

IRISH SPORT ANTI-DOPING DISCIPLINARY PANEL

IN THE MATTER OF IS-1522 , ATHLETE

DETERMINATION

1. The Irish Sports Council notified Mr. IS-1522 on the 31st August, 2010, of an alleged first violation by him of Article 2.1 of the Irish Anti-Doping Rules.
2. The Football Association of Ireland, being the national governing body of his sport, were also notified.
3. By letter to the Irish Sport Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel, dated the 14th September, 2010, the athlete admitted the allegation.
4. The Panel, comprising the undersigned, as chair, Mr. Sean McCague and Mr. Martin Walsh, convened on the 13th December, 2010, to hear and determine the consequences of the admitted violation of the Irish Anti-Doping Rules.
5. The Athlete testified at the hearing. He confirmed that he had consumed cannabis in a social context on different occasions in advance of, but unconnected with, his sporting activities. He also admitted that he had used cannabis since the date of his testing.
6. The Athlete stated that he did not expect to be subject to testing for drugs.
7. The Athlete expressed his regret and remorse for his violation of the Irish Anti-Doping Rules and submitted that his consumption of the prohibited drug was not intended to enhance his sport performance.
8. The Athlete stated that it was not his intention to use cannabis in the future.
9. Having heard and considered the testimony and submissions made by the Athlete, the Panel;
 - a. noted that the Athlete had admitted at an early date that he had, by consuming cannabis, violated the Irish Anti-Doping Rules;
 - b. noted that the Athlete had knowingly violated the Irish Anti-Doping Rules;
 - c. Noted that the athlete had admitted using cannabis after the date of his testing for this case;
 - d. accepted that the use of cannabis by the Athlete was not intended to enhance his sport performance;
 - e. accepted that the Athlete's expression of regret and remorse was genuine; and
 - f. accepted that special circumstances, within the meaning of Article 10.3 of the Irish Anti-Doping Rules, had been established and corroborated to the comfortable satisfaction of the Panel;

10. The Panel determined that, having regard to and for the reasons set out above, the Athlete be suspended for a period of six months with effect from the 1st March, 2011.

Dated the ¹²16 day of *December*, 2010

Rory MacCabe

Signed on behalf of the Panel by Judge Rory MacCabe, S.C., Chairman.