



IPTPA Anti-Doping Adjudication Process

Purpose

The International Pickleball Teaching Professional Association (IPTPA) is committed to ensuring that all anti-doping rule violations (ADRVs) are investigated, reviewed, and adjudicated fairly, consistently, and transparently, in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code (WADC).

This document outlines the adjudication process for athletes, coaches, and other members of the pickleball community.

1. Initial Review

1. When IPTPA receives information suggesting a potential anti-doping rule violation, a preliminary review is conducted to determine whether the matter warrants formal results management.
2. All evidence is reviewed by IPTPA's Anti-Doping Department to ensure that there is a reasonable basis to proceed.
3. During this stage, the individual(s) involved may be notified of the preliminary review but are not considered formally charged.

2. Notification of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation

1. If IPTPA determines there is sufficient evidence of a potential violation, the individual(s) will receive a formal notice of charge.
2. The notice will include:
 - The specific anti-doping rule(s) alleged to have been violated
 - The evidence supporting the allegation
 - The rights and responsibilities of the individual during the adjudication process
 - Deadlines for response or submission of evidence

3. Provisional Suspension

1. IPTPA may impose a provisional suspension to protect the integrity of competitions and the health and safety of athletes.
2. The provisional suspension is typically applied immediately upon notification, but the individual has the right to request a prompt hearing to challenge it.

4. Results Management

1. IPTPA conducts a formal review of all evidence and evaluates the circumstances surrounding the alleged violation.
2. Individuals are allowed to submit written statements, documents, expert reports, and other evidence in their defense.

3. IPTPA may also interview relevant parties, including the athlete, coaches, medical staff, or other witnesses.

5. Hearing

1. If the matter is contested, a hearing panel is convened to review the evidence and hear arguments.
2. The hearing panel is composed of individuals independent from the Anti-Doping Department and trained in anti-doping adjudication.
3. During the hearing, the individual charged with an ADRV has the right to:
 - Be represented by legal counsel or another advocate
 - Present evidence, witnesses, or expert testimony
 - Cross-examine witnesses presented by IPTPA

6. Decision

1. Following the hearing, the panel will issue a written decision detailing:
 - Whether an anti-doping rule violation occurred
 - The sanction imposed (if any)
 - The rationale for the decision
2. Sanctions may include:
 - Disqualification of results from competitions
 - Periods of ineligibility from competition
 - Suspension from coaching or other official roles
 - Fines or financial penalties
 - Education requirements or conditions for reinstatement

7. Appeal

1. Individuals found to have committed an ADRV may appeal the decision to an independent body, such as the International Sports Arbitration Panel for Pickleball (ISAPP) or a similar arbitration tribunal recognized by IPTPA.
2. Appeals must be filed within the timeframe specified in the decision and must follow the prescribed procedures.

8. Publication

1. IPTPA may publish the outcome of anti-doping rule violations to maintain transparency and uphold the integrity of pickleball.
2. Public disclosures typically include:
 - Name of the individual
 - Substance or method involved
 - Period of ineligibility
 - Relevant competition results affected

All personal medical information is protected in accordance with applicable privacy laws.

9. Confidentiality

Throughout the adjudication process, IPTPA is committed to protecting the confidentiality of all parties. Information is shared only with:

- Individuals required to participate in the review or hearing
- Authorized anti-doping authorities, where relevant
- Legal representatives of the parties involved

10. Rights and Responsibilities of Athletes and Support Personnel

Individuals involved in the adjudication process have the right to:

- Be informed promptly of all allegations
- Receive access to the evidence and documentation supporting the allegations
- Be represented by counsel or an advocate
- Participate in the hearing
- Appeal the final decision

Individuals also have the responsibility to:

- Respond to inquiries in a timely and truthful manner
- Provide evidence supporting their defense
- Comply with any provisional suspensions or sanctions imposed

Contact for Reporting or Questions

Questions about the IPTPA anti-doping adjudication process, or reports of potential anti-doping rule violations, should be directed to:

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