

Anti-doping policy

Policies & Procedures

November 2020

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Preamble

1. The practice and pursuit of drug-free sport are matters of public interest. More particularly, they reflect the common interest and consensus of athletes, coaches, sport governing bodies and governments in Canada. Cross Country Alberta (CCA) takes a strong and vocal stand against the use of banned substances and practices in sport, with a view to creating a playing field that is both fair and healthy for all competitors.
2. Reacting to the increasing incidence of doping violations in sport that has been evident in recent years, the international community has established new standards for addressing the problem. These standards take the form of the World Anti-Doping Code, a document developed by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) in consultation with national anti-doping agencies and finally approved at the World Conference for Doping in Sport, held in Copenhagen in March 2003.
3. As the responsible agency in Canada, the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) led the consultation process within Canada during the development of the Code and is now responsible for its implementation. To implement the new international standards, the CCES has developed, in consultation with the Canadian sport community, a new Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP). The CADP is governed by the new Canadian Policy Against Doping in Sport (CPADS), adopted in April 2004 by ministers representing the Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments.
4. The CADP is the action document that sets out the mandatory international standards contained in the Code. It replaces the current Canadian Policy on Doping in Sport and Canadian Doping Control Regulations. The CADP can be found on the CCES website at www.cces.ca/pdfs/CCES-POLICY-CADP-E.pdf. It includes the following components:
 - a. General Principles;
 - b. Prohibited List Rules;
 - c. Laboratory Rules;
 - d. Therapeutic Use Exemption Rules;
 - e. Doping Control Rules;
 - f. Doping Violations and Consequences Rules;
 - g. Appeals Rules; and
 - h. Education Standard.

General Policy

5. CCA adopts the Canadian Anti-Doping Program and will be governed by all provisions of this Program in all relevant matters.

Implementation Provisions

6. Having adopted the CADP, CCA's primary responsibility is to ensure that clubs, coaches, administrators and event officials are familiar with the content of the Program, and that athletes who are subject to the provisions of the CADP are informed of their obligations and encouraged to comply. The onus is on each athlete to understand the content and implications of the CADP and to fulfill their obligations within it.
7. The inclusion of relevant information related to the CADP will also be mandatory in Athlete Agreements and Athlete Handbooks in CCA-sanctioned Training Centres.