

Athlete Biological Passport (ABP) Symposium

Request for Proposals
to Host an ABP Symposium in 2027

Background

A key tool in the fight against doping, the **Athlete Biological Passport (ABP)** aims to monitor selected biological variables over time that reveal the effects of doping. The ABP is an essential tool for anti-doping programs to drive intelligent testing, investigations, and resource allocation. A successful ABP program requires effective collaboration between different stakeholder groups, including Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs), Athlete Passport Management Units (APMUs), and ABP Experts.

By continuing to drive the development of the ABP, WADA plays a crucial role in ensuring the effective use of anti-doping data to drive strategic decision making by ADOs, supported by harmonized expertise from APMUs, ABP Experts, and ADOs worldwide. WADA's ABP Symposium is positioned as a key feature of the anti-doping calendar, bringing together leading experts and decision-makers to shape the future development and implementation of this tool.

Previous ABP Symposiums

Since 2015, WADA has held three very productive ABP Symposiums that successfully gathered anti-doping stakeholders involved in different areas of ABP programs—including testing, administration, expert reviews and results management—to promote harmonization of practices, collaboration, communication and exchange of knowledge. The event typically unfolds over three days and welcomes approximately 250 participants, including representatives from National and Regional Anti-Doping Organizations, International Federations, APMUs, WADA-accredited laboratories, and ABP experts. The previous editions of the ABP Symposium took place as follows:

- 2015 in Doha, Qatar, hosted by the Anti-Doping Lab Qatar – 75 participants
- 2018 in Rome, Italy, hosted by the Italian Federation of Sports Medicine – 200+ participants
- 2022 in New Delhi, India, hosted by India's National Anti-Doping Agency and India's National Dope Testing Laboratory – close to 250 participants

Each iteration of the ABP Symposium has its own specific set of key messages, but certain underlying goals and themes remain the same. This includes:

- Providing an overview of novel features and recent developments of the ABP;
- Highlighting the value of effective collaboration and communication among anti-doping stakeholders to drive successful application of the ABP;
- Sharing of best practices and successes through practical case discussions;
- Focusing on improving integration of the ABP with other facets of an anti-doping program (such as testing and investigations);
- Acknowledging the increasing complexity of stakeholders' roles as it pertains to the continued evolution of the ABP and emphasizing the resulting need for ongoing education initiatives;
- Fostering a collective commitment to continually improving the system in the interest of strengthening the integrity of sport worldwide.

2027 ABP Symposium

In January 2027, in addition to the 2027 World Anti-Doping Code and International Standards, a number of [revised ABP Technical Documents](#) (TDs) will come into effect. More specifically, these TDs are related to the updates of the International Standard for Laboratories, the International Standard for Testing, and the International Standard for Results Management. These updates make 2027 an ideal time to convene the members of the community for the fourth ABP Symposium.

For participants and partners, the 2027 ABP Symposium will offer a unique opportunity to:

- Engage with global leaders in anti-doping science and policy;
- Contribute to harmonization of best practices across regions and organizations;
- Share successes and best practices around the use of the Endocrine Module and the blood steroid markers of the Steroidal Module launched in 2023;
- Gain insight into ABP changes taking effect in 2027; and
- Upskill and strengthen new ABP programs implemented over the past five years.

By joining forces with WADA for the organization of this event, the host will help shape the evolution of intelligent testing, foster collaboration across stakeholder groups, and reinforce the integrity of sport worldwide.

Overview of Criteria to Consider as Host

The following elements reflect WADA's expectations for prospective hosts of the next edition of the ABP Symposium. Partners are encouraged to assess these criteria closely before submitting a formal response to the Request for Proposals (RFP).

Please consult the **summary** table below for an outline of the intended scope of the Symposium.

Participant Numbers

Based on past editions and feedback from the anti-doping community, WADA anticipates between 250-300 participants will attend the next ABP Symposium.

Event Timing

WADA wishes to convene the next edition of the ABP Symposium in 2027. This would ideally take place during October or November of 2027*, however WADA is open to suggestions as of June 2027.

It is important that sufficient planning time is allocated when organising an event and detailed planning ideally starts at least 12-18 months prior.

* **Special note on timing of the event:** WADA must be mindful of competing events (other WADA and/or anti-doping events) due to limited financial and time resources of the potential participants. WADA may therefore ask for flexibility on the final dates of the event given the other forums planned for its 2027 and 2028 calendar. Whilst 2027 is preferred, early 2028 may be considered necessary.

Event Ownership / Branding

In terms of event 'ownership,' WADA will be fully responsible for the ABP Symposium program and content. WADA will actively cooperate with the host to ensure that the ABP Symposium reflects the commitment agreed with them.

In terms of branding, the Symposium will be a WADA-led, co-branded event, where the WADA brand/visual identity (logo, imagery, typography, colors, etc.) has prominence and the host's logo (and that of other potential partners) is given appropriate and agreed-upon visibility.

WADA will establish a project team structure with the host to support the effective planning of the event.

Event Management

The host is required to provide a dedicated and experienced English-speaking Professional Conference Organizer (PCO), as well as any additional local staff needed to fully assist in the preparation and running of the ABP Symposium.

WADA will provide an Event Manager and a Program Lead(s) to support the organization of the event.

WADA will provide the tool for participant registration. This existing tool centralizes and stores participant data from previous WADA events. Some programming costs to adapt the tool for the ABP Symposium will be allocated to the host. This will include the event website and specific mobile application, which will be the communication tools used for event. Accreditation services and other logistics for the event are to be borne in full by the host.

Participant Fees

As has been the case for previous ABP Symposiums, WADA does not wish to charge participant fees¹. Participants will be expected to cover the costs of their air travel and accommodation as well as meals outside the official program. However, all other costs are expected to be met by the hosts.

Event Sponsors

Sponsorship is possible. However, to ensure that there are no conflicts of interest for WADA and/or its stakeholders, all potential sponsorships will require consideration and prior approval by WADA. WADA may also refer 'sponsors' or 'official supporters' if appropriate.

Accommodation and Ground Transport

The host will be required to find an appropriate selection of hotels (different categories and price ranges, including accessible rooms) to cater to all participants.

Ideally, hotels will be within walking distance of the main conference venue and will have easy access to transportation facilities such as train stations and airports.

Appropriate ground and airport transfers, including bus shuttles from hotels to the conference venue (if not walkable), should also be arranged.

WADA would welcome hosting offers to cover the flights, accommodation and ground transport costs of ABP Symposium program speakers. These contributions are not mandatory however, but would be greatly appreciated by WADA and be viewed positively if considered and offered by the hosts.

Catering

It is expected that the provision of catering for participant meals (lunches and breaks) for the duration of the Symposium be provided. Refer to the table below to capture the extent of the catering requirements.

¹ In some situations, registration fees may be required; however, the decision to request fees from participants shall be made in consultation with WADA, and the reason for doing so clearly stated. For example, registration fees may be requested to accommodate persons from the same organization who wish to attend however are over the quota which will be set by WADA with the hosts.

Venue/s

An appropriate conference venue with the flexibility to accommodate all ABP Symposium elements is required. This includes board-style meeting rooms, plenary spaces, workshop and breakout rooms in various formats, secretariat facilities, and full accessibility for people with disabilities.

While not all meetings and sessions must be held in the same location—for example, smaller meetings may be hosted in hotel facilities—the overall arrangements should feel cohesive and make practical, logistical sense.

Audio-Visual/Information Technology

The venue/s must be versatile and have state-of-the-art technology and audio-visual facilities to support the Conference proceedings, the various meeting formats, as well as the participant experience (e.g., free WiFi access for participants).

The ABP Symposium is intended to be conducted in person only (no live streaming); however, recordings of the event, or part of the event, may be required.

Interpretation

The ABP Symposium will be held in English, however the host may also elect to provide interpretation in their local language.

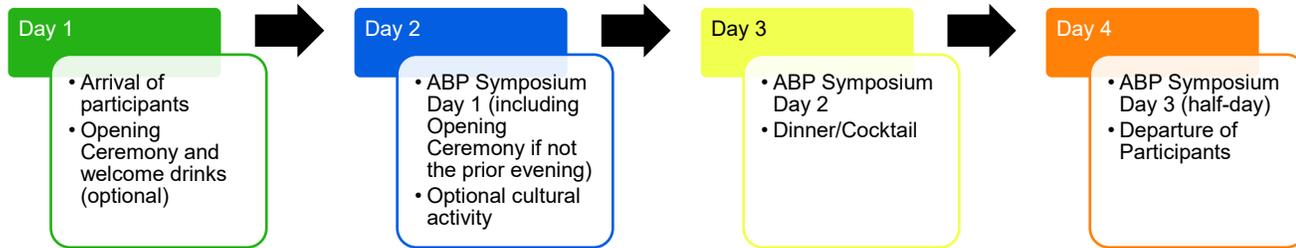
Note: If interpretation is offered, Remote Interpretation System (RSI), where interpreters would provide simultaneous interpretation via an online platform is viable and acceptable to WADA.

Social/Cultural Aspects

Hosts are encouraged to provide opportunities to promote and share their culture with participants, including optional tour packages or cultural experiences/activities for participants and accompanying persons.

Summary

The following graphic and table outline the likely day-by-day structure of the ABP Symposium program and its requirements. They are not intended to be exhaustive nor fixed but rather to provide a high-level overview of WADA’s preferred format.



	Activity	No. people	Venue requirements	Catering	Social
Day 1	Arrival & Opening Ceremony (optional)	~250-300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facility to accommodate participants in theatre/informal style seating - Registration/accreditation collection area. - Office workspace for Symposium Secretariat. - All spaces require AV and IT equipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cocktail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunity for cultural entertainment
Day 2	ABP Symposium Day 1	~250-300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Registration/accreditation collection area - Conference facility with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Main plenary hall to accommodate up to 350 participants with worktables o Breakout rooms – minimum three for up to 100 participants each - Office workspace for Symposium Secretariat. - All spaces require AV and IT equipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water/refreshments - Light snacks during breaks - Buffet lunch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunity for cultural entertainment <i>(If Opening Ceremony is integrated into Day 1)</i>
Day 3	ABP Symposium Day 2	~250-300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conference facility with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Main plenary hall to accommodate up to 350 participants with worktables o Breakout rooms – minimum three for up to 100 participants each - Office workspace for Symposium Secretariat. - All spaces require AV and IT equipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water/refreshments - Light snacks during breaks - Buffet lunch - Dinner/Cocktail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Event Dinner/Cocktail

	Activity	No. people	Venue requirements	Catering	Social
Day 4	ABP Symposium Day 3 (half-day)	~250-300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conference facility with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Main plenary hall to accommodate up to 350 participants with worktables o Breakout rooms – minimum three for up to 100 participants each - Office workspace for Symposium Secretariat. - All spaces require AV and IT equipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water/refreshments - Light snacks during breaks - Buffet lunch or lunch boxes 	-

Submission Process

Potential hosts are encouraged to analyze the full breadth of activities and requirements. They are asked to consider how these may be realized in an efficient and cost-effective way, and to also consider the participant experience, cultural enrichment, accessibility of location and venue, as some examples.

To pursue an application to host the next ABP Symposium, please contact **WADA’s Event Manager** (events@wada-ama.org). It is recommended to do so by **Friday 27 March 2026**.

Upon receipt, WADA’s Event Manager will provide a link to a **structured RFP application form**.

The submission form can be completed in English or French, WADA’s official languages.

Only applications submitted via this process will be accepted.

Final application forms must be submitted by **Friday 24 April 2026**.

[Please refer to the RFP cover for full timeline]

Submission Form

Endorsement

As it is important for WADA to be assured that all relevant authorities are supportive of the hosting application, as part of the submission process, WADA will require:

- Endorsement from the city, province/state, country, NADO and/or National Olympic Committee and/or locally headquartered IF, etc., in the form of official letters of support addressed to WADA; and
- A statement of the financial commitment to support the Conference.

Criteria

The following pieces of information will be required as part of the submission:

- the name of the official host or joint hosts;
- the goals of the potential host(s) vis-à-vis the event;
- the local organiser and the local secretariat if known;
- the name/company of the proposed Professional Conference Organizer (PCO) if known;
- the proposed dates noting any potential advantages or disadvantages with them;
- the proposed or options for suitable venue/s;
- an estimated budget, showing:
 - income
 - main sources of funding
 - high-level expenses/budget allocation
 - any additional sponsorship income
 - a template budget;
- an overview or draft of the chosen event's project timeline; and,
- the degree of involvement expected from WADA's staff (e.g., support in registration, payments, communication, promotion etc.).

Any deviation or inability to address the criteria should be specifically highlighted.

Questions

Any questions should be sent to the attention of:

Mr. Riziero Pisani
WADA Event Manager
Email: events@wada-ama.org

WADA extends its appreciation to all prospective hosts for their interest in organizing the next edition of its ABP Symposium.

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