

UNE Sports Academy Anti-Doping Policy

Effective Date: March 3, 2026.

1. Our Commitment to Clean Sport

The University of New England (UNE) Sport Academy is fundamentally committed to the principles of fair play and clean sport. We believe in success through hard work, dedication, and natural ability. Doping is contrary to the spirit of sport and poses a significant health risk to athletes. The policy outlines our zero-tolerance approach to doping.

Compliance with this policy is a condition of participation in the UNE Sports Academy program. This policy operates in conjunction with the [Sport Integrity Australia \(SIA\) Anti-Doping Policy](#) and the World Anti-Doping Code.

2. Who this Policy Applies to

This policy applies to all individuals associated with the UNE Sports Academy, including:

- **Athletes:** All participants in the program
- **Athlete support personnel:** All coaches, strength and conditioning staff, medical personnel, and any other individuals working with Academy athletes.

3. The Principle of Strict Liability

This is the most important rule of anti-doping.

Athletes are solely responsible for any prohibited substance found in their body regardless of how it got there.

This means that a violation occurs whether the athlete used a substance intentionally, unintentionally, negligently, or was misled by a third party. “I didn’t know it was banned” or “My doctor gave it to me” is not an excuse.

4. Anti-Doping Rule Violations (ADRVs)

Engaging in any of the following is a violation of this policy and will result in sanctions:

1. **Presence:** A prohibited substance is found in an athlete’s sample
2. **Use or Attempted Use:** An athlete uses, or tries to use, a prohibited substance or method.
3. **Evading or Refusing a Test:** Avoiding, refusing, or failing to submit to a drug test without compelling justification
4. **Possession:** Possessing a prohibited substance or method.
5. **Trafficking:** Distributing, selling, or transporting a prohibited substance
6. **Administration:** Giving a prohibited substance to an athlete.

7. **Tampering:** Interfering with any part of the sample collection or testing process.
8. **Complicity:** Assisting, encouraging, or covering up an ADRV.
9. **Prohibited Association:** Associating in a professional or sport-related capacity with a person (e.g., coach or doctor) who is currently serving a ban for a doping violation.

5. Prohibited Substances & Methods

The official list of banned substances and methods is maintained by the world Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and is updated annually.

- **It is the athlete's responsibility to check the status of any substance or method before use.**
- The Current [WADA Prohibited List](#) is the official source.

6. Medications & Supplements

- **Medications:** Many prescription and over-the-counter medications contain prohibited substances. All athletes must check the status of any medication before use on [Global DRO](#)
- **Supplements:** Supplements pose a high risk of containing banned substances, even if they are not listed on the label. The use of supplements is entirely at the athlete's own risk. Sport Integrity Australia recommends against the use of supplements where possible.
- **Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE):** If an athlete has a legitimate medical need to use a prohibited substance, they must apply for TUE in advance. Applications are managed by the Australian Sports Drug Medical Advisory Committee (ASDMAC) via Sport Integrity Australia.

7. Consequences of an Anti-Doping Organisation

If an athlete is found to have committed an ADRV by a relevant anti-doping authority (e.g., SIA), they will face two sets of consequences:

A) Sanctions from the Anti-Doping Organisation:

- These are official sanctions applied under the World Anti-Doping Code and may include:
 - A Period of **ineligibility** (ban) from participating in all sport.
 - **Disqualification** of results, medals and prizes.

B) Consequences for UNE Sports Academy Athletes:

- Any athlete who receives a sanction from ADRV from an official anti-doping authority will face immediate consequences from the Academy, including:

- **Revocation of all Academy Benefits:** Immediate termination of the athlete's position, scholarship, accommodation bursary, and all other benefits under the UNE Sports Academy Agreement.

8. Athlete & Staff Responsibilities

Athletes must:

- Proactively learn and comply with all applicable anti-doping policies
- Take full responsibility for what they ingest and use
- Inform all medical personnel of their anti-doping obligations

Staff must:

- Know and comply with this policy
- Use their influence to foster a clean sport culture