

NZRL ANTI-DOPING POLICY



Applicable Date:	24 November 2021
Owner:	CEO / GM High Performance & Football
Review Date:	Annual (To align with the annual revisions of the WADA Code)

Purpose and Scope

NZRL supports and promotes a clean sport environment for the sport of Rugby League, will respond appropriately to any anti-doping rule violation proceedings brought forward by Drug Free Sport New Zealand (DFSNZ) and fulfill our responsibilities as a national sport organisation under New Zealand's Sports Anti-Doping Act (containing the Sport Anti-Doping rules (SADR)), the WADA Code and updates.

Roles and Responsibilities

NZRL will:

- Educate and inform athletes, coaches, and all athlete support personnel of their anti-doping rights, responsibilities and procedures (e.g. TUE, blood sports, whereabouts) and all code updates.
- Assist and support Drug Free Sport New Zealand (DFSNZ) in the implementation of their respective testing programmes across the organisation;
- Forward information or intelligence received regarding doping, or potential doping, to DFSNZ (to analyse and if necessary, investigate); and
- Ensure that athletes and all athlete support personnel who are found to have committed doping violation comply with any sanction imposed under the rules.
- Athletes, Coaches and all support personnel to have an annual (and/or additional as required for specific roles) current certification to the appropriate level/s and in line with current drug agency education and updates.

Application

This policy applies

- All Athletes who are within the jurisdiction of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of NZRL; and
- All athlete support personnel (refer to definition) within the jurisdiction of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of NZRL; and
- All other persons who are otherwise deemed bound or have acknowledged in writing that they are bound by this policy.

Anti-Doping Education

NZRL will educate and inform athletes and athlete support personnel about issues concerning doping in sport, including by:

- (a) Circulating or providing athletes and all athlete support personnel with anti-doping information materials and resources; and
- (b) Collaborate with DFSNZ, WADA and other relevant Anti-Doping Organisations to implement an anti-doping education and information programs for athletes and athlete support personnel.
- (c) Recommended courses or as updated by DFSNZ
 - Attended an DFSNZ seminar or complete recommended e-course
 - Clean sport 101 – non-playing staff or non-athlete facing staff (e.g. Administration)
 - Level 1 – athletes and support personnel
 - Level 2 – coaches, support personnel
 - Support personnel – coaches, support personnel

Testing

NZRL will assist and support DFSNZ in the implementation of its testing programme, by:

- a) Provide DFSNZ an annual schedule of sports events (including tournaments and games/matches) and remind athletes they can be tested outside of these anytime (and anywhere).
- b) Provide DFSNZ with the names of the athletes, number of athletes and classes of athletes within the jurisdiction of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of NZRL.
- c) Collecting accurate and current athlete contact information for all athletes within the jurisdiction of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of NZRL to be tested.
- d) Provide DFSNZ with accurate and current athlete contact information to enable testing to be undertaken and informing DFSNZ as soon as possible in writing when an Athlete retires; and

NZRL will co-operate with DFSNZ, WADA and the relevant Anti-Doping Organisation to undertake testing by ensuring that athletes are made available for testing conducted in accordance with the Sports Anti-Doping Act 2006 and the WADA Code.

Doping Violations


All persons whom this policy applies may be subject to investigation and sanction under this rule if they commit or are party to any one or more of the following doping violations:

- (a) The presence of a prohibited substance or its metabolites or markers in an athlete's bodily specimen;
- (b) Use or attempted use of a prohibited substance or a prohibited method;
- (c) Refusing or failing, without compelling justification, to submit to Sample collection after notification or otherwise evading sample collection;

- (d) Violation of applicable requirements regarding Athlete availability for testing including failure to provide required whereabouts information and missed tests;
- (e) Tampering or attempting to tamper with any part of doping control;
- (f) Possession of a prohibited substance or a prohibited method;
- (g) Trafficking in a prohibited substance or a prohibited method; or
- (h) Administration or attempted administration of a prohibited substance or a prohibited method to any athlete, or assisting, encouraging aiding abetting covering up or any other type of complicity involving a doping violation or any attempted violation.

It is not a doping violation outlined if an athlete obtains a therapeutic use exemption (TUE) for prohibited substance use or a prohibited method from DFSNZ, or any relevant Anti-Doping Organisation.

Approver – NZRL Board

Signed: 
Position: CEO
Date: 24 November 2021

Description of Athlete Support Personnel

This includes, and is not limited to the following, anyone working with, treating, supporting and helping an athlete participating in or preparing for sporting competition e.g. appointed coaches, all athlete facing personnel, managers, NZRL staff and office holders, volunteers and Board members. These personnel also agreed to not engage in personnel conduct which conflicts with their responsibilities to encourage athletes not to dope.

Related Supporting Policies

- NZRL Code of Conduct
- NZRL Constitution
- NZRL Judicial Guidelines
- Sports Anti-Doping Act 2006