

Speaking Notes for News Conference

August 10, 2010

Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES)

Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS)

Canadian Football League (CFL)

Speaker:

Rosemary Pitfield, Director of Executive Operations and Public Affairs, CCES

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen and thank you for joining us today in person and on the phone.

For those of you who may not know me, my name is Rosemary Pitfield, I am the Director of Executive Operations and Public Affairs for the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport, I am joined today by:

- Mr. Doug MacQuarrie, Chief Operating officer for the CCES,
- Ms. Marg McGregor, Chief Executive Officer for Canadian Interuniversity Sport and
- Mr. Kevin McDonald, Director of Football Operations for the Canadian Football League.

The format for today's news conference will be as follows:

I will provide you with the background information regarding the university of Waterloo testing and the facts with regards to the CIS testing that has occurred since March 31, 2010. Each of the stakeholders will then provide you with an outline of how they have joined forces to address this emerging issue. At the conclusion of the presentations, we will open the floor and the phone lines to questions.

When posing a question, I would ask that you introduce yourself and the media outlet you represent prior to asking your question.

Now, allow me to provide you with some of the background information and the facts to date:

As was reported previously, on March 31, at the request of the University of Waterloo and the CIS, the CCES conducted doping control tests on 62 University of Waterloo football players.

A total of 82 sample collections were attempted with a total of 81 actually collected. Sixty-one (61) of those sample collections were for urine – one athlete refused to be tested – and 20 sample collections were for blood.

CCES is currently managing a total of nine cases related to the University of Waterloo testing which include: one asserted refusal; a total of four admissions – two admissions occurred

prior to the testing procedures and two admissions occurred at the time of sample collection; three adverse analytical findings; and two cases pending a police investigation.

To date, four of these cases have been closed and sanctions imposed: three admissions of an anti-doping rule violation and one adverse analytical finding for Tamoxifen, a prohibited substance according to the 2010 World Anti-Doping Agency or WADA Prohibited List.

The CCES is continuing to monitor the ongoing Waterloo Regional Police investigation into former University of Waterloo football players Nathan Zettler and Brandon Krukowski, both have been charged with possession of steroids for the purpose of trafficking. Trafficking in prohibited substances is also an Anti-Doping Rule Violation. These matters are in the process of review by the CCES and may result in further anti-doping assertions.

At the time of the Waterloo testing, the CCES conducted doping control tests at the University of Guelph and McMaster University and conducted tests leading up to and including the East West Game in May. With the exception of a positive in-competition test for Cannabis, the rest of those test results were negative.

After reviewing the results of the University of Waterloo testing, and with the assistance of the CIS and its member institutions who provided athletes' home addresses and performance records, the CCES conducted more than 40 unannounced tests on CIS football players from universities across the country during the month of June.

From those unannounced tests, the CCES has confirmed two anti-doping rule violations and is managing one further potential violation.

Barrie Ontario native, Taylor Shadgett, a 3rd year linebacker from Acadia University, had his urine sample return an adverse analytical finding for Stanozolol a prohibited substance according to the 2010 WADA Prohibited List. Mr Shadgett admitted to the ingestion of the steroid Winstrol at the time of sample collection. He exercised his right to a hearing and received a sanction of two years ineligibility. The decision can be found at www.crdsc-sdrcc.ca.

Amherstburg Ontario native, Christopher Deneau, a 2nd year linebacker from the University of Windsor, had his urine sample return an adverse analytical finding for the presence of Methyl-1-testosterone a prohibited substance according to the 2010 WADA Prohibited List. Mr. Deneau waived his right to a hearing and acknowledged the commission of an anti-doping rule violation. He received a sanction of a two-year period of ineligibility.

I would now like to ask Doug MacQuarrie, the CCES' Chief Operating Officer to provide you with some details of how the CCES, in partnership with the CIS and CFL, will tackle this situation.

Speaker:

Doug MacQuarrie, Chief Operating Officer, CCES

The most recent results from the CIS football testing program are both significant and alarming. Canadians have told us, that they have no tolerance doping in sport. Sport in Canada is a source of great community spirit and pride. We all share a responsibility to ensure that young athletes don't grow up believing that the route to winning or making the team is by using performance enhancing drugs.

CCES, together with our partners in football, have joined forces to put in place some measures to help deal with the issue before us.

CCES is appointing and will launch an independent task force on the use of performance enhancing substances in football. The task force will look at the prevailing attitudes and trends, if any, towards the use of performance enhancement drugs and prohibited methods and the extent to which they may be used in the sport of football.

Depending on their findings, the task force may work across sectors to identify and develop recommendations on federal, provincial and municipal actions that may be taken to address the issue of performance enhancing drug use in football; and, provide recommendations for stakeholder actions that may be implemented to tackle address the problem. On the basis of their findings, the taskforce may also comment on the situation that may exist more broadly within all of sport.

More details including the task force membership will be provided in the coming weeks.

CCES will also increase the number of tests allocated to the CIS football testing program by reallocating tests and focusing on the more at-risk periods during the off-season. I must point out that reallocating tests is not a sustainable course of action nor preferred over the long-term. Additional funding and other strategies are required in order to increase testing in football without negatively impacting the level of testing within other Canadian sports. CCES continues to be in discussion with Sport Canada, CIS and other partners to identify appropriate solutions.

Striving for excellence means to rise to the challenge to be the best you can be. Doping steals this opportunity from the athlete, sport and our society as a whole. Cheating, such as doping, has no place in sport. On behalf of all Canadians, the CCES remains steadfast in its expectation that football, and all sport, be doping free.

These measures are only a beginning, and it will require more partners and more stakeholders to come forward and work with us to ensure that football is doping free.

I would like to introduce Kevin McDonald from the CFL, one of our key partners who has moved the yard sticks significantly in the past year.

Speaker:

Kevin McDonald, Canadian Football League (CFL)

Speaker:

Marg McGregor, Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS)