

iNADO Workshop 2020

An unexpected First Quarter of 2020 for ADOs by Jorge Leyva

In a few days, the first quarter of this 2020 ends. iNADO had hoped to meet many of you in Lausanne during our Workshop and WADA's annual Symposium. Only a few weeks after the impact of Covid-19 into the world of sports, it seems worthwhile to remember the topics that were going to dominate the anti-doping agenda in 2020:

- the implementation of the Code 2021,
- the introduction of two new International Standards with special attention to the Standard of Education, a major game-changer for smaller organisations,
- the alignment of testing strategies for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games,
- the expansion in the use of new scientific tools (e.g., Dried Blood Spot and Paperless Doping Controls at major games, etc.),
- the CAS dispute between WADA and RUSADA over the consequences of non-compliance incl. the participation of Russia at the Tokyo Games.

As the entire world deals with Covid-19, all these topics are of secondary priority. The virus represents a critical stress test to the health and political systems in our countries. Anti-doping cannot be placed above the health of athletes or of any other members of the society.

Nevertheless, iNADO wants to help NADOs to provide a harmonised response to the current crisis. We are doing what is possible to maintain a continuous exchange of information with our members and with WADA. This seems important not least to reassure athlete communities that anti-doping continues, and they can trust the anti-doping system even if doping controls have been considerably reduced.

Upcoming Webinars

- Recommendations for (smaller) NADOs by Josep de Pencier (iNADO), Apr 8, 2020
- Important Developments in Paralympic Sport for NADOs by James Scalter (IPC), Apr 16, 2020

Testing

The Coronavirus and the Viability of Tokyo 2020

COVID-19 has changed all spheres of public and private life, including the world of sports. The Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games are no exception and before deciding that the Games will continue as planned, the organisers should also consider the distortion of the level playing field for athletes.

Most sport events and leagues, World Championships, and Tokyo 2020 qualifying events have been postponed or cancelled. Recently, the 2020 UEFA European Championship, one major international event, was postponed to 2021 to reflect the need of national associations to resume and finish their leagues.

Similarly, the preparation of athlete for Tokyo has been severely affected; almost all competitions and events were cancelled, travel is currently not possible and many sport facilities are closed. A normal preparation for athletes for the Olympic Games is not possible under these circumstances. The same can

be said for doping programmes. Doping controls have been minimised and in some regions, testing has been completely stopped.

The health of athletes must come first. The pandemic must be contained in advance of the Olympic Games to be safe for athletes to participate in the event. And the level playing field must come second. The severe distortion of training conditions, the absence of competitions and the reduction of anti-doping programmes do not speak in favour of FAIR Games.

Essential Features of Third-Party Certification Programs for Dietary Supplements: A Consensus Statement

The presence of performance-enhancing drugs in dietary supplements poses serious anti-doping and health risks to athletes. However, no regulatory authority conducts or mandates a quality review before dietary supplements are sold.

An article published by Amy K. Eichner et al. in 2019 presents the consensus of the authors on current best practices for third-party certification programmes for dietary supplements:

- a third-party certifier must be demonstrably impartial, conflict-free, and competent to carry out a certification program by being accredited to the International Standard Organization (ISO) 17065
- it is essential that third-party certification programmes evaluate dietary supplements to the consensus standard "ANSI/NSF 173 — Dietary Supplements"
- Third-party certification programmes must conduct analytical testing for performance-enhancing drugs.

The paper discusses also important features for third-party programmes to develop in the future and improve the access to safe, high-quality dietary supplements for athletes. Click [here](#) to read the statement.

Revised International Standard for Testing and Investigations in effect since March

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has reminded stakeholders that the revised [International Standard for Testing and Investigations \(ISTI\)](#) came into force on March 1st, 2020. This is an exceptional revision to the ISTI that becomes effective prior to the 2021 World Anti-Doping Code.

The revision to the ISTI that is now valid specifically relates to the requirement for urine samples to meet a suitable specific gravity for analysis. Follow the [link](#) to read WADAs instructions.

From our Members

Svensk Antidoping and the World's first Doping Control...Dog!

The Swedish Anti-Doping Agency expanded its doping control programme to a new dimension. Molly, the 6-year-old springer spaniel, is the world's first doping dog and an invaluable member of Svensk Anti-Doping.

Molly has been working since 2017 at the agency tracking down illicit drugs and catching cheating athletes. The sniffer, who has become a huge asset in the hunt for prohibited substances, is trained according to the training programme for customs sniffer dogs.



The six-years-old springer spaniel Molly is the world's first, and until today only, anti-doping dog.

"Molly can mark for doping drugs in bags as well as feel, through sweat, when a person has been doped", says Joanna Sjö, who works for the Swedish Anti-Doping Agency. Johanna is also Molly's dog handler and breeder. The procedure is simple. When Molly finds doping drugs, she marks, and then the Swedish Anti-Doping Agency performs a test. (Henric Sundloff, Euroweekly)

This marking procedure has been successful on several occasions resulted in several positive test results. Using their long experience in anti-doping combined with Molly's skills, the Swedish anti-doping Agency can focus their efforts and use their resources in the best possible way while entering new ways in controlling athletes.

Equally important for Svensk Anti-Doping is that Molly's work often results in discussions among athletes, support personnel and DCOs about doping and has helped to raise awareness - one of the main goals of the agency. Furthermore, the springer spaniel has been beneficial in creating positive relationships between the agency and many of the athletes who are interested in the canine and appreciate her presence at competitions.

Tommy Forsgren (Senior advisor at Svensk Anti-Doping) clarified that Molly's missions are based on mutual cooperation and there is no legal ground to claim access to sport facilities or competitions if clubs or associations don't want her presence. However, the opposite is actually the case: "...too many federations and clubs want us to visit them with Molly and we have so far never been denied access to organized sports in Sweden."

Anti-Doping Agency of Kenya and its response to recent ADRVs

Since the beginning of 2020, a large number of doping cases in Kenya have been revealed. Therefore, earlier this month Japhter Rugut, CEO of Kenya's Anti-Doping Agency (ADAK), gave an interview and laid out the strategy of ADAK which highlight the importance of his NADOs work in the country.

"Kenya is not losing the fight against doping. We are on track to prevent the cases of doping which we have seen in the past...." Rugut stated.

Watch the full interview [here](#).

UNESCO supports Anti-Doping Education of High-Performance Athletes & Coaches in Guatemala

The Agencia Nacional Antidopaje de Guatemala ([ANADO Guatemala](#)) is in the middle of a national education programme funded by UNESCO. The project's aim is to educate athletes, coaches, support staff and officials in anti-doping issues.

Funded with \$20,000 and supported by the National Olympic Committee of Guatemala this programme aims to train approximately 100 officials of National Sports Federations, 300 coaches and 1000 athletes. The tools to be used in this programme are:

- informative workshops for athletes (high performance, organised sport, athletes at the school and recreational level) regarding the doping control process, generalities of the World Anti-Doping Code, whereabouts, Prohibited Substances and Methods, TUEs, as well as ethical, legal and health consequences of doping.
- informative workshops for athlete support personnel
- Realization of informative videos that will be transmitted in specific places of greater influx of athletes (training centers of the Guatemalan Olympic Committee) with the participation of high performance athletes. Providing "Clean Game" messages and generalities of the anti-doping issue
- Distribution of informative brochures and development of promotional material


Spanish Interconecta Programme successfully comes to an End

Under the title "World Anti-Doping Program: legal and technical regulatory development", legal officers of Latin America NADOs together with the Spanish Agency for Health Protection in Sport (AEPSAD) exchanged knowledge and cooperation in a last face-to-face seminar of the International Interconecta Programme.

The Training Center of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development in Montevideo, Uruguay, hosted the Seminar from February 17 to 21, 2020. Interconecta, funded by the Government of Spain and facilitated by AEPSAD, which included Education and Testing modules, comes to an end with positive results.

iNADO Member AEPSAD promoted the exchange and transfer of knowledge through this programme, and reinforced Spain's commitment with Latin America to improve the anti-doping activities in these areas, and promote the implementation of the World Anti-Doping Code.
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iNADO is the Institute of National Anti-Doping Organisations. It promotes best practices by NADOs and is their collective voice.

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