BULL'S EYE THE ISSF IPOD ON DOPING

THE WADA ADO SYMPOSIUM INTELLIGENCE BASED TESTING, CHANGES TO THE ISSF REGISTERED TESTING POOL

THIS EDITION OF THE IPOD OFFERS AN INFORMATIVE SUMMARY OF SOME OF ISSF'S RECENT ANTI-DOPING INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES.

1. THE WADA ADO SYMPOSIUM

Every year, since 2003, WADA has held an anti-doping conference in Lausanne Switzerland for all World Anti-Doping Code Signatories. This year, held from March 24-26 2015 in Lausanne, the annual Anti-Doping Organization (ADO) Symposium held a packed house of more than 450 representatives from International Sport Federations, Major Event Organizations, National and Regional Anti-Doping Organizations, athletes and the media.

Representing ISSF at the Symposium this year was Dr James Lally, Chairman of the ISSF Medical Committee, Janie Soublière, ISSF Legal Counsel and Consultant in antidoping matters, and Doris Fischl, ISSF Anti-Doping Administrator.

Throughout the three-day event, WADA called on the global anti-doping community to optimize the implementation and practice of the revised World Anti-Doping Code (Code) just three months after the enhanced rulebook came into effect. Participants gathered to discuss the enhanced Code rules that are now being implemented by 665 organizations around the world.

The main focus and central theme of this year's Symposium was the protection of the clean athlete. Topics ranged from the importance of athletes "speaking up", to the role that the media can play in exposing doping behavior. The Symposium also tackled numerous aspects of the fight against doping in sport, including education, investigations, testing and proper results management, so as to highlighting all that the revised Code has to offer clean athletes of the world.

Athletes were in fact central to this year's Symposium. Notably, the WADA Athlete Com-

mittee participated in a high-level *Breaking the Code of Silence panel* that discussed how athletes can play an active part in solving the doping issue.

The first day of the Symposium included in particular sessions relating to the implementation of the revised Code; stronger sanctions; and the influence of the athlete entourage. Days two and three of the Symposium covered themes such as value -based education programs; anti-doping science; intelligent testing; the Athlete Biological Passport; ADAMS; information sharing and investigations; ADOlaboratory relationships and ADO-ADO partnerships; all of which are considered crucial to the future of the anti-doping movement.

It was the first time WADA adopted a three-day formula and also the first time that the WADA accredited anti-doping laboratories were invited to participate in the event. The laboratories' presence initiated most welcomed fresh topics and discussions and resulted in the consolidation of greater cooperation between laboratories and their many clients, like ISSF.

As is the case every year, the ADO Symposium was a valuable learning and networking experience for ISSF. ISSF representatives were able to take way a wealth of information and tools required to undertake its many responsibilities, obligations and day to day tasks.

ISSF representatives will continue to represent ISSF's best interests at various WADA Conferences and Symposiums, as it also did last October at the WADA Therapeutic Use Exemptions Symposium in Paris, and will ensure that the knowledge it acquires in the course of these conferences will benefit ISSF, its Executive, its athletes and support personnel, and its anti-doping program as a whole both in the short term and long term. ISSF can only educate <u>you</u>, if it is educated and up to date on all regulatory, administrative and practical aspects of anti-doping.

2. INTELLIGENCE BASED TESTING

While testing will always remain an integral and focal part of ISSF's anti-doping program, testing alone is not always sufficient to detect and establish, to the requisite standard, all of the anti-doping rule violations identified in the World Anti-Doping Code.

In particular, while the "use" of Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods has often been typically uncovered by the analysis of samples in the course of in-competition or out-of-competition testing, the many other Code anti-doping rule violations can usually only be effectively identified and pursued through the gathering and investigation of "non-analytical" anti-doping intelligence and information.

This means that Anti-Doping Organizations, like ISSF, need to develop efficient and effective intelligence-gathering and investigation functions.

The 2015 World Anti-Doping Code (WADC) states that "every anti-doping organization must have the resources to obtain, assess and handle anti-doping intelligence and information".

More specifically, Article 5.8 of the WADC requires Anti-Doping Organizations like ISSF to obtain, assess and process anti-doping intelligence from all available sources, to be used to help deter and detect doping, by informing the development of an effective, intelligent and proportionate Test Distribution Plan and/ or the planning of Target Testing, and/or by forming the basis of an investigation into a possible anti-doping rule violation(s).

To meet these requirements, ISSF already shoulders the capability to deal with intelligence and actively seeks out and retains various types of information for intelligence gathering purposes. More specifically, ISSF has an elected Testing Intelligence Officer who oversees all these activities.

Indeed, in order to fulfill its obligations under the Code, the ISSF does everything reasonably within its power to ensure that it is able to capture or receive anti-doping intelligence from all available sources, including athletes and athlete support personnel and members of the public, sample collection personnel and technical delegates (whether via mission reports, incident reports, or otherwise), WADA-accredited laboratories, National Federations, NADO's, other regulatory and disciplinary bodies, and the media.

ISSF also has policies and procedures in place to ensure that anti-doping intelligence captured or received is handled securely and confidentially by its Testing Intelligence Officer, that the sources of that intelligence are protected, that the risk of leaks or inadvertent disclosure is properly addressed, and that any intelligence that the Testing Intelligence Officer may eventually gather and share with law enforcement, other relevant authorities and/or other third parties, is processed, used and disclosed only for legitimate anti-doping purposes and always in accordance with the International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information and other privacy regulations.

ISSF is confident that its intelligence work will not only render ISSF Code-compliant by fulfilling its obligations in this regard, but that this same intelligence work will also support ISSF in developing effective testing and investigations strategies, and informing and elaborating value based education programmes.

THE ISSF TEST DISTRIBUTION PLAN (TDP)

With the objective of establishing standards for the efficient and effective gathering, assessment and processing of intelligence for the testing purposes, the ISSF anti-doping committee carefully prepares an annual TDP that is followed by ISSF and it Technical Delegates throughout the year.

The yearly TDP plans and regulates the distribution of doping controls both in-competition and out-of-competition and seeks to effectively detect, deter and prevent doping practices, most notably the non-medically required abuse of beta blockers.

The TDP is established based on the ISSF's unique understanding, knowledge and appreciation of shooting sport and its athletes and its objectives are specific to shooting sport. It is then implemented by utilizing the various information and intelligence gathering mediums at ISSF's disposition. Some of the general objectives of the TDP are to:

 Plan doping controls carefully and efficiently while taking into account the ISSF Anti-Doping Committee's assessment of various risk factors, the resources of different Event Organizers, the ISSF Testing Intelligence Officer's investigations, the importance of each Competition in every ISSF supervised Event and the importance of deterrence.

- Effectively utilize ISSF's budgeted doping control resources for 2015 while respecting ISSF's obligations under its own Anti-Doping Rules and as a Signatory to the Code.
- Operate a more efficient and intelligencebased doping control plan that is focused on outcomes and easy to implement.

INTELLIGENCE GATHERING ACTIVITIES

Guided by its TDP and the recommendation of its Testing Intelligence Officer (TIO), ISSF now conducts its sample collection in a focused and targeted manner resulting in more effective deterrence and detection while ensuring effective and efficient collection, recording, analysis, dissemination and retention of information.

- ISSF and its TIO ensures that its intelligence efforts are tightly integrated with its testing and educational programs.
- ISSF implements effective emerging technologies and processes in order to reduce the administrative compliance burdens on its athletes.
- ISSF and its TIO collaborates with the international sporting community to enhance global anti-doping intelligence, technologies and processes.
- ISSF and its TIO uses valuable and credible anti-doping intelligence in developing, reviewing and revising the Test Distribution Plan and/or in determining when to conduct Target Testing

COMMON GOALS = COOPERATION

The focus on intelligence and on informationsharing as a way to tackle doping stems from an international commitment and practical move towards more intelligence-led methods of detection.

To build an effective anti-doping program with intelligence at its core, ISSF has begun building relationships with the sports community, the general public, health regulators, WADA accredited laboratories, other International Federations, National Anti-Doping Organisations (NADOs) and WADA.

For the benefit of our clean athletes, the preservation of the integrity of our sport and the legitimacy of our testing and anti-doping program as a whole, ISSF shall endeavour to continue to promote and engage inter-agency information sharing about doping in sport.

ISSF is confident that its continued implementation of intelligence based testing will render its testing program more efficient - by allocating its anti-doping budget as wisely and purposefully as possible, and that its continued implementation of intelligence based testing will equally render its anti-doping efforts increasingly focused and effective – by favoring quality of testing over quantity of testing.

3. CHANGES TO THE ISSF REGIS-TERED TESTING POOL WHAT IS AN "RTP" AND WHY ARE THEY CREATED?

A Registered Testing Pool (RTP) is defined in WADA Code and International Standards as follows:

The pool of highest-priority Athletes established separately at the international level by International Federations and at the national level by National Anti-Doping Organizations, who are subject to focused In-Competition and Out-of-Competition Testing as part of that International Federation's or National Anti-Doping Organization's test distribution plan and therefore are required to provide whereabouts information as provided in Article 5.6 and the International Standard for Testing and Investigations. This information shall be maintained in strict confidence at all times; shall be used exclusively for purposes of planning, coordinating or conducting Doping Control. providing information relevant to the Athlete Biological Passport or other analytical results, to support an investigation into a potential anti-doping rule violation, or to support proceedings alleging an anti-doping rule violation; and shall be destroyed after it is no longer relevant for these purposes in accordance with the International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information.

The ISSF Registered Testing Pool (RTP) is defined as follows in the ISSF 2015 Test Distribution Plan:

The International Level Registered Testing Pool consists of the top 5 ranked Athletes of the official ISSF World Ranking List which is published on the ISSF Internet website and updated monthly for each International Event.

On January 1st of each year, the International Level Registered Testing Pool shall consist of the top 5 Athletes of the official ISSF World Ranking List on that date.

The International Level Registered Testing Pool will be reset each quarter.

Once an Athlete moves into the top 5 ranked Athletes of the official ISSF World Ranking List during the current calendar year, he/she shall automatically be included in the International Level Registered Testing Pool in the next quarter and shall be so informed by ISSF.

The current and updated RTP shall be posted on the ISSF website for each quarter of the calendar year.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR AN ATHLETE TO BE IN THE RTP?

Shooters who are in the ISSF RTP must provide their whereabouts via ADAMS on a quarterly basis, including all training camps and competition schedules.

Shooters who are in the ISSF RTP must also



provide a 60 minute time slot for which they can be available for testing every day of the year.

Any failure to submit timely and accurate whereabouts information, or any failure to be present at the location and time indicated on the whereabouts information submitted, can result in sanctions should any combination of three such failures occur in the span of 12 months.

MODIFIED RTP CRITERIA

It is important to ISSF to clearly inform all shooters in this edition IPOD that the ISSF RTP is now being reset and updated at each quarter. ISSF is confident this modified criteria will be well-received.

In the past, shooting athletes who reached a top 5 ranking in their category and were added in the ISSF RTP in the course of the year remained in the RTP for the rest of the calendar year.

But, because of the exponential amounts of athletes who ended up in the ISSF RTP as the year progressed, this created an administrative burden both for the numerous athletes who needed to fulfil the sometimes onerous whereabouts reporting obligations and for the ISSF Anti-Doping Administrator who had to monitor the multiple whereabouts submissions. Further, the volume of shooters included in the ISSF RTP by the end of the year rendered intelligent testing objectives hard to implement as there were simply too many athletes to follow constructively and gainfully for testing purposes. Therefore, although the top 5 ranked athletes in each category will be in the RTP, the number of athletes in the RTP at any point in time will never change because the RTP will now be reset each quarter.

This means that if you were ranked in the top 5 of your category and were in the RTP in the first quarter of the year (Jan 1 – March 31) but you fall out of the top 5 in the rankings in the following quarter (April 1 – June 30), you will no longer be required to keep submitting your whereabouts.

However, if you return to the top 5 in the rankings later in the year, you will be advised by the Anti-Doping Administrator that you have been re-included into the RTP and you will then need to resume submitting your whereabouts information in a timely and accurate way (among your other RTP obligations).

Similarly, shooters who are added into the RTP for the first time will be directly contacted by ISSF and will be responsible for promptly starting to submit timely and accurate whereabouts information through ADAMS.

Shooters who have exited the top 5 list of ranked athletes, and therefore exited the ISSF RTP, no longer need to fulfill the whereabouts information submission obligations via AD-AMS in the following quarter.

Therefore, in order to be thorough, shooters are encouraged to verify if they are included in the ISSF RTP for the current quarter. This information will be promptly posted the ISSF website. Of course, all shooters should be advised that any shooter who competes in an ISSF event and who holds an ISSF ID is equally subject to both In-Competition and Out-of-Competition testing on a year-round basis, regardless of whether or not he or she is included in the ISSF RTP.

Should you have any questions on the modifications that have been brought to the ISSF RTP, or with regards to the RTP in general, or if you have any questions about the submission of whereabouts information through ADAMS, please direct your queries to Doris Fischl, ISSF Anti-Doping Administrator at doris@issf-sports.org.

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IN THE CLAY ERA? THEY WROTE ON TABLETS.

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