## LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING AHEAD

AS ANOTHER CALENDAR YEAR OF SHOOTING COMPETITIONS GETS UNDER WAY, THE ISSF TAKES THE OPPORTUNITY TO REMIND ALL ATHLETES, COACHES, SUPPORT PERSONNEL AND NATIONAL FEDERATIONS TO MAINTAIN A POSITIVE OUTLOOK AND DETERMINED STANCE AGAINST DOPING IN THE SHOOTING SPORT. THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE ISSF'S ANTI-DOPING PROGRAM DEPENDS ON OUR ONGOING COLLABORATION AND MUTUAL RENEWED COMMITMENT TO THE FIGHT AGAINST DOPING IN SPORT.

#### A LOOK BACK TO 2017:

## THE ANNUAL ISSF DOPING PROGRAM REPORT

As we have done in the past, the first edition of the IPOD takes a look back on the previous year and provides all readers with a summary of ISSF's anti-doping activities. The IPOD offers the following report on the ISSF's 2017 Anti-Doping Program in the form of a simple Q & A (Question and Answer).

## How many In-competition doping controls did the ISSF carry out in 2017?

At the ISSF World Championships, ISSF World Cups & ISSF World Cup Finals: **193** 

At Continental Competitions: 289

At Junior World Cups/

Junior World Championships: 50

The total number of in-competition doping controls carried out where the ISSF was the testing authority in 2017: 532

### How many OUT of competition doping controls did the ISSF carry out in 2017?

The total number of out-of-competition doping controls undertaken by ISSF in 2017 is: 17

## How many doping controls were carried out by the ISSF in total in 2017?

The total amount of urine samples collected both in and out of competition in 2017 was: **549** 

#### How many anti-doping rule violations occurred and were decided at an international level in 2017?

As of December 31, 2017, the ISSF can proudly confirm that there were no asserted anti-doping rule violation cases occurring within the ISSF's in-competition or out-of-competition testing at an international level. There was, however, one anti-doping rule violation reported in other international competitions after further testing conducted at the Islamic Solidarity Games held in Baku. The athlete in question was sanctioned with a four-year period of ineligibility after a beta blocker was detected in his sample.

#### How many anti-doping rule violations occurred and were decided at the national level based on doping controls collected in 2017?

As of December 31, 2017, there were three anti-doping rule violations asserted at the national level. The outcome of each case is still pending. Other possible anti-doping rule violations were resolved because of Therapeutic Use Exemptions. The pending national-level anti-doping rule violations involve the following prohibited class of substances under the WADA Prohibited List:

- A section S3. Beta 2 Agonist
- A section S8 Cannabinoid and Section S6 Stimulants
- A section S5 Diuretic

In accordance with its obligations under the World Anti-Doping Code (Code), the ISSF will continue to monitor the disciplinary measures imposed on Shooting Sport Athletes by any national level disciplinary panel to ensure that all decisions rendered in these national-level cases comply with the ISSF Anti-Doping Rules. This is especially true with regards to all the national level doping violations involving the use of beta blockers.

## How many missed tests or failure to submit whereabouts information cases were reported in 2017?

There were two whereabouts failures and/or missed tests asserted against the ISSF Registered Testing Pool Athletes in 2017.

# How many Athletes were a part of the ISSF Registered Testing Pool (RTP) at the end of the year?

At the end of 2017 (Quarter 4, 2017), there were 20 athletes in the RTP.

As always, the athletes included in the RTP are listed on the ISSF Website in the antidoping section.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD TO 2018**

The ISSF is steadfast in implementing its antidoping program and promoting a drug-free sport. Accordingly, and further to the positive feedback received from WADA regarding the Code Compliance Questionnaire audit completed last year, the ISSF shall continue to tackle all anti-doping issues with renewed determination and conviction in 2018.

## THE ISSF REGISTERED TESTING POOL (RTP)

As stated above, there were 20 athletes in the ISSF RTP at the end of 2017, as opposed to 67 at the end of 2016. As in 2017, the 2018 ISSF Registered Testing Pool (RTP) is defined as follows:

The ISSF shall identify a Registered Testing Pool of those Athletes who are required to comply with the whereabouts requirements of Annex I to the International Standard for Testing and Investigations, and shall make available through ADAMS, a list which identifies those Athletes included in its Registered Testing Pool either by name or by clearly defined, specific criteria. The ISSF shall coordinate with National Anti-Doping Organizations the identification of such Athletes and the collection of their whereabouts information.

The ISSF shall review and update as necessary its criteria for including Athletes in its Registered Testing Pool, and shall revise the membership of its Registered Testing Pool from time to time as appropriate in accordance with this criteria. Athletes shall be notified before they are included in a Registered Testing Pool and when they are removed from that pool. Each Athlete in the Registered Testing Pool shall do the following, in each case in accordance with Annex I to the International Standard for Testing and Investigations: (a) advise the ISSF of his/her whereabouts on a quarterly basis; (b) update that information as necessary so that it remains accurate and complete at all times; and (c) make him/herself available for Testing at such whereabouts.



The ISSF is confident its refined RTP has better satisfied the objectives of the ISSF and the World Anti-Doping Program whilst meeting the requirements of ISSF's anti-doping program and yearly test distribution plan.

In 2018, the RTP will continue to hold only 20-22 athletes at any one time. This is:

- to make sure the ISSF can adequately receive and oversee whereabouts information from a better defined and selective number of its elite Athletes.
- to ensure that the ISSF RTP does not get too big to administer or to fulfill its functions of deterrence, transparency and accountability.
- to allow the ISSF to better fulfill its compliance obligations with regards to testing and intelligence gathering under the International Standard for Testing and Investigations (ISTI) and Code.

## THE ISSF TEST DISTRIBUTION PLAN (TDP)

The ISSF Anti-Doping Committee has successfully devised its 2018 Test Distribution Plan (TDP) with the objectives of planning and implementing the distribution of doping controls both in-competition and out-of-competition. The purpose of the TDP is to effectively detect, deter and prevent doping practices in Shooting Sport throughout the 2018 competition calendar.

Prior to outlining its 2018 TDP, a mandatory physiological risk assessment of doping in the Shooting Sport was once again expertly and knowledgeably undertaken by the ISSF Anti-Doping and Medical Committees. Consequently, the TDP was created based on the ISSF's Anti-Doping Committee unique understanding, knowledge and appreciation of the Shooting Sport and its Athletes.

The ISSF's 2018 TDP complies with the Code and the ISTI and respects the ISSF Anti-Doping Rules. The TDP shall be implemented by all ISSF Event Organizers and ISSF Techni-

cal Delegates throughout the 2018 calendar year. It shall also be evaluated, modified and updated periodically, as required by the ISSF.

### THE ATHLETE BIOLOGICAL PASSPORT

The ISSF believes that although a typical doping control approach based on the detection of prohibited substances or their metabolites in an Athlete's sample remains an effective approach to combat doping in the Shooting Sport, it has limitations when an Athlete may be using substances on an intermittent and low-dose basis.

Furthermore, notwithstanding all the advances that have been made in this field, it is a fact that new substances or modifications of prohibited substances (designer drugs) or methods continue to be difficult to detect by conventional analytical means. In fact, doping regimes have become much more scientifically planned and have taken full advantage of the weaknesses in traditional protocols. These elements, among others including requirements under the Code, endorsed the ISSF's decision to implement a more sophisticated and complementary strategy to effectively fight doping in the Shooting Sport in addition to traditional doping controls: the Athlete Biological Passport (ABP).

The ISSF adopted the steroidal module of the ABP at the end of 2017 and is steadfast in its belief that the implementation of the ABP will keep our anti-doping rule violations low by not only deterring potential cheaters but by making all our Athletes more accountable. The ISSF trusts that it has properly incorporated the ABP into its existing doping control program by weighing all factors including the required resources and capacity to operate such a program. As such, you can all expect for the ISSF to continue to build its ABP database in 2018 and to use it to effectively and efficiently complement all its other anti-doping initiatives.

#### **DOPING CONTROLS**

The TDP governs which method of testing shall be utilized in the course of each Championship or out-of-competition. The ISSF

conducts a combination of random doping controls, targeted doping controls and requisite doping controls (World Records, Olympic Games Quota Places etc.).

Various factors, criteria and variables lead to the Athlete selection process. These include, but are not limited to, Athlete results and rankings, the ISSF's Testing Intelligence Officer's gathering and monitoring of relevant data and information, and totally random selections.

With the assistance of qualified National Anti-Doping Organizations teams and Doping Control Service Providers, the ISSF shall carefully oversee the carrying out of doping controls throughout 2018 to determine if both the amount of doping controls being carried out in-competition and out-of-competition and the doping control selection methods applied adequately fulfill the objectives of the TDP.

The intention is to conduct roughly the same amount of both in-competition and out-of-competition doping controls in 2018 as in 2017. Because we can anticipate both 2020 Olympic Games and 2018 Youth Olympic Games Quota places to be awarded in 2018, the testing numbers are expected to increase slightly. As usual, you can expect the ISSF to report on the outcome of its 2018 testing program at the beginning of 2019.

### **EDUCATION**ONGOING INITIATIVES

Every year, throughout the year, the ISSF urges all its Athletes, all its national federations and everyone involved in Shooting Sport, be it Athlete support personnel, trainers, doctors, parents, etc. to get educated or better informed on anti-doping.

To this end, the ISSF has established many educational vehicles through which it disseminates anti-doping information. The following are ongoing initiatives:

 The Information Portal On Doping (IPOD) section of the ISSF's Bi-Monthly publication, ISSF NEWS, serves both as an information medium and as a reminder to all individuals involved in the Shooting sport to respect various responsibilities and obligations with regards to anti-doping.





- The ISSF web-site provides a wealth of information on doping, rules and regulations, answers to common questions and various links to all relevant WADA documents and anti-doping materials.
- The ISSF launched a Facebook anti-doping education week in January 2017.
- With the help of the ISSF Athletes Committee and its outstanding Media Team, the ISSF is in the process of producing a "Say No to Doping" video. (Please visit the ISSF website's athlete page under the anti-doping section for more information on this exciting and fun project).
- The WADA website has valuable materials for Athletes, coaches, trainers etc. All of these can be downloaded for free from the WADA website (www.wada-ama.org).
- The facilitating of ongoing cooperation between NADO and RADO's and National Federations also remains a priority. the ISSF encourages NADOs to be proactive in reaching out to their national shooting federations in order to disseminate antidoping education to national and regional level Athletes, specially the juniors, via the National Federation's elected Education Information Officer.

Remember that the goal is to foster and open the communication lines between national federations and their NADO – in your country's primary language - so that you may work together in the common goal of educating national-level shooting Athletes. Therefore,

- » If your National Federation has identified its Education Information Officer and that individual has not yet been contacted by your NADO or RADO, please also inform Doris at doris@issf-sports.org and she will assist in facilitating this initial introduction.
- If your National Federation has not identified its Education Information Officer, we ask that you do so at your earliest convenience and inform Doris at doris@issf-sports.org.

#### **UPCOMING INITIATIVES**

At the year-end ISSF Committee meetings in Munich in November 2017, the ISSF Medical and Anti-Doping Committees met with the ISSF Athletes Committee to brainstorm on new ideas that could help the ISSF's educational initiatives reach a wider range of shooting Athletes. As noted above, the Say No to Doping video is in the process of being produced.

Also, the ISSF Medical Committee will be posting a variety of health-related articles on its Athletes Page in the Anti-Doping Section of its website which may not be directly related to anti-doping, but which seek to educate athletes on better health practices, including the avoidance of performance enhancing drugs.

If you have any good ideas that can help disseminate the anti-doping message to our Athletes and coaches via social media, please do not hesitate to contact us at doris@issf-sports.org and share your ideas.

#### **ANTI-DOPING RULES**

Education, and thereby a better knowledge of the applicable rules and obligations, is the cornerstone to successfully deterring all our Athletes at all levels of competition from using performance enhancing substances.

Anti-doping rules are consistently changing to keep up with the ever-changing land-scape of anti-doping in sport. It is important for everyone to stay abreast of the most recent developments and updated regulations. More importantly, it is imperative for Athletes of all levels and from all corners of the world to become better informed on the dangers of doping and on the importance of respecting their obligations under national and international anti-doping rules.

Everyone involved in shooting should and must get acquainted with the applicable Anti-Doping Rules and more importantly understand their respective responsibilities and obligations under these same Rules. As we are all bound by the same rules, it continues to be up to each of us to implement all the elements of the ISSF Anti-Doping Program, both in theory and in practice, as well as to comply with our respective obligations under the ISSF Anti-Doping Rules and the World Anti-Doping Code.

This is one of the reasons why ISSF recently sent a circular letter to all its national federations asking them to submit their antidoping regulations for review. The ISSF holds the responsibility of ensuring that all National Federations, their Athletes and their personnel are aware that they are bound by the ISSF Anti-Doping Rules as a condition of membership to the ISSF. And, in turn, all international-level Athletes, National Federations and their personnel hold an obligation to uphold their own respective responsibilities under these same Rules.

As ISSF has repeated time and time again... Ignorance of the rules is never a defense. Because you are all bound by the ISSF Anti-Doping Rules, the ISSF invites you to carefully read them and to acknowledge all your respective obligations under these Rules. They can be downloaded off the ISSF website at http://www.issf-sports.org/the-issf/rules/english\_rulebook.ashx

The ISSF always welcomes any questions any IPOD reader may have about the meaning or impact of any provision of its Anti-Doping Rules. Please remember that it is always better to ask questions and be well informed than to risk the potentially devastating consequences of being ill-informed.

## WORLD ANTI-DOPING CODE REVISION PROCESS.

This year, there were no modifications brought to the Code or the ISSF Anti-Doping Rules.

However, the World Anti-Doping Code Revision process is under way and everyone is invited to submit proposed modifications to existing anti-doping rules. Please visit the WADA website to obtain more information on this should you wish to make comments and/or suggestions on how the current 2015 World Anti-Doping Code could/should be modified.

#### **FINAL WORDS**

Although the ISSF is proud of the work it continues to accomplish in carrying out its Codecompliant anti-doping program, it is equally proud to acknowledge the work that each of you has accomplished in 2017. The ISSF's Anti-Doping Report would not be complete if it did not recognize the hard work of:

- All ISSF National Federations who respect their testing, reporting and results management obligations and actively educate their athletes on the dangers of using prohibited substances;
- All medical staff who must be mindful of the Prohibited List, offering Code-compliant consultations and properly filing out complete and timely TUE applications in English;
- All Athlete support personnel who deter Athletes from using performance enhance substances by emphasizing the importance of proper training and nutrition and the adoption of ethical sporting values;
- The ISSF's Athlete Passport Management Unit, the Cologne Laboratory, for its expertise and collaboration.
- All ISSF Event Organisers and Technical Delegates who are committed and work hard to successfully carry out the ISSF Test Distribution Plan;
- All ISSF RTP Athletes who submit timely and accurate whereabouts information; and,
- All Athletes, at any level, who have made a personal decision to not use prohibited substances or methods to enhance their performance and discouraged others to do so as well.

THE ISSF THANKS EACH OF YOU for taking your anti-doping responsibilities seriously and for protecting the integrity of the Shooting Sport, for promoting the health and well-being of all our Athletes and for respecting and honoring the intrinsic values of sports in general.

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