

2015 August 19

**iNADO Update #61**

**CCES – WADA Education Conference | eSports | iNADO Webinars | TUE Case Studies**

Dear Colleagues:

Although it is summer holiday season here in the Northern Hemisphere, the work of NADOs and RADOs continues at a rapid pace around the world. This iNADO Update covers a range of ongoing activities, and important resources, that are worth considering for improvement of your own national or regional anti-doping programme.

**CCES – WADA Education Conference – Registration Closes August 21, 2015**

As you know, on October 2-3, 2015, the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES), in partnership with the World Anti-Doping Agency, will host a values-based education conference in Ottawa, Canada. Registration closes this week. Registration is free for two delegates per country/organization.

The purpose of the conference is to bring together researchers and experts to examine how Anti-Doping Organizations can enhance education programs to strengthen the global fight against doping in sport. The aim is to elevate the collective knowledge of Anti-Doping Organizations and researchers worldwide as they strive to comply with the education requirements of the 2015 World Anti-Doping Code.

The first day of the conference will involve an analysis of evidence-based research highlighting the need for substantive education programs, and provide a platform for discussion of how to effectively implement anti-doping educational strategies. The second day will focus on how the research can be used to re-shape the planning, formulation and implementation of values-based education strategies used both nationally and globally. Time will also be spent exploring what additional support is required to help meet educational needs.

For more information and to register, go to: <http://cces.ca/en/educationconference>.

In addition, the CCES will hold an iNADO-supported Open House on Monday, October 5, also in Ottawa. This will be an excellent chance to compare notes with leading anti-doping practitioners on both strategic matters and day-to-day anti-doping operations. There will be presentations and demonstrations by CCES staff on all anti-doping functions. Also, you will have the chance to learn about the CCES' other ethics in sport functions outside of anti-doping. If you would like more information on the Open House, contact us at [info@inado.org](mailto:info@inado.org).

**Keeping Electronic Sport Clean**

The electronic sport of competitive video gaming (eSports) is among the fastest growing in the world. But it now confronts a doping problem. Understanding eSports is important for NADOs and RADOs because of sheer number of players or “gamers,” especially among young males, because of the growth of the gaming industry financially and as a social phenomenon, and also because of the business opportunity of providing anti-doping services to eSports.

The currently flurry of anti-doping activity in eSports started with a media interview. Kory Friesen, a high level professional *Counter-Strike: Global Offensive* gamer, admitted he and other members of his team used the medicinal stimulant Adderall during a tournament where players competed for \$250,000 in prize money. The main doping issue in eSports is the use of cognitive enhancement drugs, including attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) medications such as Adderall and Ritalin (methylphenidate), that are also prohibited stimulants: <http://www.mcvuk.com/news/read/drugs-are-a-problem-but-not-just-for-esports-integrity-and-image/0154318> and <http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/professional-video-gaming-is-a-uniquely-demanding-sport-we-need-more-than-a-drugs-crackdown-to-fix-it-10460201.html> also <http://www.si.com/extra-mustard/2015/07/23/professional-video-game-league-ped-testing-adderall>. But cannabis use for social recreation is also an issue for gamers.

One major organiser of eSports is the Electronic Sports League, or ESL: <http://www.esl.eu/>. It currently has over 530,000 registered users, and over 112,000 registered teams, having played over 23 million recorded games since the league was founded in 1997. The ESL Facebook page has over 700,000 “likes” at the time I wrote this, and its Twitter feed almost 300,000 followers. ESL operates or sanctions worldwide pro tours and events with prize money pools of hundreds of thousands or millions of dollars. Sponsors include major video games companies as well as IT giants such as Intel. This is already a major sport industry and it continues to grow at a rapid rate.

A media report about the Friesen admission describes the ESL and its response: <http://www.wired.co.uk/news/archive/2015-07/20/esl-responds-doping-esports-controversy>. The report quotes the ESL’s communications director about the need for a proper anti-doping programme: "While it [dealing with drug abuse] is and will remain about protecting the integrity of our sport, things like that have to be done right. So there needs to be a policy, a process, a governing body, an appeal system and what not -- just like in any other sport. We're taking the steps to level with traditional sports, and it's going to take a while before any eSports organisation will administer regular drugs tests. We hope to speed this process up by proactively seeking advice from authorities and starting small. Full blown drug tests at eSports events are far away, but that doesn't mean we can't and shouldn't try to tackle the issue."

Shortly thereafter, the NADA Germany announced a partnership with the ESL for prevention and education, and to assist in the preparation of anti-doping rules: [http://www.nada.de/de/nada/aktuelles/newsdetail/?tx\\_news\\_pi1\[news\]=654&tx\\_news\\_pi1\[controller\]=News&tx\\_news\\_pi1\[action\]=detail&cHash=9c65a99c98#.VbDnpPmZAZ8](http://www.nada.de/de/nada/aktuelles/newsdetail/?tx_news_pi1[news]=654&tx_news_pi1[controller]=News&tx_news_pi1[action]=detail&cHash=9c65a99c98#.VbDnpPmZAZ8). Here is the ESL’s own announcement: [http://www.eslgaming.com/news/esl-leads-anti-ped-initiative-esports-support-nada-2170?utm\\_campaign=ESLNetworkbar&utm\\_medium=RSSFeed&utm\\_source=ESLNetworkbarNews&utm\\_content=ESLNetworkbarNewsTopArticles](http://www.eslgaming.com/news/esl-leads-anti-ped-initiative-esports-support-nada-2170?utm_campaign=ESLNetworkbar&utm_medium=RSSFeed&utm_source=ESLNetworkbarNews&utm_content=ESLNetworkbarNewsTopArticles).

Providing a range of anti-doping services to non-traditional sports such as the ESL seems to be smart business development for NADOs and RADOs.

### **iNADO Webinars**

In the lead-up to the CCES – WADA Education Conference, iNADO will offer a series of three webinars for NADO education managers and practitioners focusing on the practical aspects of anti-doping education and prevention work. The sessions will include an overview of a state-of-the-art NADO

education and prevention programme (from the NADA Germany), a national anti-doping education programme for high schools (from UKAD), and promoting ethical decision-making as an anti-doping prevention intervention in national sport federations (from the Dutch Dopingautoriteit).

These webinars are one of the exclusive benefits of iNADO membership. They focus on practical matters and are targeted at different individuals who work in a NADO or RADO.

### **Anti-Doping Knowledge Centre**

The Dutch Doping Authority and iNADO have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding to promote the Anti-Doping Knowledge Centre ([www.doping.nl](http://www.doping.nl)). This is a fully-accessible database with the most comprehensive global collection of doping-related documents & information. In the next two years, the two organisations will work together very closely on further developments of the Anti-Doping Knowledge Centre. For more information, go to:

<http://www.dopingautoriteit.nl/nieuws/algemeen/item/7781/Dopingautoriteit+gaat+samenwerkingsverband+aan+met+het+Institute+of+National+Anti-Doping+Organisations+%28iNADO%29>.

The collection is multi-lingual, but with an English-language abstract for all entries. For example, recent additions to the Anti-Doping Database include a series of anti-doping decisions from the AFLD of France.

Please use the Anti-Doping Knowledge Centre for all of your anti-doping research needs.

### **Old Code, New Code – Different Sanctions for Intentional Cannabis Use**

Those recent French decisions added to the Anti-Doping Knowledge Centre include an appeal decision of the French NADO AFLD overturning a decision of a national federation tribunal on the sanction for cannabis use just before a competition in the sport of judo (<http://www.doping.nl/filter/doc:3353/AFLD%202014%20FFSCDA%20vs%20Respondent%20M68>).

The athlete admitted the use of cannabis before and on the day of the doping control. He stated that he wanted to reduce the anxiety of opposing a stronger opponent, but that “he did not want to enhance his sport performance.” The panel rejected the athlete’s argument, considered the use of cannabis in this sport as dangerous, and imposed a 9 month period of ineligibility (under the 2009 WADC). Note that under Article 10.2.1.2 of the 2015 WADC, the same circumstances arguably give rise to a 2 year period of ineligibility since the use of the Specified Substance was clearly intentional.

### **TUEC Training – WADA Case Study Material**

A NADO colleague recently contacted iNADO for case study material to assist in TUEC training on various medical conditions and prohibited substances or methods. This is an important responsibility of NADOs and RADOs and likely requires at least an annual refresher. I responded by referring to the very good material on the WADA website, much of it from last October’s TUE Symposium in Paris:

[https://www.wada-ama.org/en/resources/search?f\[0\]=field\\_topic%3A161&f\[1\]=field\\_resource\\_type%3A106](https://www.wada-ama.org/en/resources/search?f[0]=field_topic%3A161&f[1]=field_resource_type%3A106)

In particular, for TUE Committee training I would focus on the “Medical Information to Support the Decisions of TUECs” on various conditions or prohibited substances/methods (such as diabetes,

intravenous infusions, etc.) and the “Challenging Medical Issues” presentations on particular topics such as “TUEs for Glucocorticoids,” “TUEs for ADHD,” “Asthma + TUE,” etc. For workshop/small group sessions, see in particular the presentation titled “Medical Conditions: Contentious Cases for Consideration”: [https://wada-main-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/resources/files/17-paris\\_tue\\_conference\\_october\\_2014\\_case\\_studies.pptx.pdf](https://wada-main-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/resources/files/17-paris_tue_conference_october_2014_case_studies.pptx.pdf)

### **CAS Outcome in ABP Case: 2012 Olympic Women’s 1500 Athletics Gold Medalist Banned Eight Years**

This is an important outcome for a second anti-doping rule violation. It demonstrates that, like a first hearing, an appeal can be settled with an athlete waiving their right to a hearing. It also shows the power of the hematological module of the Athlete Biological Passport (ABP). See: [http://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/consent\\_award\\_3498\\_final.pdf](http://www.tas-cas.org/fileadmin/user_upload/consent_award_3498_final.pdf).

The Turkish national athletics federation hearing body decided that the ABP case against Asli Cakir Alptekin was not proven and, therefore, it did not impose any sanction. The IAAF appealed to CAS. The appeal was settled by the parties by an agreement (accepted by CAS) and without a hearing. The athlete agreed that the IAAF had proven an Athlete Biological Passport case against her. The athlete agreed to an eight year period of ineligibility for a second violation. The athlete agreed to the disqualification of a number of competitive results going back some years, and the return of medals, including an Olympic gold medal. The athlete agreed to refund certain prize money. And the athlete agreed to pay for a portion of the IAAF’s legal costs.

### **EADA Announces New CEO**

Elina Kivinukk, the former education manager, has been selected as the CEO of the Estonian Anti-Doping Agency (EADA). The former CEO, Kristel Berendsen, completed her tenure in mid-July. “Kristel left the organisation in a strong position,” said Ms. Kivinukk. “The way Kristel lead EADA was very appealing for me and set an excellent example of a great leader in the anti-doping work. Hopefully I can stand up to the high expectations of our different partners.”

Congratulations to Elina. We wish her well. To contact her: [elina.kivinukk@antidoping.ee](mailto:elina.kivinukk@antidoping.ee). To learn more about this small but very active NADO, go to: <http://www.antidoping.ee/en/>.

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**iNADO is the Institute of National Anti-Doping Organisations. It promotes best practices by NADOs and RADOs, and is their collective voice.**