



INTERNATIONAL LIFE SAVING FEDERATION

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ANTI-DOPING BULLETIN NO. 1 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS UPDATE

Introduction

ILS shares the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) vision of a world where athletes can participate in a doping-free sporting environment.

ILS has committed itself and its member federations/organisations to adhere to the WADA standards and seeks to provide a clean, safe, and fair sporting environment.

To this end ILS provides comprehensive [anti-doping information](#) to its members via its website. ILS also has in place [anti-doping rules](#) that are consistent with WADA standards.

A key principle of WADA's World Anti-Doping Code International Standard for Education is that the first encounter with clean sport and anti-doping should be for athletes to be educated before being tested.

This principle is reflected in the [ILS Education Plan](#) (note: this document is currently being updated) that applies from club to international level participants including athletes of all ages, coaches, managers, medical professionals, parents, carers and officials.

Please also note that education is the responsibility of ILS National Lifesaving Federations/Organisations (NLFOs) and that their National Anti-Doping Organisation (NADO) should be their point of contact for their Anti-Doping matters.

This Bulletin provides an ILS Anti-Doping update.

Recent Developments

The following are the some of the recent ILS Anti-Doping developments:

- In May 2024 ILS published its initial WADA approved Anti-Doping Education Plan.
- At the first meetings of the new 2024-2028 ILS Board a new ILS Anti-Doping Committee was formed and the members endorsed. This Committee, that has a tenure of four years, consists of:
 - Greg Allum (Australia - Chair)
 - Karin Obus (Belgium – ILS Executive Director)
 - Dr Andrea Felici MD (Italy – Anti Doping Expert)
 - Ian Fullagar (Australia – ILS Legal Adviser)
 - Tanya Hamilton (New Zealand – Education)
 - Dr Sjors Pietermans MD (Netherlands – Past Elite Athlete)

The ILS Anti-Doping Committee is independent of other ILS Commissions and Committees and has a direct link to the ILS Board of Directors.

- During the lead up to LWC 2024 ILS ensured that Anti-Doping and Clean Sport information formed part of the entry process, published numerous Anti-Doping educational messages via LWC and ILS websites (e.g. [ILS LWC2024 Anti-Doping Statement](#)) and social media messaging, and included advice in Team Manager and Officials briefings. Anti-Doping message Public Address announcements were also delivered during the LWCs.
- As per the ILS Education Plan, athletes from the top two ranked Open and Youth National Teams (based on LWC2022 this was Australia and New Zealand) were required to have completed their NADO or WADA Anti-Doping Education and Learning Platform (ADEL) education prior to LWC 2024. Both countries complied and they also ensured all team staff and their National IRB teams also complied. For the National teams ranked 3 to 5 this education was highly recommended and ILS is aware that at least most teams undertook this training. Thank you to these National Teams for their compliance.
- As agreed with the LWC 2024 Local Organising Committee, 40 Anti-Doping Tests were administered across the suite of LWCs. It is very pleasing to advise that all tests returned negative findings.
- Please note that Out of Competition Anti-Doping tests can also occur at any time for the identified elite ILS athletes in the ILS Testing Pool (as may also occur for athletes of ILS NFLOs through their NADO).
- Following the 2023 WADA audit of International Federations and completion of corrective actions, ILS has been recently advised that it is compliant with WADA Anti-Doping requirements.
- ILS will be including requirements for Anti-Doping in their ILS Sanctioning Form for events. These requirements will align with WADA expectations and also with the ILS Education Plan and for the various participation levels (National Teams, Clubs, and individuals) detailed in the Plan.

General

- ILS NFLOs are encouraged to liaise with their NADO to ensure that they comply with their country's requirements for Anti-Doping, etc.
- ILS NFLOs should ensure and Clean Sport and Anti-Doping education is part of their elite, high performance, development, and youth programmes. These programmes may involve athletes and support personnel (including coaches, trainers, managers, team staff and officials, medical and paramedical personnel, parents/carers, and any other person working with, treating, or assisting an athlete participating in or preparing for and/or involved in lifesaving sport in their country.
- ILS, ILS Regions, ILS NFLOs and Event Organisers should also include Anti-Doping and Clean Sport information and any compulsory education requirements in event entry and other circulars, as well as develop Anti-Doping educational messages to be delivered via their websites and social media messaging, and include advice in any Competitor, Team Manager and Official's briefings. Anti-Doping and Clean Sport messaging should also be scheduled as part of public address announcements made during events.

- WADA recognised NADOs will also be the primary source for ILS NFLO Ant-Doping information and advice.
- ILS urges NFLOs to foster relationships and work with their NADO to ensure compliance.
- WADA also remains proactive in communicating with International Federations. Two recent communiques relate to the [2025 Prohibited List](#) and a new Anti-Doping e-learning course and resources tailored for athletes aged 11-15 who are involved in sport. The WADA website may be found [here](#) and the ADEL portal [here](#).

Further Information

For further information or assistance please contact the ILS Anti-Doping Administrator at: hq@ilsf.org.

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