

Anti-Doping Messages for Community Football Leagues



Club players and officials of any Australian Football Competition that is operated and managed under the laws of Australian Football are bound by the AFL Anti-Doping Code (Clause 21)

The AFL's Stance on Performance Enhancing Drugs

- » The AFL is a signatory to the World Anti-Doping Code (WADA)
- » WADA is the international organisation responsible for fighting doping in sport.

The AFL's Anti-Doping Code exists to:

- » Ensure that the AFL Competition is conducted upon the basis of athletic prowess and natural levels of fitness and development and not on any pharmacologically enhanced performance;
- » Protect Players from using substances which may cause acute or long term harm to their bodies;
- » Educate the Players to understand the dangers and consequences of the use of performance enhancing substances; and
- » Set an example for all participants in the sport of Australian Football by condemning the use of performance enhancing substances.

KEY RESOURCES AVAILABLE

ASDA Website has education resources including video clips that provide more information. ASDA online education can be accessed via the ASDA website. www.asada.gov.au

ASDA Hotline can be contacted on 1300 027 232 – they can advise if a substance is on the prohibited list.

Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA)

- » All members of community football clubs are bound by the AFL Anti-Doping Code under the laws of Australian Football;
- » ASADA is responsible for implementing the AFL's Anti-Doping Code at all levels of competition;
- » It is possible that ASADA could test players at community level, and if they do attend training or match day, players notified of their requirement for a doping test must comply with the request;
- » ASADA works closely with Australian Customs & Border Protection Services to investigate the trafficking of prohibited drugs, medications and substances;
- » ASADA's responsibilities for investigations extend to community football.

What this means for community football

- » Any player that purchases a prohibited substance, as defined in the WADA Prohibited List (available on the WADA website or via the WADA Prohibited List App), or a product containing a prohibited substance of any form through any means including online will be investigated by ASADA and sanctioned under the AFL Anti-Doping Code;
- » ASADA does not endorse the use of supplements as they have a high risk of contamination from prohibited substance;
- » Any player purchasing supplements over the internet

risks being identified by Australian Customs and referred to ASADA for investigation with the likely outcome to be a sanction under the AFL Anti-Doping Code;

- » You do not have to be tested to breach the code and receive a sanction;
- » Sanctions under the AFL Anti-Doping Code can be up to four years and prevent a person from performing any role at any sporting club including playing, coaching or being a support staff member. This will include participation in an event, game or activity managed by any sporting organisation with similar obligations under ASDA's requirements.

Key messages for community football

- » If players are using, purchasing or trafficking prohibited substances they will be caught by ASADA and sanctioned under the AFL Anti-Doping Code;
- » If requested to undertake a doping test by ASADA as a player you are required to complete this test;
- » Do not purchase or use any prohibited substances;
- » Do not purchase supplements over the internet;
- » Before you purchase or use any substances review the ASDA website or contact the ASDA hotline.

Next steps

- » The AFL will continue to work with State bodies and Community Leagues to develop anti-doping education resources and messages.

