



Dear Athletes,

As we are all aware, the Covid-19 Pandemic has led to a wide scale disruption on all of the sporting community both here in Ireland and globally.

We continue to monitor the situation very closely and follow the expert advice given to us by the Government. This is to ensure that we are following the recommendations given to us to ensure the safety and well-being of both our Athletes and our Sample Collection Personnel (SCP) at all times. Whilst our organisation's responsibility is to protect the integrity of sport and support clean Athletes, your health and the health of our SCP remain our highest priority.

Following the roadmap recently released from the Government in Ireland, the testing programme continues and you are advised to comply with testing while following the protective measures put in place by the Anti-Doping Unit.

To ensure the health and safety of both our Athletes and SCP, you will be asked to complete an Athlete questionnaire at the start of an anti-doping test by a Doping Control Officer.

The Anti-Doping Unit has put a number of measures in place whilst conducting testing to minimise any risk and to ensure the safety of Athletes and SCP. Some of these include:

- Adhering to Government/Regulatory advice including:
 - SCP will sanitise hands before entering the venue of testing and hand sanitiser will be provided to you;
 - SCP will wear gloves throughout the sample collection process and Athletes also will be offered the same;
 - SCP will wear face masks at all times and Athletes will be provided with face masks on request to wear if they choose;
 - All disposable material will be safely disposed of into a garbage bag and removed by the SCP;
 - SCP will disinfect the Doping Control area before and after the sample collection process.

- Our SCP will self-certify, before leaving their household to complete each anti-doping test to which they have been assigned, that they are well, have no symptoms or been in contact with anyone who has symptoms, tested positive or is isolating.

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All of our SCP are trained on the new requirements and understand the procedures put in place for the protection of all involved. We ask that you contact the Anti-Doping Unit if you are tested for COVID-19 within 3 weeks of your anti-doping test as we will be responsible for contacting and advising the SCP who collected the sample and the laboratory (through the provision of the sample code number only).

Please note:

If you refuse or fail to provide a sample, you will subsequently be afforded the opportunity to provide a compelling justification for not doing so. If you do not provide a compelling justification, this may constitute an Anti-Doping Rule Violation and could carry a sanction of up to 4 years.

If you provide any information, which is false, inaccurate or incorrect, this may also constitute an Anti-Doping Rule Violation and could carry a sanction of up to 4 years.

Thank you all and stay safe,

The Anti-Doping Unit

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