

## **NSW Powerchair Football Association (NSWPFA)**

### **Improper Use of Drugs and Medicine Policy**

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#### **Policy Intent**

This policy seeks to ensure that everyone involved in Powerchair Football is aware of their rights and responsibilities and sets out the standards of behaviour expected concerning the use of drugs and medicines in our sport.

The NSW Powerchair Football Association (NSWPFA) is committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of athletes and providing a safe and clean environment for all involved in Powerchair Football.

NSWPFA seeks to deter all participants in Powerchair Football from the Use, Possession or Trafficking of drugs or psychoactive substances and from any behaviour that encourages the involvement in or the Use of Illegal Drugs.

The Use of Illegal Drugs has a significant impact on the culture of sporting environments and the performance of individuals, and brings participants, NSWPFA and Powerchair Football into disrepute. It does not provide a positive example for those who may view our Athletes as role models.

The purpose of this Policy is to provide a framework to ensure Medications are used lawfully and appropriately, address and deter any unlawful distribution and Use of Illegal Drugs in connection with Powerchair Football and aim to reduce the harm caused by Illegal Drugs to Relevant Persons and the broader community;

#### **Definitions**

In this Policy the following words have the corresponding meaning:

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

**Illegal 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 to 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.

**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.

**Possession** means the actual, physical Possession, or the constructive Possession of a drug or psychoactive substance.

**Prohibited List** means the ['World Anti-Doping Code International Standard Prohibited List'](#) as amended from time to time.

**Serious Drug Offence** means an offence under a Commonwealth, state or territory law that prohibits the Possession or Trafficking in a drug or psychoactive substance.

**Traffic/Trafficking** means selling, giving, transporting, sending, delivering or distributing (or Possessing for any such purpose) a drug or psychoactive substance (either physically or by any electronic or other means) by a Relevant Person to any third party.

**TUE or Therapeutic Use Exemption** 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.

### **Jurisdiction**

This Policy applies to the Relevant Persons, Personnel or Organisations below:

- (a) Athletes;
- (b) Coaches;
- (c) Referees and officials;
- (d) Volunteers;
- (e) Medical Practitioners, sports science and sports medicine personnel;
- (f) Administrators, board members and support personnel;
- (g) The NSWPFPA, Clubs and Teams;

### **Prohibited Conduct**

#### **Prohibited Conduct of Relevant Persons**

A Relevant Person commits a breach of this Policy when they:

- a) are convicted of a Serious Drug Offence; or
- b) facilitate, cover up or are in any way complicit in a breach of this Policy; or
- c) without reasonable cause, fail to promptly report any conviction of a Serious Drug Offence or other conduct that is reasonably likely to be Prohibited Conduct under this Policy to NSWPFPA and to any other entity as required by law; or
- d) provide a Relevant Athlete with prescription Medication or over the counter Medication in an unlawful manner.

### **Prohibited Conduct of Relevant Athletes**

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

- a) use, possess or distribute prescription or over the counter Medication in an unlawful manner; or
- b) possess hypodermic needles or other injection equipment, unless the individual's possession has been authorised by a Medical Practitioner; or
- c) self-inject any substance unless authorised to do so by a Medical Practitioner for a Permitted Purpose under this Policy; or
- d) allow any person, other than a Health Professional authorised to administer injections or authorised carer, to administer an injection to them, for a purpose other than a Permitted Purpose under this Policy.

### **Prohibited Conduct of Relevant Personnel**

Relevant Personnel commit a breach of this Policy when they:

- a) possess any hypodermic needles or other injection equipment, unless the individual is a Health Professional authorised to administer injections or authorised carer for the Relevant Athlete; or
- b) administer an injection to a Relevant Athlete unless the individual is a Health Professional authorised to administer injections or an authorised carer for the Relevant Athlete; or
- c) administer an injection to a Relevant Athlete for a purpose other than a Permitted Purpose under this Policy; or
- d) supply or provide a Prohibited Supplement to a Relevant Athlete.

### **Prohibited Conduct of Relevant Organisations**

A Relevant Organisation commits a breach of this Policy when they:

- a) without reasonable cause, fail to promptly report any conviction of a Serious Drug Offence or other conduct likely to be Prohibited Conduct under this Policy to NSWPFSA and to any other entity as required by law; or
- b) facilitate or are in any way complicit in a breach of this clause.

### **Permitted Purpose**

A Permitted Purpose under this Policy is only 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.

### **Reporting and Complaints**

Allegations of Prohibited Conduct should be submitted to NSWPFSA, and will be managed in accordance with the NSWPFSA Complaints, Disputes and Discipline Policy.

## **Other Matters**

### **Education**

To prevent breaches of this policy, build positive behaviours in sport and protect participants from the threat posed by the improper use of drugs and medicines, NSWPFPA is responsible for developing and implementing an education plan addressing the content and subject matter of this Policy.

NSWPFPA may, from time to time, direct certain Participants to undertake education, which will be relevant and proportionate to their level of participation in Powerchair Football and the associated integrity risks.

### **Information sharing**

Subject to the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth), Relevant Organisations may share information they receive relating to the improper use of drugs and medicines to enable Sport Integrity Australia to effectively perform its functions, including its anti-doping functions.

### **Interaction with anti-doping**

The Australian National Anti-Doping Policy or an applicable World Anti-Doping Code compliant anti-doping policy (**ADP**) will prevail to the extent of any inconsistency with this Policy in all instances. Any allegation relating to a breach or possible breach of the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy (**ANADP**) or other ADP will be dealt with under that policy.

There is a risk that the lawful prescription, administration and use of drugs, medications and supplements may amount to a contravention of the ANADP or other ADP.

### **Patient confidentiality**

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.

### **Lifesaving medical treatment**

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.

## Appendix A: Best Practice Principles

### 1. Sport science and sport medicine personnel

Relevant Organisations should, in the sports science and sports medicine fields and when working with Relevant Persons:

- a) only engage individuals who:
  - i. comply with the [AIS Sports Science Sports Medicine Practitioner Minimum Standards](#); or
  - ii. are registered with the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency (for example as a Chiropractor, Nurse, Osteopath or Paramedic), and do not have current restrictions in place on their practice;
- b) 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 on commencement and at the expiry/renewal of a specific requirement.

### 2. Medication

- a) Relevant Athletes should refer to the [Global DRO website](#) or the Sport Integrity Australia App to assist them to determine whether Medications are permitted for use in sport, have conditions associated with their use or are prohibited.
  - i. Medications with conditions or which are prohibited may be able to be taken if a TUE is sought and granted.
- b) The Relevant Organisation should direct all Relevant Athletes to determine if they need an [in-advance](#) or [retroactive](#) TUE by referring to the [Sport Integrity Australia website](#) or App. Once determined, the Relevant Athlete should comply with the relevant requirements.
- c) Relevant Athletes should notify the NSWPFPA when Medications have been provided/prescribed by a Medical Practitioner not appointed by the Relevant Organisation.
- d) Relevant Athletes should not use expired Medication.

### 3. Injections

Relevant Personnel or Relevant Athletes with a documented medical condition requiring the possession of injection equipment should notify a nominated person of their medical authority to inject.

### 4. Supplements

- a) No supplement is free from anti-doping risk. In particular, Prohibited Supplements present a risk to athlete health and integrity and may also lead to a breach of a relevant anti-doping policy.
- b) NSWPFPA 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.

- c) NSWPFA acknowledges the value of accredited third-party auditing programs to reduce the risk of Supplements containing substances included on the Prohibited List. NSWPFA warns that there is no guarantee that any Supplement is free from prohibited substances, despite any claims made by Supplement manufacturers or third party auditing companies.
- d) NSWPFA adopts the [AIS Sport Supplement W Framework](#), which classifies Supplements into four categories according to their effectiveness, safety and current status on the Prohibited List.
- e) Supplements should only be used in accordance with this Policy and any documented requirements for the use of Supplements, as adopted by the Relevant Organisation from time to time.

## **5. Illegal Drugs**

Relevant Persons should refrain from any behaviour that advocates, condones, or encourages the involvement in or the Use, Possession or Trafficking of Illegal Drugs, including publishing or transmitting any content (e.g. a video showing Illegal Drugs being used).