

CASE STUDY

IndyCar Driver Robert Wickens: Supporting Our Athletes When the Unthinkable Happens

Executive Summary

Renowned IndyCar driver Rob Wickens was injured in a life-threatening high speed crash during his 14th race; his injuries were severe and his road to recovery was going to be very long. However, Rob was able to turn his broker Darren Hickey, an expert within HUB International's Sports Specialty Practice. Darren was able to ensure that the claims related to Rob's medical costs were taken care of so that Rob could focus on his own recovery.

CHALLENGE

It was Rob's 14th race at the Pocono (Long Pond, PA) super speedway on August 19, 2018. The wheels of his car and another briefly touched on a curve. His car flew into the air at 212 mph and through a metal catch fence. Rob suffered a concussion and fractures of the neck, thoracic spinal cord, four ribs, right elbow and forearm, in both hands and of the tibia and fibula in both legs.

SOLUTION

Darren and his team at HUB immediately began advocating for Rob, starting by ensuring neither he nor his family would be bothered with insurance or money issues so they could focus on his recovery without worry. They got Rob's family to his side quickly, with travel costs covered. Darren's team stayed on top of the insurers to keep the claims moving – always more complicated given the nature of his injuries and prospective dollar amount involved. And when the time came, HUB made sure that his intensive course of rehabilitation was covered and that his home was modified to be accessible to his circumstances.

RESULTS

Rob's workers' compensation policy paid approximately \$2 million in claims, including 100% of his medical costs (hospitalization and rehabilitation) and 100% of his home modifications. His disability policy provided a lump sum benefit covering lost earnings for a year and permanent disability pay.

But here was an even better outcome: Rob and his fiancée, Karli, both stood at the altar on September 30, 2019, as he fulfilled his vow to walk, if not dance, with his bride on their wedding day as they had always planned.

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"Thanks to HUB, I don't have to worry about opening my mailbox everyday and seeing stacks of medical bills. I don't even know how much this injury has cost because I've had such great support from HUB."

Rob Wickens