



**ROWING AUSTRALIA**

**Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy**

**Version 1**

**Effective from (January 1, 2010)**



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## 1. Position statement

- 1.1. The use of illicit drugs is harmful to *athletes* and Rowing Australia seeks to educate *athletes* to prevent the use of illicit drugs in sport. Further, the use of illicit drugs by *athletes* can bring the sport into disrepute and sets a poor example for other members of the community who view *athletes* as role models.
- 1.2. Rowing Australia wishes to prevent the use of Illicit Drugs in Sport through increased education for *athletes* and *members* in relation to the potential harms of the use of Illicit Drugs.
- 1.3. This policy is designed to help prevent the uptake of illicit drug use and reduce the drug-related harm to individuals, families and stakeholders of Rowing Australia and the broader community.
- 1.4. Rowing Australia will adopt a management approach which focuses on education and counselling in addressing the use of illicit drugs in the out-of-competition context.
- 1.5. Some illicit drugs may be legitimately used under the supervision of a physician for a clinically justified purpose. The possession and use of illicit drugs is subject to Commonwealth, State and Territory laws.
- 1.6. Rowing Australia has adopted and implemented an Anti-Doping Policy and rules (adopted Jan 2009) which conform to the World Anti-Doping Code. The World Anti-Doping Code Prohibited List includes illicit drugs which are prohibited in-competition. *This Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy differs from the Rowing Australia anti-doping policy in that it addresses the out-of-competition use of illicit drugs, concentrating primarily on education, awareness and prevention initiatives.*

## 2. Objectives

- 2.1. Rowing Australia is committed to deterring the use of illicit drugs in sport through:
  - a) tailored education and prevention programs, including the use of positive role models,
  - b) effective education and counselling for *athletes* identified as using illicit drugs.



### 3. Application

3.1. This Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy applies to:

- a) *Athletes*;
- b) *Athlete Support Personnel*;
- c) *Members*;
- d) Employees and contractors of Rowing Australia; and
- e) Any other *Person* who has agreed to be bound by this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.

### 4. Obligations

4.1. The *persons* identified in Article 3 (Application) are bound by this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy as a condition of their participation and/or involvement in the sport.

#### 4.2. Roles and responsibilities – *Athletes* must:

- 4.2.1. be knowledgeable of and comply with all rules applicable to them under this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.
- 4.2.2. use their influence on other *Athletes* to reinforce the education messages regarding illicit drugs.
- 4.2.3. read and understand the *List of Prohibited Illicit Drugs* as it relates to them and keep up to date with any changes to the list.
- 4.2.4. act in a discreet and confidential manner in discharging their obligations under this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.

#### 4.3. Roles and responsibilities – *Athlete Support Personnel, Employees and Contractors* must:<sup>1</sup>

- 4.3.1. be knowledgeable of and comply with all rules applicable to them or the *Athletes* whom they support under this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.
- 4.3.2. read and understand the *List of Prohibited Illicit Drugs* as it relates to them and keep up to date with any changes to the list.

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<sup>1</sup> **Note: It is recognised that *Athlete Support Personnel* in certain professions may be subject to legal obligations with respect to confidentiality and disclosure.**



- 4.3.3. use their influence on *Athletes* to reinforce the education messages regarding illicit drugs.
- 4.3.4. act in a discreet and confidential manner in discharging their obligations under this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.

**4.4. Roles and responsibilities – Rowing Australia will:**

- 4.4.1. adopt, implement and comply with this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.
- 4.4.2. require as a condition of membership that the policies, rules and programs of *Member* organisations are in compliance with this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.
- 4.4.3. develop and implement appropriate education and prevention programs and initiatives for the sport.
- 4.4.4. use its best efforts to assist all those to whom this policy applies to fulfil their responsibilities under this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.
- 4.4.5. adopt applicable privacy principles and guidelines consistent with DoHA requirements
- 4.4.6. make reasonable efforts to make this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy available to *Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel, Members, and any other Person* who has agreed to be bound by this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.
- 4.4.7. ensure that at all times it has the authority to enforce this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.
- 4.4.8. ensure all employees, staff and contractors act in a discreet and confidential manner in discharging their obligations under this Policy, applying privacy practices consistent with the Privacy Act and applicable privacy principles and guidelines consistent with DoHA requirements.
- 4.4.9. provide information and education to all staff regarding their responsibilities in relation to matters pertaining to the Anti-Illicit Drugs campaign and applicable privacy principles and guidelines consistent with DoHA requirements.
- 4.4.10. obtain DoHA approval for any amendments to this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.

**5. Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy Officer**



- 5.1. Rowing Australia shall appoint a suitable person (such as the Chief medical Officer, an employee, consultant or office bearer) to the position of Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy Officer.
- 5.2. The Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy Officer shall;
  - 5.2.1. be responsible for the supervision and administration of this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy and the associated education programs, and dissemination of this policy to *Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel, Members*, and any other *Person* who has agreed to be bound by this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy
  - 5.2.2. act in a discreet and confidential manner in discharging their obligations under this Policy, applying privacy practices consistent with the Privacy Act and applicable privacy principles and guidelines.

## 6. Education Program(s)

- 6.1. Rowing Australia will develop and implement appropriate education and prevention programs and initiatives for the sport consistent with the Illicit Drugs in Sport - Education and Action Plan.
- 6.2. The education and prevention programs will promote the key messages of the Action Plan to identified target groups and will be delivered through a medium(s) suitable to the target audience(s). These programs and initiatives will reflect key messages such as:
  - a) illicit drug use is harmful,
  - b) illicit drug use can affect your sporting performance - in or out of competition, during the off-season, or on the weekend,
  - c) illicit drug use can affect your reputation and sporting career,
  - d) illicit drug use can affect your sports team,
  - e) illicit drug use can impact on the community who support you,
  - f) participating in sport supports a healthy lifestyle.
- 6.3. Rowing Australia will incorporate information relating to this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy, including the *List of Prohibited Illicit Drugs*, into the education programs.
- 6.4. Rowing Australia will provide information about, and referrals to, counselling and support programs in relation to Illicit Drugs in the education programs. These programs may be face to face or an on-line service as appropriate.



## **7. List of Prohibited Illicit Drugs**

- 7.1.** The drugs prohibited under this Policy will be scheduled in the *List of Prohibited Illicit Drugs* which is an attachment to this Policy (Attachment D). (This list will be the “Drugs to be Included in Out-Of-Competition Testing” as determined by the responsible Australian Government Department (DoHA) as amended from time to time).
- 7.2.** Any modifications to the *List of Prohibited Illicit Drugs* will be approved by the Rowing Australia Board. The modified list will come into effect 3 months after its adoption by the Rowing Australia Board.
- 7.3.** Rowing Australia will make reasonable efforts to inform *Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel, Members* and any other *Person* who has agreed to be bound by this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy of any changes to the *List of Prohibited Illicit Drugs*.

## **8. Confidentiality and Reporting**

### **8.1. Incorporation of Relevant Illicit Drugs in Sport Policies**

- 8.1.1.** The Rules of each *Member Organisation* shall specifically provide that all *Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel* and other *Persons* under the jurisdiction of Member Organisations shall be bound by this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.

### **8.2. Privacy**

- 8.2.1.** Rowing Australia will act in a discreet and confidential manner in relation to all information relating to this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy and associated programs. Rowing Australia will adopt privacy practices consistent with and applicable privacy principles and guidelines consistent with DoHA requirements and as required, the Privacy Act.
- 8.2.2.** Rowing Australia and its *members*, employees and agents shall act in a discreet and confidential manner in discharging their obligations under this Policy.

## **9. Amendment and Interpretation of Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy**

- 9.1.** This Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy may be amended from time to time by Rowing Australia (subject to DoHA approval) A copy of the amended Policy must be provided to DoHA.
- 9.2.** This Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy shall be interpreted as an independent and autonomous text and not by reference to existing law or statutes.



- 9.3. The headings used for the various Parts and sections of this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy are for convenience only and shall not be deemed part of the substance of this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy or to affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.
- 9.4. The Definitions shall be considered an integral part of this Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy.
- 9.5. This Illicit Drugs in Sport Policy shall apply from the date the Policy became effective.
- 9.6. Words in the singular include the plural and vice versa.
- 9.7. A *Person* includes a body corporate.
- 9.8. Reference to “including” and similar words are not words of limitation.

## 10. Definitions

**Athlete:** For purposes of Illicit Drugs Testing and Sample Collection, any Person identified by Rowing Australia who participates in sport under the authority of Rowing Australia.

**Athlete Support Personnel:** Any coach, trainer, manager, agent, team staff member, official, scientist, medical or para-medical or other personnel working with, treating or assisting an athlete preparing or participating for sporting activities.

**List of Prohibited Illicit Drugs:** The List identifying the Illicit Drugs prohibited under this policy.

**Member:** A person who, or a body which, is a member of Rowing Australia; a person who, or body which, is affiliated with Rowing Australia or a person who is a member of a body which is a Member of or affiliated with Rowing Australia.

**Rowing Australia:** The organisation (as per the constitution etc) which is a national non-governmental organisation recognised by the Australian Sports Commission as a National Sporting Organisation or National Sporting Organisation for people with a Disability, administering one or more sports at a national level. Rowing Australia is responsible for adopting rules, for initiating, implementing and enforcing any part of the Illicit Drugs Testing or Sample Collection process.

**Person:** A natural person or an organisation or other entity, including but not limited to: an athlete, athlete support personnel and member.