlam delivers comprehensive counsel across corporate structuring, governance, strategic transactions, contract negotiations, brand protection, and mergers and acquisitions while also advocating for athletes at every stage of their careers on matters such as name, image, and likeness (NIL) opportunities and personal brand development. A former Division I athlete, he co-founded companies devoted to NIL education and athlete support, serves as co-executive director of the College Basketball Parents Association, and is a recognized thought leader, author, and speaker in the business of sports law, committed to helping clients maximize opportunities and secure their futures.



SARAH HARTLEY, Partner, Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP. With nearly 20 years of experience, Hartley is a seasoned trial lawyer and appellate advocate specializing in antitrust, athletics, and higher education. As co-chair of Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner’s Higher Education Team and leader of the workplace investigations group, she handles allegations of sexual misconduct, discrimination, and Title IX violations. Her advisory work includes guiding educational institutions through policy reviews and gender equity mandates in athletics. Beyond her practice, Hartley is an adjunct professor at the University of Virginia School of Law, teaching sports law topics ranging from governance to doping. She has also taught at the University of Colorado and guest lectures for the University of Oregon’s Summer Sports Law Institute. A recognized thought leader, she frequently contributes to publications such as *Law in Sport*.