

World Anti-Doping Code 2015

Changes in the World Anti-Doping Code for 2015

The World Anti-Doping Code (2015 Code) comes into effect on 1 January 2015. From this date UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) and all UK Signatories to the UK National Anti-Doping Policy must comply with, and embrace their responsibilities under the new rules.

UKAD will work with all UK signatories to plan, prepare and support the move to the new Code, including the revision of all UKAD resources and education programmes.

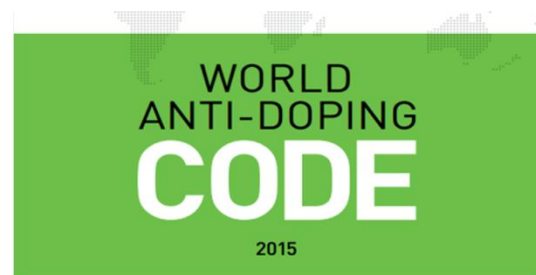
Changes of Significance

Listed below are the most significant changes within the 2015 Code. UKAD advises all signatories become familiar with the 2015 Code once published.

Article 2 – Anti-Doping Rule Violations

There will now be 10, not eight, ADRVs:

- **New ADRV – Complicity**
Involvement in an ADRV committed by another person, such as helping to cover up that ADRV or avoid detection, will be sanctioned in the same way as that violation (Article 2.9)
- **New ADRV – Prohibited Association**
Associating with a person such as a coach, doctor or physio who has been found guilty of a criminal or disciplinary offence equivalent to a doping violation (such as providing banned substances), will be sanctioned with a ban of up to two years (Article 2.10)
- The time period for Whereabouts violations will be reduced to 12 months (Article 2.4)



Article 10 – Sanctions

- Cheating involving serious doping substances (for example, steroids, growth hormone, EPO) and calculated doping methods (for example, blood transfusions) will be sanctioned with four-year bans (Article 10.2.1)
- Refusal or evading sample collection will now be sanctioned with bans of up to four years
- Substantial assistance has been further incentivised. Admitting a violation can be rewarded with a reduced ban, with WADA having the final say on any reduction. In exceptional cases, WADA has the power to eliminate a ban entirely and offer complete confidentiality for substantial assistance (Article 10.6)
- The statute of limitations has increased from eight to 10 years (Article 17)

Article 20 – Responsibilities of Signatories

- International Federations (IFs) must ensure their member organisations (NGBs) share anti-doping information with their National Anti-Doping Organisation (NADO)
- IFs and NADOs must investigate all ADRVs committed by athlete support personnel if they involve minors and/or multiple athletes.
- IFs and NADOs must cooperate fully with any WADA-led investigation
- NADOs must be independent (Article 20.5)
- Governments must put into place measures to facilitate information and data-sharing between government agencies and NADOs

Article 18 – Education

- There is now a separation of ‘information’ and ‘education’
- Information programmes should provide basic anti-doping information to athletes and include topics as specified in Article 18.2.
- Education programmes should focus on prevention
- Prevention programmes should be values-based and directed towards athletes and athlete support personnel with a particular focus on young people through implementation in school curricula
- All IFs and National Olympic and Paralympic Committees (the BOA and BPA in the UK) must promote anti-doping education, including the requirement to conduct anti-doping education in coordination with the NADO (UKAD in the UK) as per Article 20

Article 5 – Testing and Investigations

- The International Standard for Testing is renamed to the International Standard for Testing and Investigations
- A risk-based approach to testing must be adopted by NADOs, including the development of a Test Distribution Plan (TDP) which determines the amount, frequency and location of testing. This plan must be shared with WADA
- Resources must be in place to obtain, access and handle anti-doping intelligence to assist in the development of the TDP
- Modern anti-doping detection techniques should be utilised, for example an Athlete Biological Passport
- All ADRVs under the new Code must be fully investigated



Other Changes to Note

- For the purpose of the Code, the definition of athlete (other than for the purposes of education and information programmes and ADRVs 2.8 and 2.9) is defined as International-level and National-level athletes
- National-level athletes are defined by the NADO and NGBs
- Definition of athlete for the purpose of education and information programmes is defined as ‘any person who competes in sport under the jurisdiction of any Signatory’

Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs)

- International-level athletes must apply to their IF for a TUE
- National-level athletes must apply to UKAD for their TUE

Contaminated Products

- Recognition has been given to the issue of contamination of supplement products.
- If an athlete can establish ‘no significant Fault or Negligence’, then the sanction can range from a reprimand to a maximum of two years (Article 10.5.1)

Further Information

Please visit www.wada-ama.org for further information.

Please contact UKAD at ukad@ukad.org.uk for general enquiries.