Anti-Doping and Medical Commission Updates

WSF AGM 2019
WADA Compliance

• Last AGM reported WSF successful getting WADA compliance - improved process documentation, PSA In-Comp testing

• But, areas to be worked on to obtain future compliance in future – e.g.
  – National Federation Requirements
  – Follow through of education plan

• Next WADA Compliance review is in 2020
National Federation
Anti-Doping Requirements

• As signatories all NFs are required to confirm formally that they will abide by the World Anti-Doping Code

• All NFs to have anti-doping rules in place

• All NFs to provide athlete education and must provide documentation and reporting on what is being done
Current Situation

• All NFs signed on to abide by the World Anti-Doping Code as a requirement for WSF membership

• ? How many NFs have own anti-doping rules or have adopted WSF’s Rules

• 25 NFs provide some anti-doping education
  – None gave WSF a name for their anti-doping advisor
  – Education is a significant issue
World Anti-Doping Code Compliance

• Why is it important? Squash isn’t in the Olympics, so does it matter if WSF is not Code compliant? Yes it does:
  – Squash could not compete in any Major Games – currently in several and aiming for more
  – A non-compliant NF could not send a team to a Major Games
  – Reflects the integrity of squash
    • Proves it is clean sport, makes squash marketable, helps its promotion and growth
How knowledgeable are your athletes?

Some true cases:

• Athlete had bronchitis affecting breathing, saw a Dr. who prescribed an inhaler to enable athlete to compete – athlete didn’t ask if it was OK to take
  – Athlete tested in-competition and was positive for a banned substance
  – In the Code, an athlete is responsible for what he/she ingests
  – So, this athlete is at risk of being banned from competition
  – If the athlete had been educated this type of situation could be prevented
How Knowledgeable are your athletes?

• Remember: As per the Code, an athlete is responsible for what he/she ingests

• An athlete was banned for 4 years because of the use of a contaminated supplement – If the athlete was educated, this might not have happened

• An athlete was fortunate to have a decision made out of court – but it cost a lot of money
  – The athlete wasn’t educated about the long time some drugs take to get through the system
  – Some are taken well in advance of a competition, for recreational purposes as opposed to performance enhancement – but are still present at the time of competition, so an athlete tests positive risking a ban
How Knowledgeable are your athletes?

- There were 10 Missed Tests or Filing Failures for Whereabouts of athletes in the Registered Testing Pools
- This is an increase over 2018
- Any athlete with 3 Missed Tests/Filing Failures in a 12-month period is at risk of a sanction and banned from competition
Anti-Doping Education

• This is the biggest issue for future Code compliance
• It is now of major importance in Code Compliance
• In the first round of compliance evaluation IFs needed to provide an Education plan. For next compliance evaluation actions taken regarding education will be assessed.
  – This involves all signatories - i.e. NFs and WSF
Anti-Doping Education

- PSA conducted a survey of their athletes re education – 500 responded
- 354 indicated they’d had no anti-doping education (71%)
- 25 NFs provide anti-doping education but it is not necessarily mandatory.
- Videos most popular form of education
Anti-Doping Education Recommendations

• Make Anti-Doping Education mandatory
  – Have athletes use Alpha which is free
  – If not in your language as yet, use the Play True Quiz or Dangers of Doping Get The Facts
• Provide WSF with an Anti-Doping Advisor who WSF can liaise with and educate them re WADA free education resources
• Remember all NFs are signed on to abide by the Code
  – So that means you know athletes are responsible for what they ingest
• Why risk your athletes being banned due to lack of education about anti-doping, so make innocent mistakes
• Many of the positive tests are due to these mistakes
World Anti-Doping Code

• This is currently being revised
• Much consultation undertaken worldwide
• It will be finalised at the World Anti-Doping Congress this month.
• We will hear about significant changes at the WADA symposium in March 2020
• It will come into effect Jan 1\textsuperscript{st} 2021
• Changes will be presented at the 2021 AGM
Medical Commission

• There is an issue in sport re gender Identity and sex characteristics
• WSF was asked what their rules are in this respect
  – to date there has not been an issue
• The IOC recently issued a statement:
  – An IOC working group is developing a new framework that balances fairness, safety and non-discrimination
  – Once completed the IOC will produce a framework to guide IFs.
• WSF will wait until this framework is provided