

Raising the Game

Preliminary program
2022 Annual Symposium

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Day 1 11 June 2021

09:00 – 10:00 Plenary Sessions

– **09:00 – 09:15 Session 1: Welcome (Hybrid format)**

This session will give an overview of WADA's 2022 Annual Symposium, including presenting its objectives.

– **09:15 – 10:00 Session 2: Leading the Anti-Doping Movement in a New Era - Opening Remarks by WADA President and Director General (Hybrid format)**

This session will include a keynote speech by WADA President, Witold Bańka, and provide an update on WADA's strategic priorities and the ongoing impact of COVID-19 by WADA Director General, Olivier Niggli.

10:00 – 10:45 Networking break

10:45 – 12:15 Plenary Sessions

– **10:45 – 11:30 Session 3: WADA Governance Reforms – Update and Impact (Hybrid format)**

This session will provide a report on the impact related to greater independence, athlete and National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO) involvement, and ethical conduct within WADA governance and operations. A roundtable discussion will follow.

– **11:30 – 12:15 Session 4: A Compassionate Anti-Doping Framework - Supporting Vulnerable Athletes (Hybrid format)**

This session will examine athlete vulnerability factors from an ethical, psychological, and legal lens to help Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs) identify and support athletes who may be vulnerable to doping. It will look at the idea of organizations taking a more supportive and positive approach to Clean Sport and how this may be beneficial for ADOs, as well as athletes and their support personnel (ASP) – 'Support and Prevent' rather than 'Catch and Punish'. The importance of ASP will also be a focus of the session and how best to support them to intervene and support athletes.

12:15 – 13:45 Networking lunch

13:45 – 14:45 Concurrent Sessions

- **Session 5: Operation LIMS – The Biggest and Most Complex Anti-Doping Investigation to Date (Hybrid format)**

In 2017, WADA's Intelligence & Investigations (I&I) Department received a copy of the Moscow Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) which triggered the most complex investigation in sport. A significant number of Russian athletes have been charged and Operations LIMS has also become one of the most successful investigations. This session will introduce the strategy, methodology, complexity, and lessons learned from Operation LIMS.

- **Session 6: World Anti-Doping Code Signatory Testing Programs Engaging Professional Leagues – Opportunities and Challenges**

This session will explore partnerships between signatory NADOs and domestic professional leagues and how ADOs can better bridge the intersection between athletes moving in and out of World Anti-Doping Code (Code)-compliant programs.

- **Session 7: Practical Management of the New Glucocorticoid Rules with Focus on Therapeutic Use Exemptions (Hybrid format)**

The session will focus on the glucocorticoid changes in the 2022 Prohibited List and their implications for Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) evaluations by ADO and their TUE Committees. It will include clinical cases and discussions, with the opportunity to ask questions.

- **Session 8: Raising Capability – Strengthening the System through its People**

This session will examine the concept of anti-doping as a profession and how professionals can be supported to develop the skills and competencies necessary to excel in this relatively new discipline. This session will share and explain WADA's new Global Learning and Development Framework (GLDF) that aims to establish professional standards for practitioner roles in the anti-doping industry which will provide the foundation for learning and development activities that support and enhance practitioner capability, for the benefit of clean sport.

14:45 – 15:15 Networking break

15:15 – 16:15 Concurrent Sessions

- **Session 9: Implementation of Dried Blood Spot Testing (Hybrid format)**

This panel discussion will provide an update on DBS and provide guidance to ADOs who are considering implementing DBS testing. This session will provide practical examples of ADOs' experiences, as well as review some of the current limitations.

- **Session 10: Management of Confidential Sources and Intelligence – Lessons from Examples**

The confidential and secure retention and sharing of anti-doping intelligence is integral to the effectiveness and credibility of an anti-doping program. This session will seek to promote a common confidential source handling system among ADOs that are expanding their intelligence collection capabilities. The session will share best practices in processing intelligence to demonstrate that even the most basic system, if it is managed with sound confidential source/information handling principles, can have a major impact in anti-doping investigations.

- **Session 11: Implementation of Strengthened Requirements for National Anti-Doping Organizations' Operational Independence (Hybrid format)**

This presentation and discussion will outline the rationale behind enhanced independence requirements for NADOs, how these may be implemented and how they can benefit all ADOs and ultimately athletes.

- **Session 12: 2021 Code: Practical Lessons and Learnings after One Year of Application**

This session will discuss a number of key legal issues and cases that have arisen from the application of the 2021 World Anti-Doping Code.

16:30 – 17:30 Plenary Session

- **Session 13: A Q&A Session with WADA President, Vice-President and Director General (Hybrid format)**

This session will provide participants with the opportunity to interact directly with key members of WADA's leadership for a Q&A session. WADA President, Witold Bańka; Vice-President, Yang Yang; and Director General, Olivier Niggli, will respond to questions from the audience.

17:30 – 19:00 Networking Cocktail

Day 2 12 June 2022

08:30 – 09:30 Plenary Session

– **Session 14: The Athletes' Anti-Doping Ombuds (Hybrid format)**

This panel discussion will present the role of the Athletes' Anti-Doping Ombuds and how it is intended to serve athletes in navigating the complexities of the anti-doping system.

09:45 – 10:45 Concurrent Sessions

– **Session 15: Education Solutions for the Next Generation of Athletes (Hybrid format)**

This session will explore the importance of educating athletes along the *athlete pathway* as outlined in WADA's Guidelines for Education including how the *athlete curriculum* for different levels of athletes along the pathway can be applied. In addition, the people surrounding athletes have a direct impact on athletes' behaviors and need to be educated to build a strong system to protect clean athletes. WADA's *Athlete Support Personnel curriculum* will also be shared.

– **Session 16: WADA Capacity Building Project - Intelligence and Investigations**

On 31 January 2022, the European Commission approved WADA's application for funding for a project related to Anti-Doping Intelligence and Investigations Capacity and Capability Building in Europe.

This two-years project aims at developing and reinforcing NADOs' investigative capabilities but also at strengthening the cooperation between European Union law enforcement agencies and their respective NADOs. This session will present the objectives and actions of this project and how European NADOs and law enforcement agencies can participate.

– **Session 17: Governments and Anti-Doping – Time for Stronger Accountability? (Hybrid format)**

Governments are heavily engaged in the protection of clean sport. They play a key role in the anti-doping community, as co-founders of WADA, signatories to the UNESCO and/or Council of Europe Anti-Doping Conventions and holders of the national legal frameworks. Yet, the absence of stronger legally binding mechanisms creates a gap in the system. Athletes or ADOs that break the rules face severe consequences but there are no real consequences for a Government that would choose to not play by the rules. This session will discuss possible ways of filling this gap by making Governments more accountable to the Conventions, the Code or through a new binding mechanism.

– **Session 18: Update on DCO Central and the future of ADAMS**

Doping Control Officer (DCO) Central is WADA's ADAMS-connected, free, paperless doping control system. This session will highlight the benefits of adopting this app and discuss future enhancements to the app. A roadmap on other ADAMS initiatives will also be presented.

10:45 – 11:15 Networking break

11:15 – 12:15 Plenary Session

- **Session 19: WADA Compliance Monitoring Program – Progress and Next Steps (Hybrid format)**

This session will explore the gains made by the global anti-doping community and the means by which WADA is able to garner insight into the scope and quality of anti-doping world-wide and affect change. An overview of future challenges and approaches will also be explored.

12:15 – 13:45 Networking lunch

13:45 – 14:45 Concurrent Sessions

- **Session 20: Integrating Athlete Voices into Decision Making (Hybrid format)**

Recent WADA Governance reforms have the potential to serve athletes better by ensuring all voices are heard and that they are empowered and a part of the decision-making process. A discussion will be held on how other ADOs can ensure athletes are integrated into anti-doping programs constructively and in a meaningful way.

- **Session 21: An Update on the Development of Tools to Measure Doping Prevalence**

This session intends to advance participants' understanding of the importance of assessing the prevalence of doping and the limitations of current approaches. The session will also demonstrate the work carried out by the WADA Prevalence of Doping Working Group in the development of a robust survey prevalence tool and how such tools may be implemented by ADOs in the future.

- **Session 22: Alternative Sample Collection Programs (Hybrid format)**

COVID-19 has forced the anti-doping community to think 'outside the box' on how testing programs can be maintained in the face of travel and health restrictions. This session will update participants on several pilot programs trialed during the early stages of the pandemic and WADA's latest developments in alternative virtual sample collection programs.

- **Session 23: Advancing the Athlete Biological Passport**

This session will update participants on the latest developments with the Athlete Biological Passport (ABP) and prepare them for changes planned for 2022 and beyond, including a first look at the upcoming Endocrine Module and the new Steroids in Blood markers to be included in the Steroid Module.

14:45 – 15:15 Networking break

15:15 – 16:45 Plenary Sessions

- **15:15 – 16:15 Session 24: Unmasking the Prohibited List (Hybrid format)**

This session will try to demystify the three List criteria and provide an overview of how substances and methods are reviewed and allocated to the various categories. The session will also explain the detailed terminology of the List and explain how changes are communicated and share perspectives on possible future changes.

- **16:15 – 16:45 Session 25: Symposium Wrap-Up (Hybrid format)**

This session will include the key outcomes and takeaways from each Symposium session.

End of the Symposium