

SCOTT A. BEARBY

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Nationality : United States

Residence : Indianapolis, IN, United States

Language : English

PROFILE:

More than thirty years of legal experience in private practice and in-house roles, 27 years as a sports lawyer, and more than 13 years simultaneously serving in executive leadership. Senior level decision-making, collaboration, problem solving, and crisis management in highly public setting.

Expertise with non-profit, higher education, and media/entertainment legal issues, plus governance and regulatory policy and enforcement counsel responsibilities. Oversight of outside counsel and complex litigation and regular business affairs engagement with media and sponsorship executives. Negotiation of multi-billion dollar media agreements.

POSITIONS AT A GLANCE:

NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association)

Senior Vice President/Chief Legal Officer – July 2025- Present

Senior Vice President/General Counsel – May 2021 – June 2025

Vice President/General Counsel – August 2016 – May 2021

General Counsel – January 2013 – August 2016

Associate General Counsel/Managing Director – January 2002 – January 2013

Assistant General Counsel/Director – January 1999 – January 2002

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND ARBITRATION PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Oversight of the NCAA national hearing operations function.

-Body that adjudicates NCAA rules violations – including doping and eligibility - by schools, coaches, and athletes).

- Dozens of hearings and adjudications are conducted per year.

- NCAA arbitrations are comprised of a peer-based model of current and former athletics directors, coaches, administrators, and student-athletes. There are a few appointed independent members that do not have athletics positions.

Oversight of the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.

-Defense of the Association in litigation, including challenges to the NCAA's administrative processes: results of rules waiver decisions, student-athlete eligibility decisions, health, safety, and drug testing decisions, and challenges to rules infractions decisions by NCAA adjudicative bodies.

-Legal contributor to the settlement and injunction (the « House » case) resulting in the allowance of direct NIL licensing between student-athletes and their schools.

Bearby C.V.
CAS Arbitrator
2026

- More than 25 years of involvement with sports-related arbitration and mediation and Association policy and rules development as legal counsel for the NCAA.

- Onsite resolution of disputes at NCAA championships.
- Lead counsel for the development of the NCAA's policy to combat sexual violence.
- Counsel on development of athlete competition eligibility.
- Counsel on issues related to athlete, coach, and administrator sports wagering.
- Counsel advising the association on health and safety issues.
- NCAA liaison to the USOPC and national governing body legal counsel.
- Legal counsel related to NCAA crisis management, including event management.
- Lead counsel to the NCAA regarding COVID-19 crisis management and return to play.

-Frequent speaker on sports law topics, including annual and special meetings of the Sports Lawyers Association (SLA), National Association of College of University Attorneys (NACUA), National Association of College Athletics Directors (NACDA), as well as at state bar association continuing legal education.

-Provided testimony about sports law issues to state and federal government representatives and agencies.

-Adjunct law school professor for seven years at the **Indiana University McKinney School of Law (Indianapolis)**, and currently serving as an adjunct professor teaching sports law at **Indiana University Maurer School of Law (Bloomington)**.

OTHER EXPERIENCE AS LEADER OF A SPORTS ORGANIZATION:

-Executive committee member of the **Indiana Sports Corporation**, which is the organizer of dozens of national governing body and Olympic qualifying events. In addition, the Indiana Sports Corporation is the host of world-class professional and collegiate events, including the Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Championships, the College Football Playoff, the NFL Super Bowl, and the NBA and WNBA All-Star Games.

-Board member for the **Sports Lawyers Association**.

ACADEMIC DEGREES/QUALIFICATIONS:

University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 1988 (B.A.)

Indiana University (Maurer School of Law), Bloomington, IN 1992 (J.D.)