



BANNED SUBSTANCES POLICY

Version 1

Proposal to the board: 18 June 2009



Government of South Australia
Office for Recreation and Sport

be active.

BLIND SPORTS SA - BANNED SUBSTANCES POLICY

Position Statement:

- Blind Sports SA are accountable to the umbrella body being the Blind Sports Australia.
- Blind Sports SA is committed to maintaining a safe, secure and supportive environment for athletes who engage in sport.
- To ensure continuous improvement, these procedures will be reviewed after every drug-related incident, whilst the policy will be reviewed at least every two (2) years.
- Blind Sports SA condemn the use of any prohibited substances and methods in sport by persons participating in any of the Associations programs as it is contrary to the ethics of sport and potentially harmful to the health of athletes. The unsanctioned use of illegal and / or performance altering substances, or the distribution of drugs such as alcohol, tobacco and prescription drugs is not accepted.
- Blind Sports SA acknowledge that all persons involved in its programs at any level should be knowledgeable of and comply with all anti-doping policies and rules applicable to them and will use their best efforts to assist these athletes to fulfil their responsibilities. (A list of all prohibited substances and other information is available on the Australian Sports Drug Agency website at www.asda.org.au. Anti-doping policies for relevant sports are available on the relevant national sporting association's website).
- Should any athlete be banned under the anti-doping policy of any sport and seek to compete in the activities of Blind Sport Australia, then Blind Sport Australia would apply the terms of that ban to its own competitions for that athlete. Blind Sports SA would be obliged to consider the eligibility of the athlete for state championships and other events.
- In the case of illicit drugs being suspected: Blind Sports SA, the police, and the club must be notified.

Principles and Rationale:

- It is most unlikely that persons competing in Blind Sports SA events will be subject to drug-testing.
- Many persons who are selected to represent Blind Sports SA at the national level will have received information and education about anti-doping from their own relevant club, state or national sporting association or from the South Australian Sports Institute.
- Blind Sports SA Interstate Team Managers and Coaches should make themselves familiar with the relevant sport's anti-doping policy, and also refer to the ASDA website for other important information. *(It would be advisable for ASDA to provide a brief talk to coaches and managers every couple of years at the Officials' meeting in March)*

- Interstate Team Managers and Coaches should allow for some discussion relating to anti-doping at a training session prior to the students participating at the national event. This education should also involve discussion relating to the use / misuse of substances such as Sudafed, caffeine, alcohol, marijuana and tobacco and their performance altering effects.
- Substances such as alcohol and tobacco are banned at all times.
- IN ALL INCIDENTS COACHES / MANAGERS SHOULD TAKE A “WELFARE FIRST” APPROACH. Each case should be viewed in its own context.

MANAGEMENT OF INCIDENT:

Initial Procedures:

Calmly but firmly intervene ensuring the safety and health of student/s and particularly utilising OHS&W principles in caring for yourself.

- Consider calling on other staff. If intervening staff member is not a teacher, a teacher should be called to the scene.
- Inform student/s of suspicion and seek their cooperation.
- Make a first aid assessment (and if necessary seek medical support)
- Note incident details – who, what, when and where
- Safely, collect and suspected drugs and drug paraphernalia
- Have the student(s) wait under adult supervision in as private a place as possible
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Initial interview:

- Continue to monitor the health and safety of the student/s
- Secure the evidence
- Make an initial assessment of the seriousness of the incident
- Inform the student/s of the form of the proceedings and their rights
- Ensure all participants understand proceedings and their roles
- Interview student/s to collect and document facts about the incident
- Record any information collected on the incident report form (Appendix A)

Further Actions:

- If an assessment has been made that the student(s) is under the influence of illegal drugs or that legal drugs are being used in an unsanctioned way, then the Coach/ Manager must immediately contact the Executive of Blind Sports SA.
- The Executive will, as soon as possible, inform the parents / carers and any other guardian as necessary.
- The Executive Officer should in discussion, use their professional judgement in determining when and whom to notify (This could be the Police). The seriousness of the incident will influence the decision of who to contact and what kind of penalty will be imposed (and by whom)
- The Executive Officer is to also make a decision regarding consequences, including punitive and deterrent after consultation with the Board.

APPENDIX A: Incident Management Roles and Documentation

Incident management checklist – suspected drug-related incident	
	Check box
Has First Aid/Emergency Care been attended to?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the basic facts to ensure safety of athlete/s known?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the safety and welfare of all athletes involved been attended to? (Are there other athletes who have taken the substance?)	<input type="checkbox"/>
If appropriate, has the athlete been escorted to a safe, confidential place where the state of health can be closely observed?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the athlete assessed as “well” to continue the interview?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a presumption of innocence until proven otherwise?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there any evidence? If yes, has the evidence (drugs/drug paraphernalia) been secured? Witnessed by _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the athlete/s been informed as to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steps of process that will now occur • Right to representation by advocate of choice • Right to be heard, including the right to remain silent • Right to question evidence • Right to hear what is alleged and to know reasons for determinations 	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you discussed informing the parents/ carers/ Sport Official with the athlete and ascertained any issues of concern with engaging these people.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the athlete admitted to using, possessing or distributing the drug?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you know what the substance is? If yes, is it Legal but unsanctioned (tobacco, alcohol) Legal to possess, but illegal to supply (eg supplying prescription medicine to others) – do you need to call police as collaborative partners or to clarify legality issues? Illicit – call police and suspend further Sport investigations	<input type="checkbox"/>

**APPENDIX B: Initial incident record – suspected drug related incident
To be completed by the intervening official**

Intervening official: _____

Position: _____

Sport: _____

Today's date: / /

/ Time now: _____

Details of incident:

(Attach further sheets if there is not enough room for details on this proforma)

Location of incident? _____

Date of incident? _____

Time of incident? _____

Who was present at the scene? _____

What was said? _____

What was observed? _____

What was said? _____

Did you confiscate any drug or drug paraphernalia? Yes / No If yes, please detail

Did you request backup? Yes / No If yes, who else attended?

Health of athlete/s (observed behaviour, disclosures):

What was the health status of the athlete(s) at the time of your intervention?

Did you need to take any immediate actions, such as first aid or medical support? Yes / No
(If yes please detail)

Did you contact the designated Team Officer? Yes / no
At what time did this occur? _____

APPENDIX C: ATHLETE INTERVIEW RECORD – suspected drug-related incident
To be completed by coach/manager
(If more than one athlete involved in incident, an athlete interview record should be completed for each athlete.)

Is this the first interview with this athlete for this incident? Yes / No
If no, when was the previous interview? _____

Interview conducted by: _____ Position: _____

Date of interview: / / Time: _____ Place: _____

Athlete's name: _____ Age at time of incident: _____

Other participants in the interview: _____

Has the athlete been informed of the process to be followed? Yes / No

What are the allegations made against the athlete?

Has the athlete been informed of these allegations? Yes / No

If no, detail why: _____

Athlete's response to the allegations: _____

Is there any drug or drug-related paraphernalia involved? Yes / No

If yes, please detail type and quantity and brief description: _____

Details of discussions: _____

Was the athlete advised of their right to appeal against the process? Yes / No

Did they make an appeal? Yes / No

Have the police been contacted? Yes / No

Has the Team Officer been contacted? Yes / No

What was the Team Officer's advice? _____

What decisions have been made by the Team Officer as a result of the athlete's behaviour? _____

Has the athlete been given a fair hearing? (e.g. has the athlete been afforded the opportunity to tell their whole story prior to a determination) Yes / No

Athlete's comments (optional): _____

Interview ended at (time): _____

Signed (Team Officer): _____