

# 2018 World ParaVolley Anti-Doping Report



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## Overview

2018 has seen an increase in intelligent testing strategies being developed and deployed in the field in an effort to make our antidoping program more effective and cost efficient for what we want to achieve.

At the same time, we have been diligent in the long march towards achieving WADA Code compliance using WADA Compliance Questionnaire. This started in 2016 and completed in the end of 2018 with the bulk of the work done between 2017 and 2018. Much of our thanks go to Ms. Louise Ashcroft, WPV Medical Director, for her dedication and hard work in addressing each of our questionnaires so that we have the processes formalized and compliant. We were also able to utilize Mr. Graham Arthur's (ex Director of UKAD) vast experience.

## Testing

- 38 urine tests in total conducted in males and females spanning Europe, N America, S America, Africa and Asia
  - 1 of these was a missed test from Russia
  - 11 additional tests (ESA, GH) were added to these urine samples as required by WADA
- 9 blood tests in total conducted in males and females from Russian testing pool.
  - 1 of these was a missed test from Russia
- The sample selection process was conducted through a mixture
  - Random selection of low risk athletes
  - Risk based selection of athletes in testing pool
  - Targeted tests in RTP players

## TDSSA

37% were OOC (10+7/46),

63% IC (29/46)

In compliance to the Technical Document for Sport Specific Analysis by WADA, sitting volleyball was required to meet set minimum percentage threshold for analysis

TDSSA requirement for ESA and GHRF was 5%.

- Given the total number of tests conducted in 2018, the minimum requirement for ESA was 3 and we did 3.
- The minimum requirement for GHRF was 3 and we did 6.

This met the TDSSA requirements for sitting volleyball.

## Anti-Doping Violation

Whilst we did not have any anti-doping violations this year from the 2018 testing program, we did carry over and completed the ADRV of one athlete from Brazil, Mr Levi Cesar Gomes. He was tested positive at an event in 2017 after being on our RTP list since 2016. The investigation and hearing process took longer than planned but thanks to Mr. Graham Arthur and collaborative work from World ParaVolley board members and external agencies we completed his case in 2018. He was handed a sanction of 4 years ban.

The experience gained from this year's testing program led to the commission to assign Cologne as our expert lab (steroid Athlete Passport Management Unit). The steroid APMU will review any abnormal steroid result from our 2019 testing program and report / advise on future intelligent testing on that athlete. This should reduce time delay in analysis of deranged results. We look forward to collaborative work with the experts in the field of anti-doping testing and analysis.

## Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE)

We have been fortunate that very few requests came through for 2018.

Four (4) retrospective TUEs were issued stemming back from 2017. Retrospective TUEs are not encouraged but given the medical nature of the applications the outcome would have been the same if it was received contemporaneously, so the TUE panels agreed for it to be granted in each case.

WADA was kept in the loop with each of these retrospective TUEs throughout the process. They were also helpful in ensuring Code compliance on our side.

## Education

As we continue to develop our testing program, we also have made some steps in the education sector. In the absence of a substantial budget or staff size, we were able to assign Isadora Toscano from Brazil. Her role was to oversee the new online education system, ADeL, that was launched in 2018 by WADA. It is free and may be expanded in 2019 as we gain experience in how it can be used.

Many national federations and their respective ADO already have education programs and are compliant with requirements of WADA and our standards. ADeL plays a role in those smaller nations who lack the resources / organization.

To better serve the athletes, we are also considering ADeL to be used for the following support personnel as part of their application to be World ParaVolley affiliated.

- Coaches
- Team doctors
- Team physios

We have also trialed webinar-based seminars at some of our events - Louise Ashcroft delivered top quality presentations on anti-doping. The feedback received was very positive and we hope to

expand on this. The main issue was language barrier which was overcome by team translators from the entourage.

## **Staff development**

As our Commission develops in functionality and sophistication, we have increased our member size through the recruitment of volunteer Dr. Kaitlyn Hughes from Canada. Dr. Hughes will be managing the following aspects of anti-doping:

- Results management
- TUE management

So far she has been very useful and quickly established herself with our functionality. She has been proactive and is involved in other aspects of our work including reports and Whereabouts management.

We also welcome Nadege Veintimilla, the current FIVB Medical & Anti-doping Manager-Director, who will be taking on the whereabouts Manager role and assisting in Education.

## **Recommendations**

Now that we have attained WADA compliance, we can focus our sights on program development. One area that has been sadly put on the back bench is Education. Whilst we look to be cost efficient and intelligent in our testing program, we want to set aside a sum to develop our education program. This would likely involve further expansion of the commission size.

We are waiting for WADA independent panel to decide on RUSADA's compliance process. Once a decision has been made, the commission needs to review whether we need to keep team Russia on our testing program's high-risk list. So far from the testing evidence collected they have yet to show any ADRV. Small infringements were seen through poor administrative cover. The latter part would hopefully be overcome by passing the onus of responsibility to the team manager / coach / administrators using Team Whereabouts instead of individual Whereabouts. Depending on the results, we may choose to assign some specific athletes to our RTP list.

Submitted by:

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