

Sport Ireland and Darragh Daly

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 Darragh Daly (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 33-year-old driver. On 19 October 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 7 November 2025 identifying the presence of cocaine and the cocaine metabolite benzoylegonine in the "A" Sample – this is known as an Adverse Analytical Finding. Cocaine is a Prohibited Substance under S6 of the Prohibited List.
- 1.3 On 17 November 2025 Sport Ireland notified the Athlete that he was Provisionally Suspended and that he was alleged to have committed the following ADRVs:
 - 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 He was notified that a ban of 3 months would apply if he could establish that he took cocaine Out-of-Competition and that it was unrelated to sport performance.
- 1.5 By email of 18 November 2025, the Athlete admitted taking 1 gram of cocaine on 11 October and 0.5 grams on 16 October. The Laboratory confirmed that the concentrations of cocaine and cocaine metabolites were not inconsistent with the declared consumption of cocaine as the scientific evidence was consistent with Athlete's stated consumption of cocaine.

2. Charges

- 2.1 By letter of 10th December 2025, Sport Ireland charged the Athlete with anti-doping rule violations under Articles 2.1 and 2.2 of the Rules. Sport Ireland informed the Athlete that it

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

was of the view that a 3 month ban was appropriate in the case.

2.2 The Athlete signed and returned the Acceptance of Consequences Form on 25 December 2025, which was enclosed with Sport Ireland's charge letter, thereby admitting the violations and accepting the sanctions proposed by Sport Ireland.

3. Consequences

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

3.2 The sanctions imposed are:

3.2.1 A period of Ineligibility (or ban) of 3 months with effect from 17 November 2025. The Athlete's period of Ineligibility will expire at midnight on 16 February 2026.

3.2.2 The Disqualification of all results obtained by the Athlete in Competitions from (and including) 19 October 2025 until the commencement of the Athlete's Provisional Suspension on 17 November 2025, with all of the resulting consequences including forfeiture of any medals, points and prizes² during the period in question.

3.2.3 Public Disclosure. Sport Ireland is required Publicly Report details of the matter following its conclusion³, including the sport, the violation in question, the name of the Athlete, the Prohibited Substance involved and the Consequences imposed.

3.2.4 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, Motor Sport Ireland and its affiliates, members and/or licensees.

3.3 Pursuant to Article 10.10.1 of the Rules, during the period of Ineligibility the Athlete cannot participate in organised sport in any capacity. Pursuant to Article 10.10.2, 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 23 days of his period of Ineligibility.

3.4 This decision is being notified to the Athlete, the FIA 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 FIA.

4. Summary

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

² Article 9.3.

³ Article 15.3.

- The Athlete has committed violations of Article 2.1 and Article 2.2 of the Rules by virtue of the presence of cocaine and the cocaine metabolite benzoylegonine in a Sample collected from him in In-Competition Testing on 19 October 2025 and his corresponding Use of cocaine.
- The Athlete has admitted to the ADRV's and accepted the sanctions. Sport Ireland accepted that the Use occurred Out-of-Competition and was unrelated to sport performance, so the period of Ineligibility is reduced 3 months, pursuant to Article 10.1.4 of the Rules.
- The Athlete was Provisionally Suspended on 17 November 2025 and as he is given credit for this Provisional Suspension, the 3 month period of Ineligibility expires at midnight on 16 February 2026.

Dated the 7th of January 2026