

**INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION**

Blochstrasse 2  
 3653 Oberhofen/Thunersee  
 Switzerland  
 Tel +41 33 244 61 61  
 Fax +41 33 244 61 71

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FIS FACT SHEET**

**FIS Anti-Doping Update**

This FIS Anti-Doping Fact Sheet provides an update on the FIS Anti-Doping Activities at the start of the 2019/20 season.

**1. Out-of-Competition Testing Programme**

The FIS Out-of-Competition Programme has been carried out with an intelligent-driven testing coverage throughout the summer period resulting in the following number of tests. Key elements of the programme are the regular internal and external expert reviews of the individual athlete’s biological passports. The numbers do not include testing undertaken by the National Anti-Doping Agencies (NADOs) under their responsibility with whom FIS is closely collaborating on a regular basis.

Overview FIS Out-of-Competition Testing April – November 2019

	<b>Urine</b>	<b>Blood tests</b>	<b>ESAs (urine/blood)</b>	<b>Blood passport</b>
Cross-Country	230	127	173	294
Nordic Combined	42	27	28	42
Ski Jumping	38		13	2
Alpine Skiing	191	72	76	179
Freestyle	37	3	5	
Snowboard	22	4	7	
<b>Total</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>517</b>

FIS invests in the long-term storage of urine as well as blood samples for later re-analysis as the scientific knowledge and new-accredited analysis methods become available, or the reviews of the athletes biological passports suggest for additional specific analyses.

## 2. In-Competition Testing Programme at World Cups

In-competition testing is conducted at selected FIS World Cup events in all the FIS disciplines as defined in the FIS Anti-Doping Rules. A large proportion of In-Competition Testing involves joint efforts with National Anti-Doping Organisations (NADOs), having started with a cooperation at the FIS Nordic World Cup Opening in Ruka (FIN) with the Finnish Anti-Doping Agency (FINCIS) as in the previous year.

## 3. Strengthening of Educational Efforts

Following the successful Anti-Doping Educational Seminar in conjunction with the FIS Nordic World Junior Championships 2019 in Lahti (FIN) carried out in cooperation with the Local Organising Committee, led by former cross-country skier Aino-Kaisa Saarinen and the Local Anti-Doping Agency (FINCIS), a similar seminar is planned at the next FIS Nordic World Junior Championships 2020 in Oberwiesenthal (GER) in cooperation with the German National Anti-Doping Agency.

<https://www.fis-ski.com/en/international-ski-federation/news-multimedia/news/clean-sport-activities-at-the-2019-fis-junior-and-u23-world-ski-championships-in-lahti-fin> )

On the proposal of the FIS Athletes Commission, FIS will implement an online educational tool and its completion or an equivalent level national system will be compulsory for all international level athletes in the FIS registered testing pool and those participating at FIS Junior World Championship level. The FIS module will also incorporate the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) educational tool named ADeL (Anti-Doping e-Learning).

## 4. Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) Anti-Doping Division (ADD)

FIS has signed an agreement with the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) Anti-Doping Division (ADD) to serve as the FIS first instance doping panel.

The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) is a full-time permanent Anti-Doping Division (ADD) acting as an independent first instance for international cases. The CAS ADD was implemented successfully at the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games after its introduction for Rio 2016, notably to consolidate the proceedings of the IOC and IF and avoid two separate first instance procedures. The Court of Arbitration for Sport Anti-Doping Division will therefore replace the role of the FIS Anti-Doping Panel. It will therefore fulfil the decision of the FIS Congress 2018 to refer cases to an Independent Doping Panel to comply with the principle of the separation of powers.

The cornerstones of the CAS ADD will include the use of a sole arbitrator by default, use of video conference hearings to expedite proceedings, maintenance of free-of-charge procedure for athletes, provision of legal aid pro bono lawyers and the right to appeal to the CAS Appeals Arbitration Division. A new list of arbitrators exclusive to the CAS ADD will be composed of qualified persons with extensive anti-doping knowledge who will undergo ongoing training, and there will be specialist scientific experts at the disposal of the CAS ADD. Procedures with a Sole Arbitrator are free of charge for up to four procedures per IF per annum, and all procedures with three arbitrators are free of charge.

## 5. Update in relation to Operation Aderlass

On 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in Seefeld (AUT), the Austrian police raided several athletes and detained five cross-country skiers (Dominik Baldauf and Max Hauke, Austria; Karel Tammjärv and Andreas Veerpalu, Estonia; Alexey Poltoranin, Kazakhstan) on suspicion of violation of the Austrian anti-doping laws and the Austrian Penal Code.

The arrests of various athletes and house searches were ordered as part of a transnational investigation by German and the Austrian law enforcement. The reason for this so-called “Operation Aderlass” was their participation in the blood doping scheme led by the German sport doctor Mark Schmidt, who was arrested on the same day at his practice in Erfurt (GER). The Estonian athlete support personnel Mati Alaver and some of the athletes (including Algo Kärp, Estonia, who was not present in Seefeld) confessed that they had applied blood doping.

Shortly afterwards, also former cross-country skier Johannes Duerr (AUT) who was sanctioned for doping in 2014, confessed blood doping. He was sanctioned by the Austrian Anti-Doping Agency with a lifetime suspension.

Also the cases of Baldauf and Hauke were handled by the Austrian Anti-Doping Agency who issued both with four (4) years suspensions. Furthermore both athletes have been charged by the Austrian police with criminal offences for “sports corruption obtaining benefits through fraudulent means”. The basis for the charges are related to prize money earnings and the value of expenses covered by the Organisers. With regard to the Estonian and Kazakh athletes, FIS has been liaising closely with Austrian, Estonian and German law enforcement authorities, and is in the process in taking the next steps in the disciplinary proceedings.

In the course of Investigation relating to this case, FIS can report on the following concluded activities to date:

- FIS has partnered with an external investigations specialist (Global Sports Investigations, GSI/Quest) to enlarge investigation capacity
- Investigated the alleged anti-doping rule violations by the athletes and support personnel registered under the FIS regulations
- Collaboration with the above-mentioned law enforcement authorities in
- Thorough plan of re-analysis of available doping control samples

The investigations have resulted in Charges under the FIS Anti-Doping Rules that have now been brought forward by FIS against the following athletes and athlete support personnel:

- Algo Kärp (EST)
- Karel Tammjärv (EST)
- Andreas Veerpalu (EST)
- Alexey Poltoranin (KAZ)
- Mati Alaver (EST), athlete support personnel
- Andreas Veerpalu (EST), athlete support personnel

Each of the individuals has the right to respond to the charges brought against them. The FIS Anti-Doping Rules provide for a standard sanction for the alleged anti-doping rule violations which is a period of ineligibility of four (4) years for a first-time offence. In case of contesting the Charges, the case/s will be adjudicated by the Anti-Doping Division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS ADD).

## **5. Update on the case of Russia**

Russian cross-country skier Julia Ivanova had not appealed against the IOC Decision and remained provisionally suspended. The FIS Doping Panel determined the consequences of the anti-doping rule violation (ADRV) committed at the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games (OWG) for the period outside of the OWG is a sanction of two years ineligibility, against which any period of provisional suspension served must be credited. The sanction of suspension (since 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2016 with interruptions) has now been served and the FIS and the athlete concluded an Agreement based on article 7.10.1. FIS Anti-Doping Rules.

The Russian cross-country skiers Yulia Chekaleva and Anastasia Dotsenko were found guilty of an ADRV by the IOC which was partially confirmed by the CAS. They were disqualified from the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games. The FIS has to determine the consequences for the period outside of the Olympic Games. Chekaleva's and Dotsenko's provisional suspensions started on 1 December 2017.

FIS has not been notified of any new potential cases as a result of the Moscow Laboratory Data (LIMS) sent by WADA to various International Federations. The LIMS Data and WADA Intelligence communicated contains cases considered to be the highest priority and strongest cases.

With regard to the Compliance of the Russian National Anti-Doping Agency, WADA recently issued a press release stating that the WADA Compliance Review Committee (CRC) has recommend to the WADA Executive Board the non-compliance of RUSADA and to apply strong consequences against them and the WADA Executive Board will meet on 9<sup>th</sup> December. (refer to [wada-ama.org](http://wada-ama.org))

Thereafter FIS will apply the applicable sanctions defined in the World Anti-Doping Code, which may preclude Russia hosting and applying for FIS World Championships and Major Events; and Russian athletes and their support personnel who are implicated in any way by the non-compliance will not be eligible to participate in FIS major events.

## **6. New 2021 World Anti-Doping Code published**

The 2021 World Anti-Doping and its related International Standard approved by the WADA Executive Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> November on the conclusion of the World Anti-Doping Conference in Katowice (POL) are now published on WADAs website. The FIS Anti-Doping Rules will be revised in accordance with the WADA Code 2021 with validity from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021.

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The overall investment by FIS in its Anti-Doping programme during the 2019/2020 season is budgeted with approximately CHF 1.5 million. This includes both the in- and out-of-competition testing programmes and various preventive, informational and educational efforts. Testing on athletes in the FIS disciplines by National Anti-Doping Agencies is not included in this investment.

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#### **About FIS**

FIS is the governing body for international skiing and snowboarding, [founded in 1924](#) during the first Olympic Games in Chamonix, France. Recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), FIS manages the Olympic disciplines of [Alpine Skiing](#), [Cross-Country Skiing](#), [Ski Jumping](#), [Nordic Combined](#), [Freestyle Skiing](#) and [Snowboarding](#), including setting the international competition rules. Through its 133 member nations, more than 7'000 FIS ski and snowboard competitions are staged annually. Specific initiatives are undertaken by FIS to promote snow activities as a healthy leisure recreation, [notably for the young](#). For more information, please visit [www.fis-ski.com](http://www.fis-ski.com).

