

Issued Decision

UK Anti-Doping and James Lockwood

Disciplinary Proceedings under the Anti-Doping Rules of the Rugby Football League

This is an Issued Decision as between UK Anti-Doping Limited ('UKAD') and Mr James Lockwood ('the Athlete') relating to an Anti-Doping Rule Violation arising from the Rugby Football League ('RFL') Anti-Doping Rules (the 'ADR'). Capitalised terms used in this Decision shall have the meaning given to them in the ADR unless otherwise indicated.

Background and Facts

1. The RFL is the governing body for the sport of rugby league in the UK. UKAD is the National Anti-Doping Organisation ('NADO') for the United Kingdom.
2. The Athlete is a rugby league player. At all material times he was subject to the jurisdiction of the RFL and bound to comply with the ADR. Pursuant to the ADR, UKAD was empowered to conduct Doping Control and Results Management, as those terms are used in the ADR, in respect of all athletes subject to the jurisdiction of the RFL.
3. On 19 November 2014, UKAD collected an Out-of-Competition Sample from the Athlete pursuant to the ADR ('the Sample').
4. The Sample was submitted for analysis to the Drug Control Centre, King's College London, a World Anti-Doping Agency ('WADA') accredited laboratory ('the Laboratory'). No Prohibited Substances or Prohibited Methods were detected in this analysis and these initial results were reported by the Laboratory on 8 December 2014.
5. On 27 January 2015, UKAD instructed the Laboratory to conduct Growth Hormone Releasing Factors analysis on the A sample. On 26 February 2015, the Laboratory reported to UKAD an Adverse Analytical Finding ('the Finding') for Growth Hormone Releasing Peptide-2 (pralmorelin) ('GHRP-2') and its metabolite.
6. GHRP-2 and its metabolites are classified as 'Peptide Hormones, Growth Factors and Related Substances' under section S2 of the WADA 2014 Prohibited List. GHRP-2 and its metabolites are Prohibited Substances.
7. On 3 March 2015 UKAD issued the Athlete with a Notice of Charge ('the Charge'). The Charge related to the commission of an anti-doping rule violation pursuant to ADR Article 2.1 (the Presence of Prohibited Substances in the Sample). The Charge explained the facts relied on in support of the allegation, the details of the Charge, the procedure for analysis of the B Sample and the Consequences of an admission or proof of the anti-doping rule violation. The Athlete admitted the charge and waived his right to have the B Sample analysed.

8. The Athlete does not have, nor has he ever held, a Therapeutic Use Exemption in respect of GHRP-2 and its metabolite.

Admission and Consequences

9. ADR Article 2 provides that:

Each of the acts or omissions set out in Article 2.1 to 2.8 shall constitute an Anti-Doping Rule Violation under these Rules:

- 2.1 The presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in an Athlete's Sample, unless the Athlete establishes that the presence is consistent with a TUE granted in accordance with Article 4.

10. The Athlete has admitted committing an anti-doping rule violation in violation of ADR 2.1.

11. ADR Article 7.5.4 provides:

7.5.4 In the event that the Participant admits the Anti-Doping Rule Violation(s) charged and accedes to the Consequences specified by the NADO (or is deemed to have done so in accordance with the last sentence of Article 7.5.1), neither B Sample analysis nor a hearing is required. Instead, the NADO shall promptly issue a decision confirming the commission of the Anti-Doping Rule Violation(s) and the imposition of the specified Consequences, shall send notice of the decision to the Participant and to each Interested Party, and shall publish the decision in accordance with Article 14.

12. ADR Article 10.2 provides:

10.2 Imposition of a Period of Ineligibility for the Presence, Use or Attempted Use, or Possession of Prohibited Substances and/or Prohibited Methods.

For an Anti-Doping Rule Violation under Article 2.1 (Presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers), Article 2.2 (Use or Attempted Use of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method) or Article 2.6 (Possession of a Prohibited Substance and/or a Prohibited Method) that is the Participant's first violation, a period of Ineligibility of two years shall be imposed, unless the conditions for eliminating or reducing the period of Ineligibility (as specified in Article 10.4 and/or Article 10.5) or for increasing the period of Ineligibility (as specified in Article 10.6) are met.

13. In the circumstances, pursuant to ADR Article 10.2, UKAD has specified the Consequences in respect of the anti-doping rule violation committed by the Athlete to be as provided in ADR 10.2. The Athlete has accepted these Consequences. A period of Ineligibility of two (2) years is therefore hereby imposed and this Decision issued pursuant to ADR Article 7.5.4.

Disqualification of Results and Ineligibility

14. ADR Article 10.9 provides that:

The period of Ineligibility shall start on the date of the decision providing for Ineligibility, save as follows:

- 10.9.3 Any period of Provisional Suspension (whether imposed or voluntarily accepted) that has been respected by the Participant shall be credited against the total period of Ineligibility to be served. To get credit for any period of voluntary Provisional Suspension, however, the Participant must have given written notice at the beginning of such period to the NADO (and the NADO shall copy that notice to each Interested Party). No credit under

this Article shall be given for any time period before the effective date of the Provisional Suspension (whether imposed or voluntarily accepted), regardless of the Participant's status during such period.

15. The Athlete has been subject to a Provisional Suspension since the date of the Charge. The period of Ineligibility is therefore deemed to have commenced on 3 March 2015 and will expire at midnight on 2 March 2017.
16. During the period of Ineligibility, in accordance with ADR Article 10.10.1, the Athlete shall not be permitted to participate in any capacity in a Competition, Event or other activity (other than authorised anti-doping education or rehabilitation programmes) organised, convened or authorised by:
 - the RFL or any body that is a member of, or affiliated to, or licensed by the RFL
 - any Signatory (as that term is defined in the ADR)
 - any club or other body that is a member of, or affiliated to, or licensed by, a Signatory or a Signatory's member organisation
 - any professional league or any international or national-level Event organisation
17. The Athlete, the RFL, the Rugby League International Federation and WADA have a right of appeal against this decision or any part of it in accordance with ADR Article 13.4.
18. The disposition of these proceedings on the terms set out above will be publicly announced via UKAD's website media release after any appeal period has expired and no appeal has been filed, or any appeal has been finalised.

Summary

19. For the reasons given above, UKAD has issued this decision, which records that:
 - the Athlete has committed an ADRV pursuant to ADR Article 2.1
 - a period of Ineligibility of two (2) years shall be the Consequences imposed pursuant to ADR Article 10.2
 - the period of Ineligibility is deemed to have commenced from 3 March 2015 and will end at midnight on 2 March 2017
 - the Athlete's status during the period of Ineligibility shall be as detailed in ADR Article 10.10

Dated this 30th day of March 2015.