

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

NATIONAL SPORTS TRIBUNAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE PANEL

The National Sports Tribunal (NST) seeks expressions of interest from qualified legal practitioners with experience or interest in sports law to be listed on the NST Legal Assistance Panel (NSTLAP).

Establishment of the NSTLAP is consistent with the obligation of the NST CEO under section 52(2)(e) of the *National Sports Tribunal Act 2019* to establish and manage ‘a panel of legal practitioners who are willing to provide free legal assistance to the parties or participants in relation to a dispute before the Tribunal’.

It is intended the practitioners will be capable and willing to provide part or full summary advice, procedural guidance and representational services to parties who have a current matter, or intend to bring a matter, to the NST. The [NSTLAP Terms of Reference](#).

The National Sports Tribunal

The National Sports Tribunal (NST) has been established to provide a cost-effective, efficient, transparent, and independent option to resolve anti-doping, disciplinary and other types of sporting disputes. The NST offers a range of dispute resolution options – arbitration, mediation, conciliation and case appraisal – to help national level sporting bodies and their participants resolve disputes efficiently and affordably.

Independent of Sport Integrity Australia and sporting organisations, the matters are heard by Members of the NST panel which includes legal professionals working in sport or administrative law, sports medicine specialists, leading sports administrators, and former athletes.

Accessing the NSTLAP

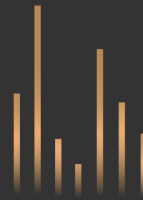
Parties can request a copy of the NSTLAP list from the NST Registry, from which they can directly contact any legal practitioner with a request for legal assistance. In appropriate circumstances, the NST may send a circular to the practitioners on the list, or to a group of them (e.g., within a certain state or territory), advising them of a situation where a party is looking for free or discounted assistance. The details of the practitioners on the NSTLAP may be made available on the NST website.

Practitioners on the NSTLAP may accept or refuse any approach from a party to a dispute, however we encourage those practitioners nominating for the NSTLAP to consider their ability to provide assistance for free or at a significantly reduced rate where practically feasible.

Financial hardship

When requested, the NST Registry will assess a party’s claim of financial hardship for the purposes of supporting a decision of the NST CEO to waive either or both of the NST’s application fee or service fees.

Where a party has had NST fees waived by the NST CEO, the NSTLAP list will be provided to the party, and any request to a practitioner for legal assistance should be considered particularly favourably on that basis.



Pro-bono targets

The NST is of the view that providing legal assistance to parties to a dispute before the NST for free or for a substantially reduced fee may be considered in certain circumstances to contribute to meeting pro bono targets administered by various entities.

Application Process

To apply to be appointed to the NSTLAP, practitioners should consider the [Terms of Reference](#) and, if interested, provide an Expression of Interest to the NST with:

- 1) an up-to-date curriculum vitae (max. two pages);
- 2) evidence of current practicing qualifications (this may be requested at a later time if not provided in the initial application); and
- 3) a separate, brief statement of interest (max. one page) addressing the following matters:
 - Experience or interest in sport law in Australia
 - Experience in providing advice or representation in comparable arbitration, mediation, or conciliation processes
 - Any areas of specialist interest and experience
 - Willingness to provide legal assistance in matters appearing before the NST
 - Other relevant information

Interested candidates meeting the criteria outlined above can provide Expressions of Interest to the NST Registry by emailing enquiries@nationalsportstribunal.gov.au.