

Biography



Ian Mann

Partner | Hong Kong

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Expertise

International Arbitration , Litigation & Insolvency , Private Wealth , Restructuring , Trusts & private client litigation , Listco disputes , Investigations, corporate crime & fraud , Mergers & Securities Disputes , Trusts , Distressed funds

Ian Mann is a partner in our Litigation & Insolvency and Restructuring practice group in Hong Kong.

Ian specialises in restructuring, insolvency, shareholder disputes and contentious trusts. He is an experienced advocate and continues to appear in Court regularly.

Ian is the author of both of the leading offshore textbooks on British Virgin Islands Commercial Law and Bermuda Commercial Law and is a contributor to the Offshore Litigation Blog and Take 10 podcast. He is also a Board Director and Fellow of INSOL International as well as a qualified Trusts and Estates Practitioner. Ian teaches the offshore module of the INSOL Global Insolvency Practice Course. He also teaches the contentious trusts module of the STEP Postgraduate Diploma in Private Wealth Advice.

Memberships include:

- INSOL International
- International Insolvency Institute
- Harneys Listco Dispute Unit

Recommendations

Ian maintains his rank as a Band 1 lawyer in the Asia-Pacific rankings. Sources say "Ian Mann is a go-to litigator for all matters offshore, especially for jurisdictions such as Hong Kong and the BVI."

- Chambers and Partners, 2024

Ian is recognised as a "leading individual" in the "Offshore Law Firms - Hong Kong" rankings. He is described as "responsive and dedicated".

- Legal 500 Asia Pacific, 2024

Ian is ranked as a Band 1 lawyer.

- Chambers and Partners Global, 2023

Ian is ranked as a Band 1 lawyer in the Asia-Pacific rankings. Sources say he is "a well-established offshore litigator whose expertise covers both Cayman Islands and BVI law. He has a distinguished reputation for handling high-stakes litigation and restructuring and insolvency cases."

- Chambers and Partners, 2023

Ian has been recognised as a Global Leader in the Asset Recovery and Restructuring & Insolvency guides, a Thought Leader in the Private Client and Restructuring & Insolvency guide, and the Global Investigations Review (GIR) – Asset Recovery guide.

- Who's Who Legal, 2023

Ian has been recognised as a Thought Leader in the Asset Recovery, Private Client and Restructuring & Insolvency guides (Mainland China & Hong Kong SAR), a Global Leader in the Private Client guide (Mainland China & Hong Kong SAR).

- Who's Who Legal, 2023

Ian has been recognised as a Thought Leader in Private Client, a Global Leader – Restructuring & Insolvency and Asset Recovery guides, a Thought Leader in the GIR - Asset Recovery and Restructuring & Insolvency guides; as well as a National Leader (Mainland China & Hong Kong SAR) Commercial Litigation, and Restructuring & Insolvency.

- Who's Who Legal, 2022

Ian is ranked as a Band 1 lawyer. Clients say "he is very well known in the market. He has excellent judgement and is a pleasure to work with."

- Chambers and Partners Asia Pacific, 2022

Ian is recognised for client service in Asia in the ALB's Offshore Client Choice List.

- Asian Legal Business, 2016-2021, 2023

Ian has been recognised by Asian Legal Business in its annual list of Asia's Top Offshore Litigators.

- Asian Legal Business, 2021

Ian is consistently ranked as a Band 1 lawyer, where he is described as being a "very well known and well trusted" practitioner in the market. "He is a very active lawyer who quickly gets across the issues, facts and laws in a case."

- Chambers and Partners Asia Pacific, 2019

Ian is named in the A-List of China's Elite 100 lawyers (Foreign firms).

- China Business Law Journal, 2019-2021

Ian is recognised in the Citywealth Top 100 Trust Litigators List.

- Citywealth , 2020

Ian is recognised as a leading Estates, Probate & Succession Litigation lawyer in Hong Kong.

- Doyles, 2020, 2021

Ian is recognised as a "name to know".

- Global Restructuring Review, 2019

Ian is recognised in the Lawdragon 500 Leading Global Restructuring & Insolvency Lawyers list.

- Lawdragon, 2020

Ian is ranked a "leading individual" and is noted as a "standout lawyer".

- Legal 500, 2020-2022

Ian is recognised as a "Private Client Global Elite".

- Legal Week, 2019

Ian has been recognised as a Global Elite Thought Leader and a Restructuring & Insolvency Thought Leader.

- Who's Who Legal, 2021

Ian is recognised as an expert in asset recovery.

- Who's Who Legal, 2020

Ian has been ranked as a restructuring and GIR "thought leader", he is also recognised as an expert in asset recovery, private client, and restructuring & insolvency.

- Who's Who Legal, 2019

Experience

Privy Council

Advising Convoy Global Holdings Limited, which resulted in the recent landmark Privy Council decision in London of Convoy Collateral Ltd (Appellant) v Cho Kwai Chee (also known as Cho Kwai Chee Roy) (Respondent) (British Virgin Islands) which materially changed common law freezing injunctions for the first time in 44 years.

Advising the appellant in the recent Privy Council case of Byers and others (Appellants) v Ningning (Respondent) (British Virgin Islands) (directors' fiduciary duties).

Advising the appellant in the Privy Council in Ming Siu Hung and others (Appellants) v J F Ming Inc and another (Respondents) (British Virgin Islands) (failure to provide accounts).

Advising the appellant in the ongoing Privy Council appeal in Yao Juan v Kwok Kin Kwok Re: Crown Treasure Limited.

Advising the appellant in the Privy Council appeal in Shanda Games Ltd (Appellant) v Maso Capital Investments Ltd and others (Respondents) (Cayman Islands) (to determine the "fair value" of shares held by shareholders and the "fair rate of interest" payable).

Post-privatisation share valuation disputes

Advising in multiple s238 dissenting shareholder proceedings in the Cayman Islands Grand Court, following privatisations from US exchanges (eg Perfect World Co., Bona Films, Kong Zhong, Mindray Medical International, Homeinns Hotel Group, Qihoo 360 (valued at US\$45 billion with respect to its delisting from NASDAQ), Qunar (valued at US\$4.4 billion with respect to its delisting from NASDAQ) and JA Solar Holdings).

Asset Tracing

Ongoing worldwide asset tracing, injunctive relief, appointment of receivers and freezing injunctions for JTrust Asia Pte Ltd.

Restructuring & Insolvency

Advising the company and the provisional liquidators of China Agrotech Holdings Limited on the restructuring of its HK\$1,677.9 million of debt and on novel shareholder issues, resulting in a successful reverse takeover and relisting on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

Advising the liquidators in Supreme Tycoon Limited [2018] HKCFI 277, the leading authority on common law recognition of Court supervised collective insolvency proceedings.

Advising the provisional liquidators in relation to the restructuring of over US\$1 billion debts and liabilities of China Lumena New Materials Corp.

Acting for Titan Resources Management Limited, a group company of Titan Petrochemicals Group Limited, in relation to the implementation of a scheme of arrangement in the BVI.

Advising the ad hoc bondholder group in relation to the proposed US\$2.78 billion restructuring of LDK Solar Co. Ltd (then in provisional liquidation), a leading producer of solar wafers and manufacturer of photovoltaic products incorporated in the Cayman Islands and with manufacturing facilities in the PRC (Named "Restructuring Deal of the Year" at the 2017 IFLR Asia Awards).

Acting for the largest creditor in Suntech Power Holdings Co. Ltd's provisional liquidation and restructuring.

Advising the largest creditor on the restructuring of Dalian Rightway Real Estate Development Co. Ltd.'s US\$446 million pre-IPO facilities.

Acting for the company and subsequently for certain bondholders in Greens Holdings Limited's provisional liquidation and restructuring.

Advising HKSE-listed PRC property development firm Kaisa Group on the restructuring of US\$2.5 billion of offshore debts, in the largest judicially approved, multi-jurisdictional debt restructuring of a China-based group.

Advising Z-Obee Holdings and its Hong Kong-appointed Joint Provisional Liquidators, on their continued efforts to restructure Hong Kong-based electronics manufacturer Max Sunny and Bermudian parent Z-Obee Holdings in relation to the non-payment of US\$78 million in outstanding facilities.

Advising Titan Resources Management Limited on the successful approval of a BVI scheme of arrangement for which Harneys won the Asia Transformation and Turnaround Association (**ATTA**) Legal Services Award.

Bar Admissions

New York (not practising)
2010

British Virgin Islands
2008

England and Wales (not practising)
2000

Education

Inns of Court School of Law
2000

Churchill College University of Cambridge (LLM)
1999

University of Southampton (LLB)
1998

"He has the experience as he has been through the processes so many times. He is very strong and very commercial. He is the regional managing partner but is still very hands-on and active on matters."

Chambers and Partners Global, 2024