

Strasbourg, 10 November 2005

T-DO (2005) 39

Anti-Doping Convention (T-DO)

Compliance with Commitments

Auto-Evaluation Report by Iceland

on the Implementation of the Anti-Doping Convention of the Council of Europe which was entered into force in March 1990

1. Introduction

Iceland signed the Anti-Doping Convention of the Council of Europe on March 25th 1991 without reservation regarding ratification. The Convention came into force in Iceland on May 1st of the same year. On 30th March 2004, Iceland signed the Additional Protocol to the Convention, which came into force on 1. July 2004.

The intention with the preparation of this report is to collate in one document information on all aspects of the implementation of the Convention (articles 1-9) in Iceland. For clarity, the structure of the report follows the article structure of the Convention. In addition, the report contains some basic information on the organization of sport in Iceland.

2. Sport in Iceland

The Icelandic Government strives to create an environment that stimulates and supports a free and independent sports movement, accessible to the whole population

All sports organizations in Iceland are democratic and voluntary non-profit organizations. The overwhelming majority of organized sport in Iceland is united in the **National Olympic and Sports Association of Iceland** (in Icelandic: *Ithrotta- og Olympiusamband Islands; ISI*), which serves a double role as both a confederation of sports and as the National Olympic Committee of Iceland. ISI is recognized in national law as the supreme body of sports in Iceland.

ISI is the association of 25 sports federations and 27 district federations, which in turn are made up from about 430 sports clubs. The total membership of ISI is around 150.000 individual members. A general assembly is held every 2 years, where the laws and regulations of ISI are made and amended. All laws and regulations of ISI, including those governing the anti-doping activities of the organization, also apply to all member federations, associated clubs and individual members. The anti-doping activities of ISI are the responsibilities of two committees; the Anti-Doping Committee and the Doping Control Committee. The member federations of ISI do not conduct anti-doping activities of their own, but have an obligation to abide by the ISI anti-doping laws and assist the anti-doping activities of ISI in any way.

Those sport organizations that are not affiliated with ISI are obviously not governed by the laws of ISI, with regard to anti-doping or otherwise. No comprehensive overview exists as to whether sports organizations not affiliated with ISI have anti-doping regulations of their own or whether they are bound by anti-doping regulations of international organizations that they are affiliated with.

3. Fulfilment of the Convention

Article 1 – Aim of the Convention

By signing the European Anti Doping Convention in 1991, the Icelandic Government formally accepted the responsibility to co-ordinate policies and actions concerned with the fight against doping in sports in Iceland. In 1993, the Government signed an agreement with ISI, whereby the conducting of doping control within sports in Iceland was delegated to ISI and the Government provided annual funding to ISI to cover the costs of these activities. In the last few years, this funding has been gradually increasing (see table). An additional allocation was provided in 1999 to cover the costs of an informational and educational campaign.

Year	Allocation
1996	ISK 500.000
1997	ISK 500.000
1998	ISK 500.000
1999	ISK 6.000.000 (special additional allocation)
2000	ISK 1.000.000
2001	ISK 1.000.000
2002	ISK 1.000.000
2003	ISK 1.500.000
2004	ISK 5.000.000
2005	ISK 7.000.000

In addition to the annual contributions to fund the anti-doping activities of ISI, the Government has paid annual contributions to WADA since it was founded.

As a consequence of the abovementioned agreement between the Government and ISI, the Doping Control Committee of ISI has since 1993 fulfilled the function of a national anti-doping organisation. However, the anti-doping activities of ISI are solely concerned with the sports organized within ISI and there are currently no anti-doping activities directed at sports outside the organization of ISI.

Article 2 – Definition and scope of the Convention

By signing the European Anti-Doping Convention, the Icelandic Government expressed agreement with the definition of doping as set out in the Convention. The Government also

takes due notice of the list of banned substances and methods as approved by the Monitoring Group each year.

ISI has incorporated the WADA definition of doping and the WADA recommended sanctions into its laws and refers exclusively to the WADA list of banned substances and methods in its anti-doping activities. ISI makes the WADA list publicly available upon each revision.

Article 3 – Domestic co-ordination

At present, no defined anti-doping policy has been laid down in Icelandic law. The Sport Act (1991:64) does not include any reference to the doping problem or anti-doping activities and no law specifically addressing the doping problem and ways to fight this has been passed by the Parliament. A number of other laws and regulations touch upon this subject from various angles (see below), but a comprehensive Governmental policy and framework for national anti-doping activities has not been established.

As described above, the implementation of doping controls within Icelandic sports has been delegated to ISI as the supreme body of sport in Iceland.

Article 4 – Measures to restrict the availability and use of banned doping agents and methods

National laws and regulations that restrict the availability of doping agents

Although no law specifically addressing the problem of doping in sport and ways to fight this has been passed in Iceland, the availability and use of doping agents in the society is restricted through other laws relating to the trafficking of drugs in general, which may be applied in matters arising in this context. The relevant laws and regulations are listed below, with an indication of the drugs they refer to and the sanctions they prescribe.

The act on narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (1974:65)

The act prohibits and restricts the trafficking of certain narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances on Icelandic territory. Sanctions for offences against the act may range from financial penalties to 6 years imprisonment. The list of substances controlled by this act is determined by reference to lists associated with the Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961) and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971), to which the Icelandic Government is a signatory part. Some of the drugs listed there are also prohibited in sports. Any changes of the lists are subsequently ratified for Iceland by Governmental regulations.

The criminal act (1940:19)

The act, article , paragraph 2, prescribes a sanction of up to 10 years imprisonment for extensive trafficking of substances controlled by the act on narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

The pharmaceutical act (1994:93)

The act limits production, importation and sale of registered drugs to pharmacists or otherwise qualified agents, holding an official license. Sanctions for offences against the act are largely confined to financial penalties, although extensive offences may be punished with up to 2 years imprisonment.

Regulations on the import of drugs for personal use (1998:212)

These regulations limit the amount of drugs that travellers may bring along for personal use when entering Icelandic territory. Regarding drugs regulated by the Convention on Narcotic Drugs and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances (see above), this amount is limited to either 10 or 30 days personal consumption, depending on the nature of the drug. Further, the regulations specifically state that regarding anabolic androgenic steroids and

peptide/glycoprotein hormones and analogues, this amount is limited to 30 days personal consumption. All import of drugs for personal use must be justified by appropriate medical documentation, if requested. Sanctions for offences against these regulations are the same as for offences against the pharmaceutical act (see above).

In summary, sanctions for offences relating to the trafficking of doping substances in Iceland are at present relatively mild and for the most part only indirectly defined in Icelandic legislation.

ISI anti-doping regulations

In 2004, all essential articles of the WADA World Anti-Doping Code, including articles concerned with the definition of doping, sanctions and disciplinary procedures, were incorporated into the laws of ISI. As already mentioned, all the member federations of ISI are bound by the laws of ISI. Consequently, it can be concluded that the anti-doping laws and regulations of ISI and all its member federations have been brought into accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code.

Article 5 – Laboratories

Iceland does not have a laboratory for the analysis of doping control samples. All samples from doping control carried out by the Doping Control Committee of the ISI are analysed at the WADA-accredited Doping Laboratory at Huddinge University Hospital in Sweden, in accordance with an agreement between ISI and the laboratory.

Article 6 – Education

In the 1993 agreement between the Government and ISI (see above), the conducting of doping control in Icelandic sports was delegated to ISI, while other aspects of the anti-doping work, such as information and education, were not mentioned. However, ISI has for many years produced informational and educational material of its own and made this available to member federations and in some instances, the general public.

ISI has produced educational handbooks, leaflets and posters, covering among other topics the laws and regulations of ISI regarding doping, the main categories of banned substances and the conducting of doping controls. All of this material has been distributed throughout the ISI organization and some of it has also been made available to the general public, e.g. through free distribution in pharmacies and at sport venues.

The ISI website *www.isisport.is*, which is freely accessible to the general public, contains an anti-doping section where basic anti-doping resources can be accessed. Among these resources are the laws and regulations of ISI regarding doping, the WADA list of banned substances and methods and information regarding the application for and granting of therapeutic use exemptions.

Office staff at the ISI offices and/or members of the Anti-Doping Committee or Doping Control Committee regularly answer questions and enquiries regarding banned substances and different aspects of its anti-doping activities that the office receives via E-mail or telephone. A formal hotline has not been established.

From time to time, although not on a regular basis, office staff at the ISI offices and/or members of the Anti-Doping Committee or Doping Control Committee give lectures on anti-doping topics at meetings and conferences arranged by ISI member federations or clubs. The Anti-Doping Committee has also taken on responsibility for an educational module on anti-doping at the Icelandic University of Education, Programme for Sports and Physical Education.

The ISI Doping Control Committee organizes the training and accreditation of doping control officers. In order to maintain their accreditation, the officers must attend refresher training on a regular basis and participate in the conducting of a minimum number of doping controls annually.

The educational activities conducted by ISI as described above have largely been focused on doping within the sports organization and aimed at the member federations and clubs of the ISI. No formal informational or educational activities regarding doping outside the sport organization have been conducted, although the Government is aware of the need for this, e.g. in relation to doping at gyms and the risk of doping via nutritional supplements.

Over the years several studies and researches have been conducted in Iceland in health and sport related areas as mentioned below. There are several institutions and funds along with the University society that promote research and aim at increasing the number of researches done in Iceland and that applies to Sport and Health as well.

The Government has from 1940 allocated funds to the Sports Fund for the promotion of sports in the country. Under the legislative Act on Sport from 1998 the role of the Sports Fund was widened and allocations of grants to promote educational activities and sports research were established. The Sports Committee is responsible for the Sports Fund and submits recommendations to the Minister for Education regarding appropriations from the Fund.

The Icelandic Centre for Research, (Rannis) got the role as centre for research in Iceland in 2003. One of Rannis main functions is an "operation of the financial support system for research and technological development."

Several Grant Funds serve the science community in all areas of science and humanities, including sports matters. (See Rannis homepage: www.rannis.is)

The Icelandic Centre for Social Research and Analysis, ICSRA, (Rannsóknir & greining ehf) is a non-profit research centre that specializes in youth research and special research for policymakers. Focus is on determinants of various health related lifestyles and changes therein over time and on international comparison. The Centre collects both qualitative and quantitative data on a yearly basis from various fields in the country and is specialised in research amongst adolescents and evaluation of school work.

Article 7 – Co-operation with sports organizations on measures to be taken by them

As the conducting of doping controls within Icelandic sports has been delegated to ISI, the anti-doping activities of ISI will be briefly described here.

As mentioned earlier, the anti- doping activities of ISI are the responsibilities of two committees; the Doping Control Committee and the Anti-Doping Committee.

The Doping Control Committee is responsible for the planning and conducting of doping controls, results management and the investigation of any adverse analytical findings.

The Anti-Doping Committee, which includes both medical and legal expertise, is responsible for:

- a) keeping the laws and regulations of ISI, with regard to doping and anti-doping activities, up to date and in harmonization with the international sporting community at all times
- b) overseeing the granting of therapeutic use exemptions

- c) acting as prosecutor in doping cases

Regardless of which sport they originate in, all doping cases that arise within the ISI are tried before the ISI Tribunal, with a possibility to appeal to the ISI Appeals Tribunal, and in the last instance, to Court of Arbitration for Sport, (CAS). The Doping Control Committee, which conducts doping controls and investigates adverse analytical findings, the Anti-Doping Committee, which acts as prosecutor in doping cases, the ISI Tribunal and the ISI Appeals Tribunal are all completely independent from one another.

With regard to disciplinary procedures, it may be noted that sanctions for a doping offence committed in one sport within ISI includes suspension from any and all sports within ISI. All sanctions are published on the ISI website.

At the ISI head office, one part time position is currently dedicated to working with anti-doping matters, supporting the activities of both the Doping Control Committee and the Anti-Doping Committee. In additions around 20 doping control officers have been trained and accredited for participating in conducting doping controls.

The working procedures of the Doping Control Committee and Anti-Doping Committee of ISI are being aligned with the international standards published by WADA regarding the conducting of doping controls (International Standard for Testing) and the granting of therapeutic use exemptions (International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions). The working procedures have not been certified according to an internationally recognized quality standard, but work towards this has begun in co-operation between the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and ISI.

The Doping Control Committee makes an annual plan regarding the distribution of doping controls between different sports and target groups. The doping controls are conducted by trained doping control officers on behalf of the Doping Control Committee.

The Doping Control Committee has been responsible for conducting doping controls at two big championships in recent years; the XIV Men's Handball World Championship in 1995 and the Games of the Small States of Europe in 1997. On both occasions, doping controls were conducted professionally and to a high degree of satisfaction.

As a consequence of increased Government funding, the number of national doping controls conducted annually has been increasing in recent years (see table).

Year	Total number of tests	Number of positive tests
1996	50	2
1997	65	2
1998	60	0
1999	66	1
2000	111	0
2001	99	2
2002	107	1
2003	98	0
2004	109	3
Total	765	11

As would be expected with such low numbers of total and positive tests, the proportion of positive tests fluctuates, but on the average 1,4% of conducted tests were found to be positive in the years 1996-2004.

In addition to these national doping controls, the Doping Control Committee conducts doping controls, both in and out of competition, for international sports federations from time to time, although not on a regular basis.

ISI is a party to the Nordic Anti-Doping Agreement, which among other things allows for the mutual testing of athletes between the Nordic countries. Furthermore, with the signing of the Additional Protocol to the Anti-Doping Convention, the Icelandic Government has made possible the implementation of mutual recognition of doping controls between Iceland and a number of other countries, pending the quality assurance and certification of the doping control procedures.

Article 8 – International co-operation

Iceland has been represented at most meetings of the Monitoring Group of the European Anti-Doping Convention and the European Co-ordinating Forum.

The Doping Control Committee of ISI participates in the Nordic co-operation on anti-doping issues and ISI is party to the Nordic agreement regarding mutual rights to testing of athletes from other Nordic countries.

Article 9 – Provision of information

Iceland has supplied all the requested information on a regular basis through answering the annual Questionnaire of the Anti-Doping Database. In addition, this report is now produced to collate a comprehensive overview of anti-doping activities in Iceland.

Key contacts:

The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture Ms Liney R. Halldorsdottir, Head of Division Department of Cultural Affairs, Division of Sports and Youth Solvholsgata 4 150 Reykjavik
E-mail: liney.r.halldorsdottir@mrn.stjr.is

ISI Doping Control Committee Ms Aslaug Sigurjonsdottir, chairman Mr Palmar Hreinsson, doping control manager The National Olympic and Sports Association of Iceland Engjavegur 6 104 Reykjavik E-mail: aslaugsiggi@vortex.is; palmar@isisport.is

ISI Anti-Doping Committee Dr Sigurdur Magnusson, chairman The National Olympic and Sports Association of Iceland Engjavegur 6 104 Reykjavik E-mail: sigurdur.s.magnusson@gsk.com