

# World Anti-Doping Code (Code) Signatory Tiers

In line with the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA's) International Standard for Code Compliance by Signatories (ISCCS), WADA is enabled to prioritize its compliance monitoring activities. This is achieved through its Policy for WADA's Application of the ISCCS, also known as the [Prioritization Policy](#).

The Prioritization Policy divides Signatories into different Tiers. The objective criteria used to divide Signatories is provided below, and the full list of Signatory Tiers is provided in [Annex A](#).

Tier Criteria (taking effect on 1 January 2022):

## National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO)/Country Tiers:

WADA has established a collaboration with the sports data company Gracenote. Gracenote has provided its latest "World Sports Index", which ranks countries based on the criteria below:

- Sporting performances of countries across all sports in global "senior level" events e.g., Olympic Games, World Championships over the last four years. Senior level refers to events with no age restrictions so, for example, masters and youth events are excluded. For clarity, this does not include performances at regional or continental events in order to represent a fair comparison for all countries.
- Performance refers to top eight finishes in a competition, with first place gaining more ranking points than second place and so on.
- More recent events carry more weight than previous years' events so, for example, performances at the latest Olympic Games carry more weight than events in previous years.
- Olympic Games carry more ranking points than World Championships.

From this data, WADA has applied a Technical Document for Sport Specific Analysis (TDSSA) "multiplier" so that sporting performances from sports and disciplines with a greater doping risk from a strength and endurance perspective score higher.

WADA, with the endorsement of the Compliance Review Committee (CRC), has divided NADOs/countries across four Tiers as follows:

- Tier 1 – NADOs whose country ranked 1-50
- Tier 2 – NADOs whose country ranked 51-80
- Tier 3 – NADOs whose country ranked 81-110

- Tier 4 – NADOs whose country ranked 111-206

## International Federation (IF)/Sports Tiers

Previously IFs/sports were split between three Tiers primarily based upon their umbrella organization. For example, Association of International Olympic Winter Sports Federations (AIOWF) and Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) were Tier 1, Association of IOC Recognised International Sport Federations (ARISF) were Tier 2, Alliance of Independent Recognised Members of Sport (AIMS) and “fee paying” IFs were Tier 3. Parasports were distributed across the Tiers based upon recommendations from the Compliance Taskforce. In addition, some further adjustments were made based upon the TDSSA.

In order to make the IF/sport Tiers more objective, WADA has developed the following criteria for each Tier using the combined score of the TDSSA Minimum Levels of Analysis (MLAs) (Growth Hormone Releasing Factor + Growth Hormone + Erythropoietin receptor agonists (EPOs) for each sport. Where a sport has multiple disciplines, the highest combined MLA is used.

- Tier 1
  - Sports on the Olympic Games program with combined MLA greater than 15
  - Sports on the Paralympic Games program with combined MLA greater than 35
  - Any sport outside the Olympic Games program with combined MLAs greater than 50
  - World Triathlon Corporation – a “fee paying organization” that organizes triathlon events (and therefore with a similar doping risk as World Triathlon)
- Tier 2
  - Sports on the Olympic Games program with combined MLAs equal to or less than 15.
  - Sports on the Paralympic Games program with combined MLAs greater than 15 but equal to or less than 35.
  - Any sport outside the Olympic Games program with combined MLAs equal to or greater than 25 but less than 50
  - Sports for athletes with an impairment (not on the Paralympic Games program) with combined MLA greater than 40.
- Tier 3
  - Any sport outside the Olympic Games program with combined MLAs equal to or greater than 5 but less than 25
  - Sports on the Paralympic Games program with combined MLAs equal to or less than 15
  - Sports for athletes with an impairment (not on the Paralympic Games program) with combined MLA greater than 10 but equal to or less than 40
- Tier 4
  - Any sport outside the Olympic Games program with combined MLAs less than 5
  - Sports for athletes with an impairment (not on the Paralympic Games program) with combined MLAs equal or less than 10

- IFs/sports categorized as “fee paying organizations”
- Note: some Tier 4 IFs/sports may be elevated to a higher Tier if they agree to be elevated at WADA’s request.

**Note:** Annex A provides the list of NADOs/countries and IF/sports in alphabetic order for each Tier (Annex A is not a ranking list).

## Major Event Organization (MEO) Tiers

MEOs will remain divided across three Tiers as follows:

- Tier 1 – International Olympic Committee (IOC) and International Paralympic Committee (IPC)
- Tier 2 – Worldwide and Continental MEOs (Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, World Games, European Games, African Games, Pan American Games)
- Tier 3 – All other MEOs that are Signatories to the Code

### Updating the Tiers

WADA will update the Tiers no more frequently than every two years.