

## Anti-Doping Policy

The Anti-Doping Rules of the WALKING FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (the WFA) are the UK Anti-Doping Rules published by UKAD (or its successor), as amended from time to time.

Such rules shall take effect and be construed as the rules of the WALKING FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

*You can find the UKAD rules:*

<https://www.ukad.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-11/2021%20UK%20Anti-Doping%20Rules%20v1.0%20FINAL.pdf>

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The policy of the WFA is to promote Walking Football as a drug free sport.

Doping in sport is cheating. It is fundamentally contrary to the spirit of sport, endangers the health of athletes and of those who emulate and aspire to become athletes and undermines the otherwise positive impact of sport in society.

The company is committed to educating and informing all players, coaches and support personnel about the dangers of drugs and ensuring a sport that is free from the misuse of drugs.

The WFA is committed to the following:-

To uphold and preserve the ethics of sport

To safeguard the physical health and mental integrity of the athletes

To ensure that all athletes have an opportunity to compete equally

It is a requirement of participation in the sport that all players, support personnel and other persons under the jurisdiction of the WFA comply with the Anti-Doping Rules set out below.

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## Anti-Doping Procedures

The term anti doping has become the standard term of reference for the management of the potential threat of Performance Enhancing Substances within sport.

The WFA's rules and regulations on anti-doping comply with the World Anti-Doping Agency and UK Sport model rules.

## Who do the rules apply to?

- These rules apply to all players and player support personnel who are members of the WFA England National squads and to all participants in the sport under the jurisdiction of the NGB.

All players and player support personnel participating in any events, competitions and other activities organised, convened, authorised or recognised by the WFA are also bound by these rules.

## Medication

Whenever you take any medication, it is your responsibility to check that it doesn't contain any banned substances on the Prohibited List.

If you are competing in national or international competitions, you should explain to your GP that you could possibly be drug tested and therefore you need to check all medications against the Prohibited List on the UK Sport website:

<https://sport.wetestyourtrust.com/>

## Therapeutic Use Exemptions

You may have no choice but to take medication that does contain a banned substance. If this is the case and you are competing at a WFA tournament, it is imperative that you apply for a Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE's) straight away (in case you are drug tested at any stage).

Players will not apply for the TUE before taking medication, this will be more likely a retroactive TUE Application (post a test resulting in a positive finding).

This is available from UK Anti Doping.

Your TUE will be sent to UKAD for approval. Once UKAD approve your application, they will send you notification (usually within 15 days of receipt) It is very important that you keep a copy of your application and the notification from UKAD in a safe place and take it with you to squad training and any competitions where you may be drug tested as proof that you have a TUE.

## Testing

In testing its players, the WFA has appointed National anti-doping agency for the collection of samples. The disciplinary procedure for a contravention of these rules is published in full in the UK Anti-Doping Rules.

## What is Strict Liability?

As a player, one of the most important things to be aware of is the principle of strict liability. This means that you are personally responsible for any banned substance found in your system, regardless of how it got there and whether or not you had an intention to cheat.

## Anti-Doping Rule Violation

WADA outlines eleven Anti-Doping Rule Violations (ADRVs) which govern clean sport. Players – and player support personnel – may receive a ban from sport if any of the following ADRVs are committed:

- All 11 apply to players and seven (in bold) also apply to player support personnel:

Presence

Use or Attempted Use

Evading, refusing or Failing to Submit to Sample Collection

Whereabouts failures

**Tampering or attempted tampering**

**Possession**

**Trafficking or attempted trafficking**

**Administration (i.e. without aiding or abetting)**

**Complicity or Attempted Complicity**

**Prohibited Association**

**Acts by an Athlete or Other Person to Discourage or Retaliate Against Reporting to Authorities**



## **RESPONSIBILITY**

The WFA's Chairman is responsible to the Board for the management of this policy and for reviewing and recommending any revisions to it.

He is also responsible for related education programmes and agreement of a Doping Control Programme with UK Anti-Doping.

The Chairman is also responsible for notifying UK Anti-Doping of any known infringements of these rules by players or support personnel who may be tested both inside and outside the UK.

The Chairman will appoint an Anti-Doping Officer as lead, in charge of the organisation's anti-doping functions and responsible for ensuring that it satisfies the requirements of this policy, including liaising with UK Anti-Doping as required.



## EDUCATION

The WFA will take all practicable steps to educate its players and player support personnel on ethical values in sport so that they are familiar with the principles of this policy and the provisions of the Anti-Doping Rules, and in particular, their own respective individual rights and responsibilities.

*Adopted by the board on 11th September 2021*

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