



## IPSF Anti-Doping

From 1st April 2013, the IPSF adopted the World Anti-Doping Code and began an education programme for National Federations, athletes, coaches and competition holders to enable Pole Sports to be a drug free environment.

From 1st August 2013, the IPSF then undertook a full anti-doping programme for all athletes competing in national and international competitions accredited by the IPSF. This means that testing can occur at any time, not just over the time-frame of a competition. In competition testing was launched in July 2014 at the WPSC.

### What is the World Anti-Doping Code?

The World Anti-Doping Code (WADA) is the document that harmonises regulations regarding anti-doping in sport across all sports and all countries of the world. The Code provides a framework for anti-doping policies, rules, and regulations for sports organisations and public authorities.

### What does this mean to you?

As an athlete or a coach you will be given lots of information, advice and guidance on how to make sure you remain 100% free of prohibited substances at all times. One of the main problems that athletes in other sports have found is that health supplements are to be avoided.

As a National Federation you will also need to adopt the WADA Code to remain accredited by the IPSF. There will be an education programme available for you, and we can work together to make sure the rules for your particular country are also followed. We will work with you to ensure you get support in your country from athletes, coaches and competition holders.

As a competition holder, you will need to adopt the WADA Code to be accredited as an IPSF competition. There will be an education programme available for you, and we can work together to make sure the rules for your particular country are also followed. We will work with you to ensure you get support in your country from your National Federation, athletes and coaches.

Our full by-laws are in the IPSF constitution but if you would like to find out more, there are some links below.

### When will anti-doping testing take place?

In-competition testing will begin at the World Pole Sports Championships 2014.

### How will it take place?

#### *Notification of selection for a doping test*

- The person notifying the athlete will show ID.
- The athlete will also have to show ID.



#### *Reporting for testing to the Doping Control Station*

- The athlete needs to report immediately for testing, unless they request a delay (more on this later).
- The athlete will be chaperoned at all times.

#### *Selecting a collection vessel*

- There will be a minimum of 3 kits to choose from.
- Unless there is a reason, eg disability the athlete will be the only person to handle the testing equipment.

#### *Providing the sample under supervision*

- Athletes will be directly observed.
- The sample must be a minimum of 90mmls or additional samples may be required.

#### *Selecting the sampling kit*

- There will be a minimum of 2 kits to chose from.

#### *Dividing and sealing the sample*

- B bottle first, then A, then B if there is any of the sample left.
- The athlete will seal the sample.

#### *Testing the suitability of the sample*

- The sample's concentration will be tested to make sure it is suitable for analysis.

#### *Recording and certifying the information*

- The athlete will complete the Doping Control Form (DCF) and sign to verify it is their sample. They will be given a copy.
- The athlete must also record anything they have taken in the last 7 days including medications and supplements.

#### *Athletes have the right:*

- To see DCP identification.
- To be accompanied by a representative.
- To a DCO of the same gender.
- To comment on the testing procedures.
- To receive a copy of the DCF.
- Confidentiality at the laboratory.
- To request a delay in reporting to DCS.



### What responsibilities does an athlete have during testing?

- Remain within direct observation of the person who is chaperoning them.
- Produce photographic identification when asked (or find someone like a coach to verify who they are).
- Comply with the testing procedures.
- Report immediately for a test, unless they request a delay for a permitted reason.

Reasons why an athlete can request a delay to the Doping Control Station are shown below. All requests are at the discretion of the person chaperoning the athlete and the decision will be based on whether the athlete can be effectively chaperoned at all times.

- Participate in a victory ceremony.
- Fulfil media commitments.
- Compete in further competitions.
- Perform a warm down.
- Complete a training session.\*
- Obtain necessary medical treatment.\*
- Locate a representative and/or interpreter.\*
- Obtain photo identification.\*
- Any other exceptional circumstances which may be justified, and which shall be documented.\*

For out of competition testing, the \* reasons apply only.

If an athlete has been found to have committed an ADRV then they will be notified in writing.

They will be given advice as to what to do next, their rights and the timescales in which they need to respond. At this point it is likely that the athlete will be suspended from their sport.

An important aspect of anti-doping is athletes' rights and all athletes have the right to an independent hearing.

In the UK, most cases are heard by the National Anti-Doping Panel (NADP) where UK Anti-Doping will typically present the case against the athlete (the prosecution equivalent) and the athlete has the chance to defend themselves with help if they chose to be represented. In a few sports, cases are managed by the National Governing Body.

During a hearing UK Anti-Doping will present its case to the independent panel. An equivalent process is in place in sports who manage their own cases.

The athlete will also have the opportunity to present their case or be represented by someone to do this for them.

All evidence is considered by the panel who will deliberate prior to making a decision and confirming what sanction if any is to be applied.

The athlete then has a right of appeal and may chose to do so within the time frames allowed. After this point, both UK Anti-Doping and athletes have the right to a further appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.



## *Sanctions*

You have no doubt heard that athletes receive a ban from their sport for a period of time. This can be a few months to life depending on the severity of the rule violation and evidence put forward.

### **What does a ban from sport actually mean?**

Athletes are not allowed to:

- compete in any NGB/IPSF competitions.
- train in an IPSF/NGB approved centre eg affiliated club, funded gym, funded facility.
- receive any sports related funding.

And previous medals, titles, records will also be removed.

Athletes are entitled to receive anti-doping education and may be able to still receive sport funded medical treatment.

Most athletes have a deep passion for their sport and dedicate a significant amount of time to it. Having this removed can be difficult for athletes and should be a strong deterrent.

Not only do athletes face a ban from their sport for a period of time they also face many wider consequences.