

# QSI 'in talks' to sell PSG minority stake to Arctos Partners

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10 August 2023

Qatar Sports Investments, the owner of Paris Saint-Germain, has held talks with US investment fund Arctos Sports Partners over the sale of a minority stake in the Ligue 1 club.

According to L'Équipe, PSG president Nasser Al-Khelaifi held talks with representatives from Arctos in Paris yesterday (Wednesday). Discussions, which lasted three and a half hours, centred on the sale of a stake of between five and 15 per cent.

Al-Khelaifi is keen to boost PSG's revenues and values the club at around €4bn (\$4.4bn). L'Équipe reported that Arctos Partners want to work with QSI to develop sporting events in Qatar and that any deal will take place "in the next two months".

Arctos holds significant investments in American sport, including stakes in Fenway Sports Group, the parent company of Liverpool and Boston Red Sox, and Harris Blitzer Sports & Entertainment, which owns the NBA's Philadelphia 76ers and the NHL's New Jersey Devils, as well as minority stakes in the NFL's Pittsburgh Steelers and Premier League side Crystal Palace.

Arctos purchased a minority stake in Serie A club Atalanta last year in a deal reported to have cost €34m and it also has ownership stakes in the NBA's Sacramento Kings and Golden States Warriors.

In May 2022, sports and entertainment consulting firm Elevate Sports Ventures secured an undisclosed investment from Arctos, which also purchased a minority equity stake in Smith Entertainment Group, parent company of stake in the National Basketball Association's Utah Jazz, in August 2022.

In October 2021, Arctos announced that its flagship funding vehicle, Arctos Sports Partners Fund I, had closed with a total more than \$3bn (€2.7bn) under management, providing significant liquidity in its push to become a significant player in team ownership.

In May, Arctos opened an office in London, its first office outside of North America, seeking to use the base to aid sports franchise owners looking to grow their brands internationally. As part of the expansion, Arctos' managing director Alastair Seaman relocated from New York to lead the office.

Earlier this week, US investment fund Ares Management was reported to have held discussions with Chelsea FC over an equity investment in the English Premier League club. Fellow Premier League clubs Liverpool and Manchester United are also seeking possible external investment.

For more analysis, read the SportBusiness report, *Selling the Future? Private Equity's Role in Sport*.