

MARIA TERESA (MAITE) NADAL CHARCO

CAS Arbitrator | International Sports Lawyer

Profile

International sports lawyer with over twenty-three years of experience in sports law, arbitration, and disciplinary proceedings. She has extensive experience in complex international sports disputes. Member of the Madrid Bar Association.

Her practice focuses on contractual disputes, disciplinary and integrity matters, including match-fixing, regulatory enforcement and governance issues in professional sport, particularly football. She is recognised for her strong technical expertise, strategic approach and deep understanding of sports regulations and procedural law.

She combines her legal practice with regular teaching and academic activity in international postgraduate programmes and is a consistent contributor to leading sports law publications.

Key Expertise

- Sports Arbitration.
- Disciplinary and Integrity Proceedings (including match-fixing).
- Contractual Disputes in Professional Football.
- Regulatory and Governance Matters in Sport
- International Arbitration and Procedural Law.

Professional Appointments

- Arbitrator, Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), since 2023.
- Arbitrator, European Handball Court of Arbitration, since 2023.
- Arbitrator, Spanish Court of Arbitration for Sport (TEAD), since 2013.
- Sports Arbitrator, Centro Brasileiro de Mediação e Arbitragem (CBMA), since 2019.
- Permanent Arbitrator, European Arbitration Association, since 2020.
- Member, Appeal and Disciplinary Body, Royal Spanish Automobile Federation (RFEDA), since 2017.
- Member, Sports and Entertainment Working Group, CIAM-CIAR, since 2025.
- Executive Committee Member, AIAF.
- Vice-President, Madrid Sports Law Association.

Professional Experience

LAFFER ABOGADOS (Madrid) – Partner, Head of Sports Litigation (2017–Present).

NF SPORTS LAW (Madrid) – Partner, Head of Sports Law (2010–2017).

TEBAS & COIDURAS – SPORT LAW (Madrid) – Coordinator, Sports Law Department (2002–2010)..

Education

- Executive Program in International Commercial Arbitration (CIAM–CGAE), 2023
- FIFA Executive Program in Sports Arbitration, 2021.
- Advanced Arbitration Programmes (ICAM), 2012–2015.
- PhD Programme, Rey Juan Carlos University.
- LL.M. in Private Law, CEU San Pablo.
- Law Degree, Complutense University of Madrid.
- Diploma in European Union Law, CEU San Pablo.

Publications

- Nadal, M., & García, R. (2025). Penalty Clauses in Sports Contracts and Their Moderation in CAS Awards. *Anuario de Derecho Deportivo (Uruguay)*, No. 5, pp. 249–268.
- Nadal, M., & García, R. (2024). Sport and Freedom of Expression: In Particular, Disciplinary Liability for Statements Made Against the Refereeing Community. *Anuario de Derecho Deportivo (Uruguay)*, No. 4, pp. 283–308.
- García, R., & Nadal, M. (2023). On Attempted Match-Fixing or Unlawful Manipulation of Match Results: Possible Administrative and Disciplinary Measures. *Anuario de Derecho Deportivo (Uruguay)*, No. 3, pp. 187–212.
- Nadal, M. (2020). FIFA's policies against physical, psychological and sexual abuses: CAS 2019/A/6388 Karim Keramuddin v. FIFA. *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento*, No. 69.
- Nadal, M. (2018). Reduction of the period of ineligibility based on no significant fault or negligence under Article 10.5 of the WADA Code. *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento*, No. 61.
- Nadal, M. (2017). Legality and suitability of the prohibition of TPO according to CAS (CAS 2016/A/4490 RFC Seraing v FIFA). *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento*, No. 57.
- Nadal, M. (2013). Elimination or reduction of the period of ineligibility based on no significant fault or negligence. *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento*, No. 38.
- Nadal, M. (2013). The Mullera case and the exclusion of athletes from national teams for technical reasons. *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento*, No. 37.
- Nadal, M. (2012). Sporting fraud and its implications for club representatives and the club itself. *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento*, No. 35.
- Nadal, M. (2010). Sporting fraud before CAS: the FK Pobeda case. *Revista Aranzadi de Derecho de Deporte y Entretenimiento*, No. 30.
- Co-author. *Football: Topical Aspects of Law and Sports Management*. Ed. La Ley, 2021.
- Co-author. *Ellas: Challenges, Threats and Opportunities in a Connected World*. Ed. Wolters Kluwer, 2019.

- Co-author. Sports Law 2019. Law Business Research, London, 2019.
- Co-author. Sports Law: Key Issues and Developments. Ed. Nueva Economía Social, 2018.
- Co-author. Mediation and Sport. Ed. Dykinson, 2016.

Rankings

- Chambers Europe – Sports Law (Spain), Band 3 (since 2026).
- Who's Who Legal – Sports & Entertainment (since 2018).
- WWL Thought Leaders – Sports (since 2021).
- Best Lawyers – Sports & Entertainment (since 2019).

Languages

- Spanish: Native.
- English: C1.
- French: B2.