



drugfree sport

new zealand

Fact Sheet on the World Anti-Doping Code 2015

From January 1, 2015, a revised *World Anti-Doping Code* comes into force bringing major changes to New Zealand's Sports Anti-doping Rules.

If you are an athlete; you work with or support an athlete; or you are involved in a National Sports Organisation you need to know about these changes and what they mean for you.

Drug Free Sport NZ has put together this fact sheet to highlight key changes to the Code.

1. New Anti-Doping Rule Violations

There are now ten, rather than eight Anti-Doping Rule Violations. The two new rule violations are:

- **Prohibited Association:** associating with a person, such as a coach, doctor or physiotherapist etc, who has been found guilty of doping offence.
- **Complicity:** assisting, encouraging, or helping to cover-up a doping offence.

2. Longer bans for doping offences

The revised Code is designed to be tougher on real cheats. For this reason the following changes have been introduced:

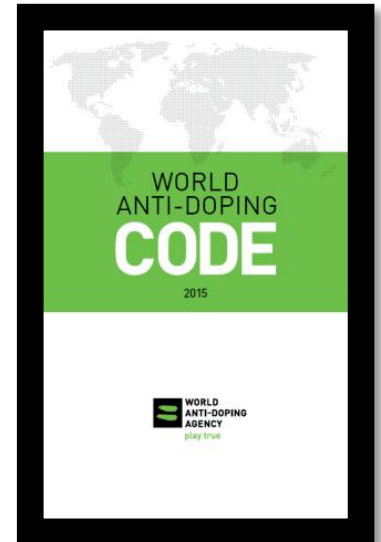
- those who intentionally dope will face a ban of four years, rather than two years
- those who refuse to provide a sample will face a ban of up to four years, rather than two years
- a banned athlete may return to training for a short period before a ban is complete
- a doping offence can now be investigated and sanctioned up to ten years after it occurred, rather than eight (an increase in the statute of limitations).

3. Inadvertent doping

The World Anti-Doping Code upholds the principle of strict liability which means an athlete is responsible for any banned substance found in his or her sample, regardless of whether there was an intention to cheat.

However, there is greater recognition of the issue of contaminated products, particularly supplements. If an athlete can show "no significant fault or negligence" to demonstrate that they didn't intend to cheat, then they may receive a lesser ban.

4. Whereabouts Requirements





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Athletes who are in Drug Free Sport NZ's Registered Testing Pool (RTP) or National Testing Pool (NTP) still have to file whereabouts information so that they can be located for 'no advance notice' testing.

Previously, athletes in the RTP who committed three whereabouts failures (missed tests or filing failures) within an 18-month period could receive a two-year ban from sport. Under the revised Code, this period has been reduced to 12-months.

5. Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) Requirements

International level athletes must apply in advance to their sport's International Federation for a TUE, while national level athletes must apply to Drug Free Sport NZ. Athletes who do not fall into either of these categories do not need to apply for a TUE in advance.

6. Athlete Support Personnel

Under the revised Code, athlete support personnel are now explicitly bound by the new anti-doping rules. In particular, athlete support personnel:

- will be investigated if an anti-doping violation involves a minor or they have provided support to more than one athlete who has committed a violation
- should report any doping activity to Drug Free Sport NZ
- are required to let Drug Free Sport NZ and their National Sports Organisation or International Federation know if they have committed a doping offence in the past.

7. Testing & Investigations

The revised Code places a greater emphasis on intelligence and investigations, in addition to testing, in order to catch athletes who are doping. This includes the use of intelligence gathering and risk analysis to determine who is tested and how often.

It also requires anti-doping agencies to employ modern anti-doping techniques, such as the use of an Athlete Biological Passport to analyse a series of results for evidence of doping.

8. National Sports Organisations

There is a greater focus in the new Code on education to prevent doping.

National Sports Organisations are required to actively support anti-doping programmes and provide anti-doping education to their athletes, in conjunction with Drug Free Sport NZ.

They also need to formally adopt New Zealand's updated Sports Anti-Doping Rules and ensure that their members are bound by these rules.

If you want to know more about the World Anti-Doping Code 2015, visit www.drugfreesport.org.nz,
email us at info@drugfreesport.org.nz or call us on 0800 DRUGFREE (378 437)