

Doping Cases¹ by Benoit Girardin

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Since June 1, 2004, the SDRCC has been responsible for managing disputes related to doping in sport. The Canadian Anti-Doping Program (**CADP**) is administered by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (**CCES**). All sports and their members must respect the CADP and refer any disputes to the SDRCC. The following is a summary of how a doping case is handled:

Tests and Analysis

First, the athlete is tested during or outside of a competition. The results of the test are analyzed in a laboratory accredited by the CCES and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) (Institut Armand Frappier, Montreal). The laboratory issues a certificate of analysis indicating the absence or presence of a banned substance. If a substance is present, the quantity is also indicated.

Review by the CCES

Upon receiving the laboratory report on sample **A**, and **B** if applicable, the CCES reviews the case and decides whether the anti-doping rules have been violated. If a violation is alleged, the CCES decides on the sanction to be applied² and invites the athlete to a) confirm the violation and accept the sanction, b) provide an additional explanation, or c) exercise his or her right to be heard and to challenge the CCES decision before the SDRCC. If the athlete decides to take the matter to the SDRCC, the role of the CCES changes, and it becomes a "party" in the case, stage, the SDRCC takes over the procedures to follow.

Anti-Doping Tribunal¹

The SDRCC names an independent arbitrator, who decides on the deadlines for exchanging documents, arguments and evidence, and these deadlines must be respected by the athlete and the CCES. Once this information has been received and communicated, the arbitrator holds a hearing for the parties.

The Hearing

The hearing can be held by conference call, video conference, in person, through written submissions, or a combination of these options. During the hearing, the CCES presents its evidence first. It must demonstrate that the anti-doping rules have been violated and that the sanction it would like to apply is reasonable. The athlete then has the opportunity to demonstrate his or her position to the arbitrator, in response to the CCES allegations and in doing so, challenge the violation and the sanction. Once the hearing has ended, the arbitrator renders a decision in a short delay. All of these procedures are confidential. Only the decision itself is made public.

For more information on doping, please visit the following sites: CCES www.cces.ca Our doping section: www.adrsportred.ca/doping/index_e.cfm

¹ The anti-doping rules are also applicable to the athletes support personnel as defined in the CADP ² No violation or sanction will be confirmed without a hearing before the SDRCC or the parties' agreement.

