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## Jennifer Meech

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**Year of Call:** 2008

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**Clerk:** Morgon Green

### PRACTICE AREAS

Commercial

Insolvency & Restructuring

## PROFILE

Jennifer specialises in commercial Chancery litigation with a particular emphasis on insolvency, company and property disputes. She is particularly adept at dealing with cases where those areas intersect.

Jennifer has appeared as sole counsel in a number of leading cases and is well placed to deal with complex legal issues. She has appeared both led and alone in appeals to the Court of Appeal, High Court and County Court. Jennifer also has significant trial experience and is a skilled cross examiner.

Jennifer regularly deals with urgent applications, including but not limited to injunctions in both the Business and Property Courts and the Queen's Bench Division.

Whilst the majority of her work is now in the High Court Jennifer still regularly appears in the County Court and the Tribunal and is pleased to accept instructions wherever in the country the hearing might be.

Away from court Jennifer is experienced and skilled in advising clients by telephone, in person and in writing. She is also well practised in drafting pleadings and other court documents.

Jennifer is adept at dealing with a variety of clients including public companies, SMEs and individuals. She is experienced in acting for high net worth individuals and is well placed to deal with cases that involve individuals and companies in the public eye.

Jennifer has a particular interest in, and affinity for, cases that involve sport whether that is acting for (or against) the teams themselves or the regulatory bodies. Her cases to date have involved football, rugby (both league and union) and Olympic sports.

Jennifer was chair of the Insolvency Lawyers Association Associates' Network Committee for several years and is now a member of that organisation's Technical Committee. She is also a member of R3 and IWIRC.

Jennifer was a member of the Property Bar Association committee for several years and was the instigator of that Association's annual essay prize. Jennifer is also a member of the Chancery Bar Association.

### Commercial

Much of Jennifer's work can be broadly classed as 'commercial'. Over her time at the Bar she has learned a great deal about how businesses are run and how things can go wrong both internally and externally. She is often first consulted when it is not quite clear what has happened and the client needs advice not only as to what causes of action they might have but also as to what can be done in the short term to limit damage.

### Recent cases include:

- Advising an internationally renowned artist regarding money that he was owed by a gallery in Mayfair
- Acting for the former manager of the band The Clash in a dispute regarding a consent order and the possible sale of shares *Simonon v Simonon* [2019] 3 WLUK 383
- Acting for a various companies in a group structure who were seeking to obtain the return of irreplaceable super car parts and machinery. The claim involved issues of tort, property and insolvency law and required urgent applications as well as complex drafting and longer hearings: *URT Group Ltd v Dowers* [2018] EWHC 3195
- Obtaining judgment in the Queen's Bench Division following breach of a Tomlin order by the Defendant
- Acting for a high net worth individual seeking to enforce judgments obtained in New York against assets held by the defendant in this jurisdiction, this case involved issues contractual issues, company law and US insolvency regimes
- Acting for a Japanese company seeking to obtain the delivery up of a significant number of items of antique furniture on an urgent basis
- Acting for a minicab company whose phone number was being used by a rival, this case involved questions of passing off, breach of contract and fiduciary duties: *Dial a Car Express Ltd v Ashton* [2016] 12 WLUK 550
- Acting in several separate sets of proceedings for recruitment companies seeking to enforce employees' restrictive covenants including *Le Puy Limited v Potter* [2015] EWHC 193

## Insolvency & Restructuring

Insolvency work, including all aspects of company, LLP, partnership and individual insolvency, forms a significant portion of Jennifer's practice. Since she started in chambers 10 years ago Jennifer has appeared in many and varied cases in the High Court and the County Court including applications, trials and appeals. Many of her reported cases involve questions of insolvency law including *Revenue and Customs Commissioners v Garwood* [2012] BPIR 575 and *Re Sykes and Son Limited* [2013] Bus. L.R. 106.

### Recent cases include:

- Achieving the first international recognition of a Singaporean moratorium under the Cross Border Insolvency Regulations 2006: *Re H&C S Holdings Pte Ltd* [2019] EWHC 1459
- Appearing at trial for an Austrian bank seeking to annul the bankruptcy of a German national on the grounds that his COMI was not in England and Wales at the relevant time: *DeutscheApotheker-und Artzebank EG v Leizbach* [2018] EWHC 1544
- Acting for a former director of a fashion house facing a €54m claim from a liquidator
- Advising and acting for BASF plc (one of the largest chemical producers in the world) on the insolvency aspects of an intellectual property dispute
- Advising a liquidator of a specialist energy company as to possible misfeasance, wrongful trading, fraudulent trading and TUV claims against former de jure and de factor directors
- Achieving judgment for a liquidator following a misfeasance trial in the High Court
- Obtaining an administration order following a contested hearing: *Endersby v Astrosoccer 4 U Ltd* [2017] 12 WLUK 168
- Acting for the directors of a rugby league club seeking a retrospective administration order: *Pettitt v Bradford Bulls (Northern) Ltd (In Administration)* [2017] BCC 50
- Acting for a bank on a COMI case on appeal: *Raiffeisenlandesbank Oberosterreich AG v Meyden* [2016] EWHC 414
- Acting for office holders in many applications in which their appointment or actions have to be ratified by the court
- Acting for creditors and companies in applications for injunctions to restrain the presentation or advertisement of winding up petitions

## Company

Jennifer is experienced in many aspects of company law litigation including unfair prejudice petitions, analysis of articles and applications regarding members' rights.

### Recent cases include:

- Several unfair prejudice actions under section 994 of the Companies Act 2006 including companies as diverse as recruitment businesses and property holding companies
- Acting for the ex-manager of The Clash in a dispute regarding the meaning of provisions within a company's articles and a consent order: *Simonon v Simonon* [2019] 3 WLUK 383
- Advising a recruitment business as to whether it had claims against its former directors for breaches of their duties
- Acting for a national governing body of an Olympic sport responding to a request for a list of its members

## Property

Jennifer is well placed to deal with advice and/or advocacy in all property related matters. She has appeared in the County Court, the Tribunal, the High Court and the Court of Appeal during her time in chambers. Her reported cases include *Freifeld v West Kensington Court Limited* [2016] L.T.R 5 and *Loose v Lynn Shellfish Ltd* [2015] Ch. 547.

Jennifer has and can deal with commercial, residential and agricultural landlord and tenant matters as well as questions of real property. She is a member of the Agricultural Law Association. She regularly writes a column for the Law Society on property law issues.

### Recent cases include:

- Acting for several owners of flats within a block in Hackney that is the subject of significant multi-party litigation, Jennifer appeared at a two-day CMC in late 2018 and there is a trial of a preliminary issue listed to be heard in late 2019

- Advising as to the proper construction of an express grant of an easement to use a holiday park's leisure facilities
- Acting for a landlord of agricultural land at the trial for a claim for a succession tenancy in the First Tier Tribunal
- Advising a tenant of residential property in a disrepair claim
- Acting for the landlord of a prestigious residential block overlooking Hyde Park in various proceedings against a difficult tenant including resisting an application for a management order in the Tribunal
- Advising a group of residents in a high value building in Mayfair as to their collective enfranchisement rights.

## Professional Negligence and Disciplinary

Jennifer has acted and advised in professional negligence claims involving solicitors, surveyors and accountants. She is particularly well placed to advise when the negligence alleged relates to one of her other areas of practice.

### Recent cases include:

- Acting in litigation and at mediation for a company against its former solicitors when they had advised upon and drafted a badly worded lease
- Acting for a claimant against its former solicitor who had

## SIGNIFICANT CASES

**Re H & C S Holdings Limited [2019]**  
EWHC 1459

Application for recognition of Singaporean moratorium under the Cross Border Insolvency Regulations 2006.

**Simonon v Simonon [2019]**

3 WLUK 383

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Claim as to the proper analysis of a company's articles of association alongside a consent order in matrimonial proceedings.

**URT Group Ltd v Dowers [2018]**

EWHC 3195

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Application for interim delivery up of parts of supercars and specialist equipment.

**DeutscheApotheker-und Artzebank EG v Leizbach [2018]**

EWHC 1544

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Application for the annulment of the bankruptcy of a German debtor whose COMI had not been in England and Wales at the relevant time.

**Endersby v Astrosoccer 4 U Ltd [2017]**

12 WLUK 168

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Contested administration application.

**Falmouth House Ltd v Abou-Hamdan [2017]**

EWHC 779

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Appeal to the High Court from a decision of a Circuit Judge to refuse relief from sanctions.

**Dial a Car Express Ltd v Ashton [2016]**

12 WLUK 550

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Application for interim relief in a passing off action.

**Pettitt v Bradford Bulls (Northern) Ltd (In Administration) [2017]**

BCC 50

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Application to rectify a defective appointment of administrators.

**Raiffeisenlandesbank Oberosterreich AG v Meyden [2016]**

EWHC 414

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Appeal to the High Court from a decision of a Registrar refusing annulment of a German debtor's bankruptcy.

**Freifeld v West Kensington Court Limited [2016]**

L.T.R 5

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Appeal to the Court of Appeal following a Circuit Judge's refusal to grant relief from forfeiture following a deliberate breach of lease.

**Le Puy Limited v Potter [2015]**

EWHC 193

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Interim application for enforcement of post-employment restrictions.



**Greig v Stirling [2014]**

EWHC 4017

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Application to set aside an order striking out a claim that had been made without a hearing.

**Loose v Lynn Shellfish Ltd [2015]**

Ch. 547

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Appeal to the Court of Appeal following a decision as to the boundaries of a private fishery.

**Georgiou v Redbridge LBC [2013]**

EWHC 4579

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Appeal to the High Court from a decision of a District Judge refusing to set aside a statutory demand.

**Kasumu v Arrow Global (Guernsey) Ltd [2013]**

EWHC 789

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Appeal to the High Court from a decision of a District Judge that permission to present a second bankruptcy petition for the same debt could be granted retrospectively.

**Re Sykes & Sons Ltd [2012]**

EWHC 1005

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Application for an injunction restraining advertisement of a winding up petition.

## Revenue and Customs Commissioners v Garwood [2012]

BPIR 575

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Decision that an offer made by a debtor facing a bankruptcy petition had been unreasonably refused.

## CAREER AND ASSOCIATIONS

Magdalene College, Cambridge (MA English)

City University (Graduate Diploma in Law, Distinction)

Inns of Court School of Law (Bar Vocational Course)

Called to the Bar (Middle Temple) 2008

Chair of the Insolvency Lawyers' Association Associates' Network

Member of R3

Member of the Chancery Bar Association

Member of the Commercial Bar Association

Member of the Property Bar Association Committee

Member of the Agricultural Law Association

## PUBLICATIONS

Butterworths' Property Insolvency

The Landlord and Tenant Factbook

Sharing out service charge



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