AWAITING A NEW WORLD ANTI-DOPING CODE


Following the adoption of the new World Anti-Doping Code (Code), all National Anti-Doping Organizations, International Federations (including ISSF), Major Event Organizations and governments will be given until January 1, 2015 to implement the new Code. This means that 2014 will be an important year for all of us in shooting sport to get acquainted with the new provisions of the Code. The ISSF will need to modify its existing anti-doping rules and regulations in anticipation of the January 1, 2015 deadline, and will need to implement, both in theory and in practice, all the new elements of the Code into the ISSF Anti-Doping Program.

CODE COMPLIANCE

It is imperative for the ISSF to implement all the new elements of the Code within its Rules in order for ISSF to maintain its compliance with the Code. If you are thinking “Wow, this seems like a big project, the ISSF already has a good Anti-Doping Program, do we really have to make all these changes?” The simple answer to your question is yes!

ISSF must comply with the Code as do all other sporting organizations world-wide. Indeed, in order to ensure efficiency of the harmonized fight against doping in sport and fairness for the athletes, compliance with the Code is mandatory for all signatories of the Code, including the ISSF. As stated in Article 23.2.1 of the Code: “The signatories shall implement applicable Code provisions through policies, statutes, rules or regulations according to their authority and within their relevant spheres of responsibility.”

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE CODE-COMPLIANT?

The Code is the document harmonizing regulations regarding anti-doping in all sports and all countries. Compliance with the Code is the situation in which an Anti-Doping Organization (ADO) be it an International Sport Federation, a National Anti-Doping Organization, a Major Games Organizer, etc. finds itself after completing a three step compliance process in relation to the Code. The three steps the ISSF, and every other ADO, must successfully complete are:

1. Firstly, the ISSF must accept the new Code. By doing this, it will be agreeing to the principles of the Code and agrees to implement and comply with the Code.

2. Secondly, the ISSF must implement the Code by amending its Anti-Doping Rules and various internal policies to include all mandatory articles and principles of the Code. The ISSF Anti-Doping Rules will be modified accordingly, and then be submitted to WADA for review. If the revised ISSF Anti-Doping Rules are approved, they will be pronounced in line with the Code, or “Code-compliant”.

3. Lastly, the ISSF will need to enforce its amended Anti-Doping-Rules and internal policies in accordance with the Code. This means that everyone involved in shooting sport must also respect the amended Anti-Doping Rules and international policies because you shall all be bound by them.

The key objective of such harmony between all ADO’s is for all athletes to benefit from strong and fair anti-doping policies and protections, that are the same for all, no matter the sport, the nationality or the country where tested. And of course Code-compliance is mandatory.

Any National Anti-Doping Organisation, International Federation or other organisation who does not comply with the WADA requirements faces strict sanctions – such as prohibition from competing in the Olympics, withholding of funding, prohibition from holding international events etc.

WHAT CAN BE EXPECTED FROM THE NEW CODE?

One of the biggest changes to be expected in the new 2015 Code is the change that will be brought to the mandatory sanction for a first anti-doping rule violation. The mandatory sanction for a first anti-doping rule violation will increase from two years to four years. This modification is sure to be a major deterrent to many athletes as a four year sanction can almost be career ending in many sports.

Some of the other more important expected changes include but are not limited to:

• The creation of two new anti-doping rule violations (“Complicity” and “Prohibited Association”),
• Modifications to the TUE and TUE review process,
• Stricter rules for RTP athletes in relation
to submitting whereabouts information and filing failures,
• The creation of a new investigative process for determining whether anti-doping rule violation have occurred,
• Clearer and stricter rules for testing retired athlete who come out of retirement,
• The possibility for recreational athletes (not national or international athletes) to apply for a retroactive TUE in the event of an inadvertent anti-doping rule violation,
• Greater emphasis of intelligence-gathering for the purpose of testing plans,
• etc.

Of course, in parallel with the implementation of the new Code will be the implementation of a new International Standard for Testing and a new International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions. Because both of these documents are a compliment to the Code, both being detailed regulatory documents outlining how the Code provisions relating to TUEs and Testing must be carried out and respected, they must be modified in conjunction with the Code.

THE CHANGES WILL APPLY TO ALL OF US.

There is much work that needs to be undertaken in the coming year in order to set the stage for the new Code. The ISSF trusts that everyone associated with shooting sport will be proactive in seeking out greater knowledge on the new Code and International Standards and on the many consequences the adoption and application of these new regulatory documents will have, not only on the ISSF Anti-Doping Program, but on each of your respective individual responsibilities and obligations under the new Code-compliant ISSF Anti-Doping Rules.

The IPOD shall keep all its readers apprised of all these changes through the 2014 year to ensure that you are all ready - in theory and in practice - to implement the New Code in 2015. Accordingly, because of the importance of compliance, throughout each editions of the ISSF News in 2014, the IPOD will focus on various elements of the new Code and new ISSF Anti-Doping Rules to ensure that everyone involved in shooting sport will be well aware of the modifications by the time they need to be fully implemented on January 1, 2015. Of course, in the meantime, if you any questions on the New Code and the modified International Standards you may direct them to the ISSF and they will answer them to the best of our ability.

THE 2014 PROHIBITED LIST

In anticipation of the imminent changes to the WADA Code and International Standard in 2015, there is one document that has been approved for implementation as of January 1, 2014: the Prohibited List as an International Standard.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR MODIFICATIONS AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

The following offers a summary of the major changes that have been brought to the Prohibited List:

1. Use of International Non-proprietary Names (INN)

With the assistance of the World Health Organisation, the nomenclature of some substances on the List has been updated to “International Non-proprietary Names” (INN).

For ease of the reader, in the List, the previous name has been included and no substance has been deleted.

For example:

S8. CANNABINOIDS

Natural (e.g. cannabis, hashish, marijuana) or synthetic delta 9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabimimetics (e.g. “Spice”, JWH018, JWH073, HU-210) are prohibited.

2. Clarification of section S1. Anabolic Agents

Changes were made to the definitions of “exogenous” and “endogenous” for purposes of clarification and accuracy.

For example:

For purposes of this section:
* “exogenous” refers to a substance which is not ordinarily produced by the body naturally.
** “endogenous” refers to a substance which is ordinarily produced by the body naturally.

3. Expansion of section S2. Peptide Hormones, Growth Factors and Related Substances

Releasing factors are prohibited and that is made clear in points S2.2, S2.3 and S2.4. In addition other prohibited growth factors are listed separately.

4. Addition to section S5. Diuretics and other Masking Agents

Vasopressin V2 antagonists (vaptans) were added as an example of a diuretic subclass.

5. Introduction of new terminology in section M1. Manipulation of Blood and Blood Components

For the purpose of scientific accuracy, the term allogenic was introduced.

6. Reclassification of certain section S.6 Stimulants

• Some drugs that metabolize to amphetamine or methamphetamine have been reclassified because improved analytical techniques permit the identification of the administered drug and corresponding metabolites;
• MDMA and MDA are reclassified because they are now recognized as less likely to be used as doping agents;
• Cathinone and its analogues (e.g. mephedrone, methedrone, α-pyrrolidinovalerophenone) and trimetazidine have been added as examples to reflect emerging patterns of drug use.

7. Alcohol as a section P.1 Substance Prohibited in Particular Sports

Changes were made to the wording describing the blood alcohol threshold, in the interest of accuracy.

8. Additions to the Monitoring Program

In order to detect potential patterns of abuse, mitragynine has been added to the Narcotics class of the Monitoring Program.

The 2014 Prohibited List can be downloaded from the WADA website at http://www.wada-ama.org/Documents/World_Anti-Doping_Program/WADP-Prohibited-list/2014/WADA-prohibited-list-2014-EN.pdf

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