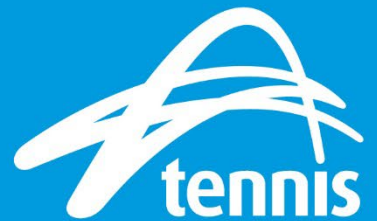


**NATIONAL  
POLICY**



**IMPROPER USE OF  
DRUGS AND  
MEDICINE POLICY**

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# IMPROPER USE OF DRUGS AND MEDICINE POLICY

## PART I – APPLICATION

### 1. Purpose

- 1.1 Tennis Australia (TA) understands that the improper use of drugs and medicine in sport can pose a serious health risk to athletes. TA is committed to ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of participants at all levels. TA therefore takes its responsibility to deter athletes from the use of such substances seriously.
- 1.2 TA recognises that the improper use of drugs and medicine can have a significant impact on the culture of tennis environments and the performance of athletes. TA is committed to creating clean and safe tennis environments where performances and outcomes are fair and honest. TA strives to discourage and prevent the improper use of drugs and medicine in tennis to ensure public confidence in outcomes and role model behaviour of athletes for the community.
- 1.3 TA recognises that the increasing availability and accessibility of Illegal and Illicit Drugs presents a current threat to the community generally, the sport industry, the sport of tennis and its participants. TA takes its responsibility to ensure that science and medicine services are provided to athletes by appropriately qualified and supervised staff to combat this integrity and health threat.
- 1.4 The Improper Use of Drugs and Medicine (**Policy**) seeks to address the aforementioned issues, in a fair and proportionate manner.
- 1.5 The purpose of this Policy is to:
  - (a) provide an effective deterrent to Illegal and Illicit Drugs use by Relevant Athletes, Personnel and the broader tennis community;
  - (b) address and deter any unlawful distribution and use of Illegal and Illicit Drugs in connection with tennis;
  - (c) ensure that appropriately qualified staff are appointed and supported to provide science and medicine services to Relevant Athletes;
  - (d) ensure that injections are only administered to Relevant Athletes as part of appropriate medical treatment;
  - (e) provide a positive example for young people and others in the community; and
  - (f) protect and promote the reputation and integrity of tennis generally, its administrators, sponsors, participants and other stakeholders.
- 1.6 If anything in this Policy is inconsistent with any relevant Federal, State or Territory law, the relevant Federal, State or Territory law prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

## 2. Application

2.1 This Policy applies to the following individuals and organisations:

- (a) persons and administrators appointed or elected to boards of directors, executives and/or committees (including sub-committees) of ATOs and office bearers of ATOs such as presidents, vice-presidents, treasurers, secretaries and selectors;
  - (b) employees of ATOs (whether engaged as full time, part time or casual staff), volunteers of ATOs, and contractors of ATOs;
  - (c) officials appointed or elected by an ATO in relation to players and/or teams which represent such organisations including team management personnel such as coaches, managers, physiotherapists, and other support personnel;
  - (d) medical practitioners and Sports Science Sports Medicine practitioners;
  - (e) tennis coaches (including assistant coaches) who:
    - (i) are appointed and/or employed by an ATO (whether paid or unpaid);
    - (ii) are a TA Coach Member;
    - (iii) are members of a coaching organisation e.g. Tennis Coaches Australia and internationally recognised coaching associations; and/or
    - (iv) have an agreement (whether or not in writing) with an ATO to coach tennis at a facility owned, occupied or managed by, or affiliated with, that ATO;
  - (f) Officials;
  - (g) tennis players who:
    - (i) enter any tournament, competition, activity or event (including camps and training sessions) being held or sanctioned by an ATO;
    - (ii) are registered with a Regional Association and/or Affiliated Club as a player and/or member of that Regional Association and/or Affiliated Club;
  - (h) any other person who is a member or user of, or affiliated to, an ATO (including life members or service award holders);
  - (i) any other person or entity (for example a parent/guardian, spectator or sponsor) who or which agrees, in writing (whether on a ticket, entry form or otherwise), to be bound by this Policy; and
  - (j) all Australian Tennis Organisations,
- (collectively, **Personnel**).

2.2 TA has adopted and implemented the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy, which can be found [here](#). If there is any inconsistency between this Policy and the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy, then the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy will prevail.

### 3. Procedural Obligations

3.1 ATOs must:

- (a) adopt and comply with this Policy;
- (b) publish, distribute and promote this Policy (and any amendments made to it) to their members, in the manner required by TA or an MA and upon reasonable request, make this Policy available for inspection, or copying;
- (c) make such amendments to their constitution, rules or policies necessary for this Policy to be enforceable; and
- (d) ensure that its members adopt this Policy (e.g. a Member Association imposes the Policy on its Affiliated Clubs, and the Affiliated Clubs in turn impose it on their individual members).

### 4. Definitions

4.1 Defined terms not otherwise defined in this Policy have the meaning given to them in TA's National Policies.

4.2 The terms below have the following meanings in this Policy:

**AIS Sports Science Sports Medicine Practitioner Minimum Standards** mean the mandatory minimum standards for sports science and sports medicine staff and contractors engaged to deliver services in those disciplines of as published and amended by the AIS from time to time and available [here](#).

**Affiliated Clubs** means those tennis clubs, which are a member of, or affiliated to, a Regional Association and/or a Member Association.

**Affiliated Organisations** means those organisations (other than Member Associations, Regional Associations and Affiliated Clubs) which are affiliated with Tennis Australia or an MA from time to time in accordance with the TA or MA constitution (as the case may be).

**Australian Tennis Organisation (ATO)** includes Member Associations, Affiliated Organisations, Regional Associations and Affiliated Clubs.

**Chief Medical Officer (CMO)** is the Medical Practitioner appointed by TA to advise and lead medical services for tennis.

**Health Professional** means a person who is listed as a health professional with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulatory Agency.

**Health Professional authorised to administer injections** means a Health Professional who is permitted under their registration and scope of practice to perform an injection. This may include Medical Practitioners, pharmacists, dentists, nurses and paramedics currently registered with the relevant professional board in that field.

**Illegal and/or Illicit Drug** means any substance listed under Schedule 9 and 10 of the current Commonwealth Poisons Standard, as well as any substance listed in [Schedule 1 of the Criminal Code Regulations 2019 \(Cth\)](#), as well as those substances howsoever proscribed under relevant State or Territory legislation, as amended from time to time.

**Medical Practitioner** means a person registered in the medical doctor category by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency with no restrictions on practice.

**Medications** include substances that are classified by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) as a therapeutic good (listed under Schedules 1-8 of the current Commonwealth Poisons Standard), which are ingested, infused, inhaled, injected, inserted or absorbed by the human body. They may take the form of pills, tablets, capsules, liquids, creams, gels, injectable liquids, sprays, adhesive patches, infusions, inhaled powders, vapours or liquids, pessaries, or suppositories.

**Member Association/s (MA or MAs)** means members of Tennis Australia in accordance with its constitution.

**Officials** includes referees, court supervisors, chair umpires, lines people and other related tournament officials referees involved in the regulation of the game of tennis appointed by an ATO and/or any person who holds a TA officials membership.

**Personnel** has the meaning set out in clause 2.1 of this Policy.

**Policy** means this Improper Use of Drugs and Medicine Policy.

**Possession** means the actual, physical Possession, or the constructive Possession of an Illegal Drug<sup>1</sup>.

**Prohibited Conduct** means conduct proscribed at Part III of this Policy.

**Regional Associations** means those regional or metropolitan tennis associations which are members of, or affiliated to, a Member Association.

**Relevant Athlete** means:

- (a) International-Level Athletes – which means Athletes who compete in tennis at the international level, as determined by each International Federation, consistent with the International Standard for Testing and Investigations, including but not limited to the Australian Team, TA Athlete Agreement Holders and TA Funded Athletes;
- (b) National-Level Athletes – which means:
  - i. an Athlete in the SIA Registered Testing Pool, National Testing Pool or Domestic Testing Pool; or
  - ii. an Athlete who participates in or prepares for a sporting event or sporting competition declared under clause 1.05A of the NAD scheme and published on the SIA website; or
  - iii. an Athlete that is part of TA's National Tennis Academy and/or National Development Squad(s).

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<sup>1</sup> Constructive possession refers to a situation where a Relevant Person has no hands-on custody of Illegal Drugs but has knowledge of the location of Illegal Drugs and the ability to exercise control/or a degree of control over them. For example, if the Relevant Person have stored drugs stored in a safety deposit box. Whilst the Relevant Person does not have actual physical custody of the Illegal Drugs, they have knowledge of the location of the Illegal Drugs and the ability to exercise control over them. Thus, under the legal doctrine of constructive possession, the Relevant Person is still considered in possession of the contents of their safety deposit box.

**Relevant Persons** means:

- (a) Coaches as defined in 2.1(e) of this Policy;
- (b) Employees of ATOs (whether engaged as full time, part time or casual staff);
- (c) Medical and Sports Science Sports Medicine Practitioners as defined in 2.1(d) of this Policy;
- (d) Officials; and
- (e) Support Personnel as defined in 2.1(c) of this Policy.

**Supplement** includes any synthetic or natural chemical in the form of a formulated food, a tablet, capsule, gummy, liquid, tincture, or powder that is ingested, infused, inhaled, injected, inserted or absorbed by the human body for the intended purpose of enhancing health and function, including athletic performance. This includes Dietary Supplements and Non-Compliant Supplements.

**Dietary Supplement** includes any supplement which is ingested and is compliant with the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code or the Therapeutic Goods Act.

**Non-Compliant Supplement** includes any supplement which is not a compliant medicine or food. Foods which are compliant with the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code are excluded. Medicines which are compliant with the Therapeutic Goods Act are excluded.

**Tennis Australia (TA)** means Tennis Australia Limited (ABN 61 006 281 125).

**Traffic/Trafficking** means selling, giving, transporting, sending, delivering or distributing (or Possessing for any such purpose) an Illegal Drug (either physically or by any electronic or other means) by a Relevant Person to any third party; provided, however, this definition shall not include the actions of a “bona fide” Medical Practitioner involving an Illegal Drug used for genuine and legal therapeutic purposes or other acceptable justification.

**Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE)** means an exemption that allows an athlete to use, for therapeutic purposes only, an otherwise prohibited substance or method (of administering a substance).

**Use** means the utilisation, ingestion, injection, or consumption by any means whatsoever of any Illegal Drug.

## PART II – OBLIGATIONS

### 5. Illegal and Illicit Drugs

5.1 Personnel must not Use, Possess or Traffic Illegal and/or Illicit Drugs.

### 6. Sport Science and Sport Medicine Personnel

6.1 TA and ATOs must, in the sports science and sports medicine fields:

- (a) only employ, or engage in a voluntary capacity, those individuals who:
  - (i) comply with the AIS Sports Science Sports Medicine Practitioner Minimum Standards; or
  - (ii) are a Chiropractor, Nurse, Osteopath or Paramedic who is registered with the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency,  
to work with Relevant Athletes;
- (b) employ or engage such individuals under a written document, which must incorporate compliance with the AIS Sports Science Sports Medicine Practitioner Minimum Standards as an obligation imposed on the relevant individual; and
- (c) ensure that educational or vocational qualifications, or applicable professional registrations, of all such individuals are verified, checked and recorded at least annually.

### 7. Medication

- 7.1 For Medications requiring a prescription, a Relevant Athlete must only use Medication prescribed to them personally and in the manner directed by a Medical Practitioner.
- 7.2 Relevant Athletes should refer to Global DRO website [here](#) to assist them to determine whether Medications (prescription and non-prescription) are permitted for use in sport, have conditions associated with their use in sport or are prohibited. Medications with conditions or which are prohibited may be able to be taken if a TUE is sought and granted.
- 7.3 TA requires all Relevant Athletes to determine if they need an in-advance or retroactive TUE by referring to the Sport Integrity Australia website [here](#). Once determined the Relevant Athlete should comply with the relevant requirements.
- 7.4 Relevant Athletes should notify the Chief Medical Officer or person nominated by TA when Medications have been provided by a Medical Practitioner not appointed by TA.
- 7.5 Relevant Athletes must not use expired Medication.

### 8. Injections

- 8.1 Relevant Persons or Relevant Athletes with a documented medical condition requiring the possession of injection equipment must notify the Chief Medical Officer or nominated person of their condition and subsequently be listed on the TA or ATO self-injection register.



- 8.2 If a Relevant Athlete is unable to self-inject (for example due to age, impairment or incapacity) then a carer<sup>2</sup> may also be listed on the self-injection register.
- 8.3 Relevant Persons and/or Relevant Athletes must not be in possession of any hypodermic needles or other injection equipment, unless:
- (a) the individual is a Health Professional authorised to administer injections; or
  - (b) the individual's possession has been authorised by the Chief Medical Officer or other Medical Practitioner and is listed on TA or ATO's self-injection register.
- 8.4 Relevant Athletes must not self-inject any substance unless authorised to do so by the Chief Medical Officer or other Medical Practitioner for the treatment of a documented medical condition.
- 8.5 Subject to clause 8.2, Relevant Athletes must not allow any person other than the Chief Medical Officer or another Health Professional authorised to administer injections to administer an injection to them. Any such injection must only be administered by the Health Professional authorised to administer injections for a purpose permitted under this Policy.
- 8.6 Relevant Persons must only administer injections to Relevant Athletes if:
- (a) the Relevant Person is a Health Professional authorised to administer injections or is an authorised carer for the Relevant Athlete; and
  - (b) the injection is for a purpose permitted under this Policy.
- 8.7 For the purposes of clauses 8.5 and 8.6, the only purposes permitted under this Policy are where an injection is medically required for:
- (a) vaccination purposes; or
  - (b) treatment of a documented medical condition; or
  - (c) investigation of a suspected medical condition.

## 9. Supplements

- 9.1 TA recognises that Dietary Supplements may be taken by Relevant Athletes and is committed to establishing a best practice approach and documented procedure for the use of Supplements, with a focus on safety and evidence-based use, given the risk that Supplements may contain substances included on the Prohibited List.
- 9.2 TA acknowledges the value of accredited third-party auditing programs to reduce the risk of Supplements containing substances included on the Prohibited List. TA warns that there is no guarantee that any Supplement is free from prohibited substances, despite any claims made by Supplement manufacturers or clearance by third party auditing companies.
- 9.3 TA adopts the AIS Sport Supplement Framework, which classifies Supplements into four categories according to their effectiveness, safety and current status on the Prohibited List and is available [here](#).

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<sup>2</sup> Carers who are not the Relevant Athlete's parent or guardian must still obtain prior consent from a parent or guardian where required to do so by law or policy, including under TA's Safeguarding Children Code of Conduct.

- 9.4 TA recommends that Relevant Athletes use Sports Integrity Australia's mobile app which lists supplements sold on Australian shelves, which have been certified by HASTA or Informed Sport. The details of how to access and download this app are available [here](#).
- 9.5 Supplements may only be used by Relevant Athletes in accordance with:
- (a) this Policy;
  - (b) TA's Sports Food and Supplements Policy; and
  - (c) any documented procedure for the use of Supplements, as adopted by TA from time to time.
- 9.6 Relevant Persons must not supply or provide Non-compliant Supplements, or unlawfully provide prescription Medication and/or over the counter Medication to a Relevant Athlete.

## 10. No publishing or transmitting certain Illegal Drug content

- 10.1 Personnel must not publish or transmit any content (e.g. a video showing Illegal Drugs being used) that advocates, condones, or encourages the involvement in or the Use of Illegal Drugs.

## 11. Reporting

- 11.1 Personnel must report any criminal activity or conduct that may amount to Prohibited Conduct under this Policy to Tennis Australia Integrity and Compliance Unit (**TAICU**) to any other entity as required by law.
- 11.2 A report to the TAICU can be made via:
- (a) email to [integrity@tennis.com.au](mailto:integrity@tennis.com.au); or
  - (b) TA's Whistle-Blower Service - Stopline. Stopline can be contacted via their website <http://stopline.com.au/whistleblowing-program/> or via their hotline 1800 11 72 33.

## PART III – PROHIBITED CONDUCT

### 12. Prohibited Conduct of Personnel

- 12.1 Personnel commit a breach of this Policy when they:
- (a) subject to clause 17.1:
    - (i) are convicted of any breach of a relevant state or territory or Commonwealth law relating to or involving an Illegal and illicit Drug; or
    - (ii) facilitate, administer, assist, aide, abet, encourage, induce, cover up or are in any way complicit in a breach of clauses 12.1(a)(i), 13 or 14; or
  - (b) fail to report the matters outlined in clause 11.

### 13. Prohibited Conduct of Relevant Athletes

- 13.1 A Relevant Athlete commits a breach of this Policy when they:

- (a) use prescription or over the counter Medication in an unlawful manner; or
- (b) do not comply with clauses 8.3, 8.4 or 8.5.

## 14. Prohibited Conduct of Relevant Persons

14.1 Relevant Persons commit a breach of this Policy when they:

- (a) do not comply with clause 8.3 or 8.6;
- (b) do not comply with clause 9.6; or
- (c) facilitate, assist, aide, abet, encourage, cover up or are in any way complicit in a breach of clause 14.1(b).

## 15. Prohibited Conduct of ATOs

15.1 An ATO commits a breach of this Policy when they:

- (a) fail to report the matters outlined in clause 11; or
- (b) facilitate, assist, aide, abet, encourage, cover up or are in any way complicit in a breach of clause 13 or 14.

## PART V – COMPLAINTS AND DISPUTES

### 16. Complaint and Dispute Handling Procedure

- 16.1 An alleged breach of this Policy will be managed in accordance with the complaint handling processes set out in TA's Member Protection Policy (**MPP**). The MPP is located and available for download [here](#).
- 16.2 Accordingly, any alleged breach of this Policy will be categorised as either a Vexatious, Baseless or Trivial, Category A or Category B breach in accordance with the list of factors set out in clause 10.11 of the MPP.
- 16.3 Depending on the categorisation of the alleged breach, the complaint will be handled in accordance with the relevant Section of the MPP. For example, if an alleged breach of this Policy is categorised by TAICU as a Category A breach it will be managed in accordance with the provisions set out in Section 12 of the MPP, or alternatively, if categorised by TAICU as a Category B breach it will be managed in accordance with the provisions set out in Section 13 of the MPP.

## PART VI – MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

### 17. Legitimate therapeutic purpose

- 17.1 If an Illegal and/or illicit Drug has been lawfully and properly prescribed by a Medical Practitioner for a legitimate therapeutic purpose and evidence can be provided to that effect, then neither the act of prescribing the Illegal Drug by the Medical Practitioner nor the Use or Possession of the Illegal Drug by a Relevant Person in accordance with that prescription will constitute a breach of this Policy.

## 18. Patient confidentiality

18.1 For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Policy shall operate to override the patient confidentiality requirements of professional ethics for health practitioners registered with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Authority.

## 19. Lifesaving medical treatment

19.1 For the avoidance of doubt, lifesaving medical treatment should not be withheld. Provision of lifesaving medical treatment will not constitute a breach of this Policy.

## 20. Review and promotion

20.1 This Policy will be reviewed on a regular basis. In addition to this regular review, recommendation for changes to this Policy may be submitted to the TAICU via [integrity@tennis.com.au](mailto:integrity@tennis.com.au) for consideration. If changes are made, the Policy will be updated via TA's website.

20.2 This Policy will be made available to the general public, and will be communicated to all Board and staff members of TA and all ATOs, on TA's website.

20.3 Should a person wish to make any enquiries in relation to this Policy, please contact the TAICU via [integrity@tennis.com.au](mailto:integrity@tennis.com.au)

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