IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS BROUGHT BY THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF BILLIARD SPORTS AGAINST MATEUSZ SNIECOGKI FOR VIOLATION OF THE WCBS ANTI-DOPING CODE

FINAL AWARD OF THE CHAIR OF THE WCBS DOPING HEARING PANEL

This is a decision confirming an athlete's acknowledgement of an anti-doping rule violation and acceptance of the consequences proposed by his International Federation.

As Chair of the World Confederation of Billiard Sports (WCBS) Doping Hearing Panel, I was required to issue a decision in a disciplinary case brought by the WCBS against Mateusz Sniecogki for a violation of the WCBS Anti-Doping Code. My decision is issued according to the WCBS Hearing Procedures for proceedings under Article 8 of the WCBS Anti-Doping Code. As Mr. Sniecogki waived his right to a hearing, this matter was determined under Article 8.1.7 of the WCBS Anti-Doping Code. In such instances, the WCBS Hearing Procedures authorizes the Chair of its Doping Hearing Panel to issue a decision without the need for the full hearing procedures.

The facts agreed to by the WCBS and Mr. Sniecogki are:

- An in-competition anti-doping sample was collected from Mr. Sniecogki on March 27, 2010.
- Sample analysis produced an adverse analytical finding for the prohibited substance Acebutolol. It is a specified substance.
- Mr. Sniecogki was advised of the adverse analytical finding and provisionally suspended by the WCBS effective on May 13, 2010. He acknowledged and did not challenge the provisional suspension.
- Mr. Sniecogki did not request analysis of the B sample.
- The WCBS completed an initial review and determined that there was no application therapeutic use exemption. It also determined that there was no apparent departure from the International Standard for Testing or the International Standard for Laboratories that caused the adverse analytical finding.
- The WCBS formally notified Mr. Sniecogki of the results of the initial review on September 9, 2010, as required by Article 7.1.4 of the WCSB Anti-Doping Code. That notification asserted an anti-doping rule violation against Mr. Sniecogki.
- Acebutolol is a specified substance the consequences of the use or presence of which may be reduced under specific circumstances according to Article 10.4 of the WCBS Anti-Doping Code. Acebutolol is a component of the medication Sectral which Mr. Sniecogki declared on his doping control form

at the time of sample collection. The WCBS stated that it was satisfied with the evidence that the prohibited substance entered Mr. Sniecogki's body as a component of a medicine prescribed by his personal physician for the purpose of medical treatment, and that it was no intended to enhance his sport performance or mask the use of another prohibited substance.

- The WCBS notification of September 9th proposed a four month period of ineligibility, beginning May 13, 2010. In additional to the period of ineligibility, the notification proposed the automatic disqualification of results obtained in the final of the 9-Ball European Championships 2010, including forfeiture of a medal, points and prizes. The WCBS subsequently learned from Mr. Sniecogki that he had participated in other events between the date of sample collection and the May 13, 2010 commencement of his provisional suspension. An "addendum" to the notification from the WCBS, dated September 14, 2010, further proposed the automatic disqualification of all other competitive results obtained from March 27 to May 13, 2010, including forfeiture of medals, points and prizes.
- By an e-mail to the WCBS dated September 14, 2010, Mr. Sniecogki accepted both the notification and the addendum.

Based on these agreed facts, I confirm that Mr. Sniecogki has committed a first anti-doping rule violation, and I confirm a four month period of ineligibility as a consequence. The period of ineligibility is May 13 to September 13, 2010. I also confirm the automatic disqualification of results obtained in the final of the 9-Ball European Championships 2010, including forfeiture of a medal, points and prizes, as well as the automatic disqualification of all other competitive results obtained from March 27 to May 13, 2010, including forfeiture of medals, points and prizes.

I observe that, like all athletes subject to the WCBS Anti-Doping Code, Mr. Sniecogki must in future take great care when seeking medical treatment. Any physician he consults must be well-aware of anti-doping rules, and particularly of the contents of the World Anti-Doping Agency's List of Prohibited Substances. The failure of a treating physician to account for the Prohibited List will not excuse a patient athlete an anti-doping rule violation in most cases. It is the athlete's responsibility to ensure that his or her physician is properly informed and mindful of anti-doping requirements.

Since none is requested, I make no order as to costs.

According to Article 8.1.8 of the WCBS Anti-Doping Code, this decision may be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport as provided in Article 13 of the Code.

Dated: October 1, 2010

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Joseph de Pencier, Chair, WCBS Doping Hearing Panel