

2015 World Anti-Doping Code: Athlete Support Personnel

Your Role

Athlete Support Personnel (ASP) play a vital role in the protection of clean sport.

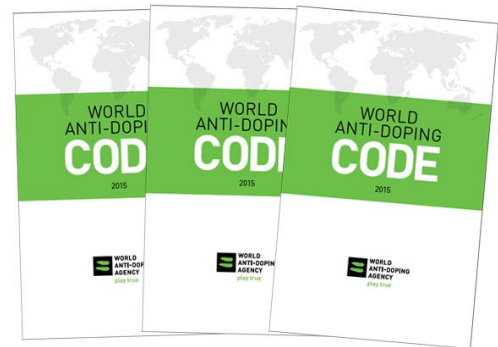
The 2015 World Anti-Doping Code (2015 Code) comes into effect on 1 January 2015. From this date you need to embrace your new roles and responsibilities, allowing you to continue to provide support to athletes in line with the revised Code, UK Anti-Doping Rules and the principles of clean sport.

This factsheet provides key information on what you need to do from 1 January 2015, and some of the main changes in the 2015 Code that you need to be aware of.

Responsibilities of ASP

The 2015 Code asks you to:

- be knowledgeable and comply with all anti-doping policies and rules which apply to you and/or the athletes you support
- use your influence on an athlete positively, helping to develop ethical behaviour, strong values and foster anti-doping attitudes
- cooperate with, and support, the athlete testing programme
- tell UKAD and your NGB/IF of any Anti-Doping Rule Violation (ADRV) or similar disciplinary offence committed by you within the last 10 years
- share information of any suspected ADRV and cooperate in any investigation – failure to do so may be treated as misconduct by your NGB and could result in disciplinary action
- cooperate fully with UKAD and your NGB



Same Risks, Longer Bans

- Deliberate cheating using doping substances (e.g. anabolic steroids, growth hormone, EPO) and calculated doping methods such as blood transfusions will now be sanctioned **with 4-year bans for a first offence**
- Athletes who refuse or evade testing will also be sanctioned with bans of 4 years
- Athletes need to be aware that inadvertent doping will still result, in many cases, in a **2-year ban**
- Lifetime bans from sport will still exist and can be imposed for a first offence in some cases

Protecting Yourself and Your Athletes

The biggest cause of inadvertent doping is the careless use of supplements.

- Athletes are likely to receive at least a 2-year ban for inadvertent doping through careless supplement use
- Athletes have a responsibility to undertake thorough research of all products they are considering taking prior to use
- You have a role to advise athletes accordingly, and ensure they are aware of the **need, risks and consequences** in relation to supplement use

Summary of Key Changes in the 2015 Code and the UK Anti-Doping Rules

ASP and the Use of Prohibited Substances

- ASP must not use or possess a Prohibited Substance and/or Method, unless for a valid reason

New Anti-Doping Rule Violations (ADRVs) and Associated Changes

There will now be 10, not 8, ADRVs:

- **New ADRV – Complicity**
If you are involved in an ADRV committed by another person (e.g. helping to cover up an ADRV) you can be sanctioned in the same way as the person who has committed that ADRV
- **New ADRV – Prohibited Association**
Athletes associating with an ASP, such as a coach, doctor or physio who has been found guilty of either an ADRV or a criminal or disciplinary offence equivalent to an ADRV can be sanctioned with a ban
- The time period for cumulative Whereabouts violations for athletes who are part of a Registered Testing Pool is now 12 months (previously 18 months)
- The statute of limitations (time in which an ADRV can be pursued) has increased from 8 to 10 years
- WADA have the power to eliminate a ban entirely and offer complete confidentiality for Substantial Assistance in exceptional cases

Contaminated Products

- There are specific provisions in the Code for cases involving positive tests caused by contaminated products
- If an athlete can establish 'no significant fault or negligence' in such a case, the sanction will be from a reprimand to a maximum of 2 years
- To get any reduction in sanction from 2 years, athletes must have substantial proof that they were not at fault or intending to cheat



Responsibilities of National Governing Bodies (NGBs) and UKAD

- There is now a mandatory requirement for NGBs, in coordination with UKAD, to provide anti-doping education and information for athletes and ASP
- UKAD must investigate all potential ADRVs within their jurisdiction including determining whether ASP were involved in each case of athlete doping, particularly in the case of minors or groups of athletes

Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs)

- Athletes competing at an International level must apply to their IF for a TUE
- Athletes competing at a National level must apply to UKAD for their TUE
- International Federations must recognise TUEs approved by UKAD if they have met the International Standard for TUEs

Further Information and Support

Please contact UKAD's Education and Athlete Support Team via education@UKAD.org.uk or visit www.UKAD.org.uk/2015-code for further information on the changes to the 2015 Code, how they may affect you, and how we can help.