

APPENDIX 2: SPA DRUGS POLICY

(This policy may be updated when necessary – check before events)

Purpose of the Policy

The S.P.A is a drug free association and recognises their need to provide a safe and healthy environment for players and supporters alike. The establishment of a drug-free tournament policy is consistent with the S.P.A's desire to promote a safe and enjoyable environment.

Drug Use and Possession Prohibited

1. The S.P.A prohibits the use, possession, sale or distribution of illegal/controlled substances and or drug related paraphernalia on the tournament premises whilst competing or during the tournament hours. If a player attends any tournament under the influence of drugs, the player will be disciplined in accordance to the policy up to and including a lifetime ban.
2. For the purposes of this policy, the term "tournament premises" includes all venues used for competition including but not limited to offices, facilities, parking areas, land and buildings.
3. The substances prohibited by this policy include such items as: any illegal drugs or controlled substances; "designer" or synthetic drugs; "over the counter" or prescription medications not being used for the purposes or manner intended and mood or mind-altering substances.
4. Compliance with this policy will be required by the S.P.A as a condition of and continued membership.

Testing of Players/Members

1. The S.P.A may request current members/players to submit to a drug substance test in certain circumstances, including:
 - When a players conduct, actions or behaviour reasonably leads the tournament officials to suspect that the player may be using or under the influence of drugs whilst representing the S.P.A or on the tournament premises.
 - When a player has a prohibited substance in his or her possession while representing the S.P.A or on tournament premises.
 - The S.P.A request for random testing for a proportion of players attending any tournament.
2. A member who has tested positive on a previous test and is returning from a ban may be re-tested by the S.P.A upon their return and at periodic intervals for the subsequent 12 months. If a member tests positive on any re-test or refuses to submit to a test, the member may be subject to disciplinary procedures.
3. A member's refusal to submit to a requested test may be considered to justify discipline and treated in the same manner as a positive test result.

Use of Prescription Drugs

Certain legal and prescription drugs can produce changes in a person that might indicate illegal drug use and could result in a non-negative substance abuse screening test. Therefore, the S.P.A will request information on current prescription medication and if a non-negative result is obtained on the screening test a further laboratory confirmation test will be required. If this information is not provided and a subsequent confirmation test provides a positive result disciplinary procedures may ensue.

Testing Procedures

1. The player will be requested to submit to testing and will be informed of the reason for the request. i.e. random testing or the cause of action that has led to the request.
2. Players will be required to provide consent for testing on the testing form. The refusal to do so will be considered a violation of this policy and the player may be subject to disciplinary action.
3. On-site screening will be conducted by AlphaBiolabs and S.P.A members are required to co-operate fully with reasonable procedures and requests from AlphaBiolabs members of staff. Failure to present for testing will be treated in the same manner as a positive test result.
4. Each player who is to be tested will be asked by the S.P.A and AlphaBiolabs to provide information on all legal and prescription medication consumed within the past 30 days. Members who do not report the use of any such drugs and who subsequently test non-negative on any screening and positive on the confirmation test may be subject to disciplinary procedures.

5. Screening test results will be provided by AlphaBiolabs on-site and any non-negative test results will be submitted for a secondary laboratory confirmation test. Members who test positive on the laboratory confirmation test which is not consistent with the disclosed prescription medication will be subject to disciplinary procedures.
6. Following on from a non-negative screening result when a laboratory confirmation test is required the urine sample is split into an "A" and "B" samples. The "A" sample will be tested at the laboratory and the "B" sample will be retained for repeat analysis if requested.
7. Confirmation test results from AlphaBiolabs will be sent to the S.P.A Secretary for review on the course of action. These test results will be maintained in a confidential manner. A copy of these results will be provided to the individual tested upon request.
8. The S.P.A will endeavour to keep the results of any drugs testing confidential. Test results and any voluntary reports of drug use and prescription medication will not be revealed by the S.P.A to any persons except those whom need to know because of personnel administration, disciplinary action or as required by law.

Penalties for Policy Violation and Disciplinary

Failure to comply with the provisions of this policy will be grounds for disciplinary action up to and including a lifetime ban. Once a positive test result has been confirmed and a review with the course of action decided as disciplinary the following will be applicable

1. Upon a first confirmed positive result or policy violation the member will be subject to a 12 month ban from the S.P.A which must include two full Super events and the member will be target tested upon return to the S.P.A and periodically for the subsequent 12 months.
2. If a second confirmed positive test result or policy violation is provided a further 24 month ban from the S.P.A which must include four full Super events and the member will be target tested upon return to the S.P.A and periodically for the subsequent 12 months.
3. A subsequent third positive test result or policy violation will result in a lifetime ban from the S.P.A.
4. Anyone falsifying a test will have their ban doubled.

For further information please consult the disciplinary policy procedures for the S.P.A.

Useful Organisations

National Drugs Helpline – Tel: 0800 776 600 Free, confidential, 24 hours a day.

The Scottish Drugs Forum –91 Mitchell Street, Glasgow, G1 3LN Tel: 0141 221 1175 Fax: 0141 248 6414. email: enquires@sdf.org.uk The DF can provide advice on drugs agencies and local drug services in Scotland and details of your nearest Drug Action Team.

Citizens Advice Scotland – Tel: 0808 800 9060 website: www.cas.org.uk

For advice you can [find a local bureau](#), check out [Adviceguide](#), or contact [Citizens Advice Direct](#) on **0808 800 9060**.

www.citizensadvice.org.uk

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