

IN THE MATTER BETWEEN:

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR DRUG FREE SPORT

AND

LAUREN LINCOLN

SAIDS/2016/06

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This matter served before the Tribunal:

- (i) Silas Nkanunu – Chairperson
- (ii) Dr D Pieterse, a medical doctor and
- (iii) Wendell Domingo – Administrator

1. South African Institute for Drug Free Sport was represented by Farai Razano and the athlete represented herself. An anti-doping violation as set out in the documents forwarded to the athlete and in particular the letter dated the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2016 was put to the athlete who pleaded not guilty.
2. As a result of the plea of not guilty, the prosecutor went through all the relevant documents from the sample taking, the submission of sample to the laboratory and the report of the adverse analytical finding which the athlete all admitted to and when asked again the said admission including the therapeutic use application by her and denial thereof, still pleaded not guilty. We had to try and bring to her knowledge the effect of her admission of the contents of the documents concerned and persuaded her to think again and if need be, get legal aid assistance which she declined.
3. After further explanation she eventually indicated that she understood the process and changed her plea of not guilty to one of guilty.
4. In mitigation of sentence, again after much analysis of issues involved in the process, she finally indicated how the prohibited substances got into her system. In her explanation it was noted with concern that a day or two before the event, she consulted Dr Gerhard Coetzee who apparently did not warn her of the consequences of the medication she was taking.
5. She finally admitted that it would not have been possible for her to enter the competition and partake therein without the medication which she intentionally took in order to compete and possibly finish the competition as she did. Though she finished last she was the first female to cross the line.

Page Two

6. As a result, the panel found her guilty on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 for the use of testosterone and its metabolites and imposed a four (4) year period of suspension from the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2016 until and including 23rd February 2020.

DATED AT PORT ELIZABETH ON THIS 12<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2016

  
S NKANUNU - CHAIR PERSON