Sport Ireland and Brian Cherry

Reasoned Decision of Sport Ireland

The following is the reasoned decision of Sport Ireland pursuant to Article 7.4.2 of the Irish Anti-Doping Rules ("**Rules**") and Article 7.6 of the World Anti-Doping Code ("**Code**"). It concerns anti-doping rule violations ("**ADRVs**") committed by Mr Brian Cherry (the "**Athlete**") and records the Consequences[1] (sanctions) which apply.

1. Background and Facts

1.1. The Sample provided by the Athlete in In-Competition Testing on 3 May 2026 was analysed by the World Anti-Doping Agency ("**WADA**") accredited laboratory in Cologne, the Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln Institut für Biochemie (the "**Laboratory**").

1.2. On 10 June 2026, Sport Ireland received a report from the Laboratory identifying the presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers – this is known as an Adverse Analytical Finding. The Prohibited Substance was Cannabinoids/Carboxy-THC (Cannabis).

1.3. On 23 June 2026, Sport Ireland notified the Athlete that he was alleged to have committed the following ADRVs:

> Article 2.1 - "*The presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in an Athlete's Sample*"; and
>
> Article 2.2 - "*Use or Attempted Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method*".

1.4 The Athlete was advised that a ban of 3 months would apply if he could establish that his Use of Cannabis occurred Out-of-Competition and was unrelated to sport performance.

1.5 Sport Ireland did not receive a response to its letter of 23 June and sent another email to the Athlete dated 2 July 2026. Again no response was received and on 20 July 2026, Sport Ireland issued a letter of charge to the Athlete noting that Sport Ireland had no option but to seek a ban of 2 years.

1.6 The Athlete was advised that if he did not challenge Sport Ireland's assertion of ADRVs and the proposed Consequences or request a hearing within 20 days of receipt of the letter, Sport Ireland would be entitled to deem that he had waived his right to a hearing and admitted the ADRVs as well as accepted the sanctions. Sport Ireland received no response.

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

2. Consequences

2.1. The applicable ban (period of Ineligibility) is 2 years, which will commence from the date of this decision.

2.2. The following sanctions (Consequences) are also imposed:

2.2.1. the Disqualification of the Athlete's results from 3 May 2026 until the date of this decision;

2.2.2. Sport Ireland shall Publicly Report on its website details of the matter following its conclusion[2], including the sport, the violation in question, the name of the Athlete, the Prohibited Substance involved and the Consequences imposed and this reasoned decision.

2.3. As the alleged ADRVs occurred during or in connection with an Event (the Carrick on Suir Mc Kart Racing Meet)**,** a decision by the ruling body of the Event, may lead to Disqualification of all your individual results obtained in that Event with all resulting consequences including forfeiture of all medals, points and prizes (Article 9.2).

2.4. A copy of this decision shall be sent to the Athlete, Motorsport Ireland, UK Anti-Doping, Federation Internationale de l'Automobile, WADA, and the Irish Sport Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel.

3. Summary

3.1. Pursuant to Article 8.4.2 of the Rules, as the Athlete has failed to dispute the ADRVs, he is deemed to have admitted the violations, to have waived a hearing, and to have accepted the proposed sanctions (Consequences).

3.2. In accordance with Article 8.4.3, Sport Ireland has promptly issued this written decision.

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

3.3.1. The Athlete has committed a violation of Articles 2.1 and 2.2 of the Rules by virtue of the presence of the Cannabinoids/Carboxy-THC (Cannabis) in a Sample collected from him in In-Competition Testing on 3 May 2026 and the corresponding Use of cannabis which led to this positive test.

3.3.2. A 2 year ban has been imposed on the Athlete pursuant to Article 10.1.2 and will commence from today's date.

Dated 14 September 2026

Sport Ireland

Siobhán Leonard