

Sport Ireland and Eoin Kealy

Reasoned Decision of Sport Ireland

The following is the reasoned decision of Sport Ireland pursuant to the Irish Anti-Doping Rules ("**Rules**") and the International Standard for Results Management. It concerns anti-doping rule violations ("**ADRVs**") committed by Mr Eoin Kealy (the "**Athlete**") and records the Consequences¹ to be applied. It is being notified to the Anti-Doping Organisations referred to in Article 14.1.2 of the World Anti-Doping Code (the "**Code**").

1. Background and Facts

- 1.1 The Athlete is a 23-year-old weightlifter. On 28 June 2025 the Athlete provided a urine Sample during In-Competition Testing. The Sample that he provided was split into A and B Samples. The A Sample was analysed by the World Anti-Doping Agency ("**WADA**") accredited laboratory in Cologne, Germany (the "**Laboratory**").
- 1.2 Sport Ireland received a report from the Laboratory dated 21 July 2025 identifying the presence of a Metabolite of drostanolone (3a-hydroxy-2a-methyl-5a-androstan-17-one) in the "A" Sample – this is known as an Adverse Analytical Finding. This is a prohibited anabolic agent as set out in S1.1 of the Prohibited List.
- 1.3 On 7 August 2025 Sport Ireland notified the Athlete that he was Provisionally Suspended and that he was alleged to have committed the following ADRV:
 - 1.3.1 *"Article 2.1 - the presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in An Athlete's Sample"; and*
 - 1.3.2 *"Article 2.2 – Use or Attempted Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method*
- 1.4 By way of email of 8 August 2025 from the Athlete's legal representatives, the Athlete requested that his "B" Sample be analysed and copies of the A and B Sample Laboratory Documentation Packages. The B Sample analysis of 4 September 2025 confirmed the "A" Sample result.
- 1.5 By email of 9 September 2025, the Athlete was offered a further opportunity to provide an explanation for the ADRVs. No response was received before the deadline.

2. Charges

- 2.1 Sport Ireland issued a charge letter to the Athlete on 3 October 2025 (the "**Charge Letter**"), charging him with the following ADRVs:
 - 2.1.1 *Article 2.1: – "The presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in an Athlete's Sample"; and*
 - 2.1.2 *Article 2.2 - "Use or Attempted Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method".*

¹ Capitalised terms used throughout this decision shall have the meaning given to them in the Rules.

2.2 The Athlete signed and returned the Acceptance of Consequences Form on 22 October 2025, which was enclosed with Sport Ireland's charge letter, thereby admitting the violations and accepting the sanctions proposed by Sport Ireland. A letter accompanying the Acceptance of Consequences Form claimed that the Athlete did not violate the Rules, that he no longer had the supplements he was taking in close proximity to the test and therefore recognised that in the absence of being able to establish how the Prohibited Substance entered his system, he may be unable to prove the violation was not intentional.

3. Consequences

3.1 In light of the above, Sport Ireland now makes this reasoned decision.

3.2 The sanctions to be imposed are:

3.2.1 A period of Ineligibility (or ban) of 3 years with effect from 7 August 2025. This is reduced from 4 years based on the Athlete's early admission pursuant to Article 10.7.1 of the Rules. The Athlete's period of Ineligibility will expire at midnight on 6 August 2028.

3.2.2 Public Disclosure.

As he is a Recreational Athlete, Public Disclosure is not mandatory and any Public Disclosure shall be proportionate to the facts and circumstances of the case. In circumstances where the Athlete is a Weightlifting Ireland accredited coach, there is a risk that other Athletes may associate with the Athlete in a coaching capacity and not be aware he is in fact subject to a Period of Ineligibility. Public Disclosure may therefore have a dissuasive effect on the future conduct of the Athlete, as well as other Athletes and Persons. The Athlete was represented by lawyers and raised no concerns regarding publication. Sport Ireland has determined that Public Disclosure is proportionate to the facts and circumstances of the case.

3.2.3 Any sport-related financial support, including but not limited to funding from Sport Ireland, and other sport-related benefits received by an Athlete or other Person shall be withheld by Sport Ireland, Weightlifting Ireland and its affiliates, members and/or licensees².

3.2.4 The Disqualification of all results obtained by the Athlete in Competitions from (and including) 28 June 2025 until the commencement of the Athlete's Provisional Suspension on 7 August 2025, with all of the resulting consequences including forfeiture of any medals, points and prizes³ during the period in question.

3.3 Pursuant to Article 10.10.1 of the Rules⁴, during the period of Ineligibility the Athlete may not participate in organised sport in any capacity. This includes training, coaching, mentoring etc. In this

² Article 10.11

³ Article 9.3

⁴ Article 10.10.1.1 provides that an Athlete who has been declared Ineligible shall not participate in any capacity "in a Competition or activity, (other than authorised anti-doping education or rehabilitation programs) authorised or organised by any Signatory, Signatory's member organisation, or a club or other member organisation of a Signatory's member organisation, or by any National Governing Body or by a member or affiliate organisation or licensee of a National Governing Body or in Competitions authorised or organised by any professional league or any international or national-level Event organisation or any elite or national-level sporting activity funded by a governmental agency."

regard, the Athlete is involved in coaching and as such is also an Athlete Support Person pursuant to the Rules.

3.4 Pursuant to Article 10.10.2 of the Rules, the Athlete may return to train with a team or to use the facilities of a club or other member organisation of a Signatory's member organisation or a National Governing Body, during the last 2 months of his period of Ineligibility.

3.5 This decision is being notified to the Athlete, the International Weightlifting Federation and WADA, each of whom has a right of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport within 21 days of receipt of this decision, subject to Article 13.2.6 of the Rules in the case of WADA and the International Weightlifting Federation.

4. Summary

4.1 For the reasons given above, Sport Ireland has issued this decision, which records that:

- The Athlete has committed violations of Article 2.1 and Article 2.2 of the Rules by virtue of the presence of a Metabolites of drostanolone (3a-hydroxy-2a-methyl-5a-androstan-17-one) in a Sample collected from him in In-Competition Testing on 28 June 2025 and his corresponding Use of drostanolone.
- The Athlete has admitted to the ADRVs and accepted the sanctions, so the period of Ineligibility is reduced from 4 years to 3 years, pursuant to Article 10.7.1 of the Rules.
- The Athlete was Provisionally Suspended on 7 August 2025 and as he is given credit for this Provisional Suspension, the 3-year period of Ineligibility expires at midnight on 6 August 2028.

Dated the 10th of November 2025