



SPORT | Issue No. 28 | *Footballer to sue the NRL – will it be a landmark case?*

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The newspapers and the airwaves are full of stories about Alex McKinnon allegedly suing the NRL and the Melbourne Storm player. There is commentary that the claim has been filed and there are also denials that any such claim has yet been filed.

The story is being fuelled by the statement that no one has previously sued the NRL/ARL in relation to on-field incidents in rugby league.

Alex McKinnon is a young man who has suffered a serious injury rendering him a paraplegic who will no doubt be in need of special support for the rest of his life.

The fact that he may sue for compensation is unremarkable. The fact he would sue the Sport, who presumably has an insurance policy which can respond to such claims is also unremarkable.

Sport lawyers all over the country are rushing to be the first to comment on his claim. Until we see the pleadings from Mr McKinnon's action I suspect that all sports lawyers should reserve their expert opinion.

It may be a landmark case, or it simply may be an injured person suing for compensation, albeit a sportsman.

I think I will reserve my view until proceedings are instituted and we can see what claim is being made.

P.s. Happy Christmas!



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