## In the matter of the Canadian Anti-Doping Program;

# And in the matter of an anti-doping rule violation by Jean-Christophe Blanchet asserted by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport;

#### File Outcome Summary

## **Summary**

- 1. The Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) conducted an Out-of-Competition Sample collection on February 25, 2023, in Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec.
- 2. Mr. Jean-Christophe Blanchet ("the Athlete") was selected for Doping Control. The Sample provided by the Athlete returned an Adverse Analytical Finding (AAF) for GW501516 metabolites (sulfoxide and sulfone) ("GW501516"), a non-specified Prohibited Substance.
- Following receipt of the CCES's Notice of Charge asserting an anti-doping rule violation (ADRV) for the presence and Use of GW501516, the Athlete signed an Early Admission and Acceptance Form, thereby admitting the ADRV, waiving his right to a hearing and accepting all applicable Consequences.

#### Jurisdiction

- 4. The CCES is an independent not-for-profit organization incorporated under the federal laws of Canada that promotes ethical conduct in all aspects of sport in Canada. The CCES also maintains and implements the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP), including providing anti-doping services to national Sport Organizations and their members.
- 5. As Canada's National Anti-Doping Organization, the CCES is in compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code ("the Code") and its mandatory International Standards. The CCES has implemented the Code and the International Standards through the CADP, the domestic rules which govern this proceeding. The purpose of the Code and of the CADP is to protect the rights of athletes to fair Competition.
- 6. The Athlete is a member of and participates in the activities of Weightlifting Canada Haltérophile (WCH). According to CADP Rule 1.3, the CADP provisions apply to all members of, and Participants in activities of Sport Organizations adopting it. The CADP was issued for adoption by Canadian Sport Organizations on October 26, 2020, to be operational on January 1, 2021. WCH adopted the CADP on November 27, 2020. Therefore, as a Participant in WCH activities, the Athlete is subject to the CADP.

#### **Doping Control**

- 7. On February 25, 2023, the CCES conducted an Out-of-Competition Sample collection session in Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec. Testing was conducted on WCH athletes as part of the CCES's domestic test distribution plan, all pursuant to the CADP.
- 8. The Athlete was notified that he had been selected for Doping Control and, together with the doping control officer from the CCES, completed the Sample collection process. The Athlete's Sample code number was 7088634.
- 9. On February 25, 2023, the Athlete's Sample was received for analysis by the INRS Centre Armand-Frappier Santé Biotechnologie ("the INRS"), a World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) accredited laboratory in Laval, Quebec.

## **Results Management**

- 10. The AAF was reported by the INRS on March 9, 2023. The certificate of analysis indicated the presence of GW501516.
- 11. GW501516 is classified as a non-specified Prohibited Substance on WADA's 2023 Prohibited List.
- 12. The CCES commenced an initial review into the Athlete's AAF and issued a notification of a potential ADRV on March 22, 2023.
- 13. Subsequently, on March 23, 2023, the Athlete accepted a voluntary Provisional Suspension pursuant to CADP Rule 7.4.4.
- 14. On June 26, 2023, the CCES formally issued a Notice of Charge asserting an ADRV against the Athlete for the presence and Use of a Prohibited Substance.
- 15. In accordance with CADP Rule 10.2.1.1, the standard sanction for an ADRV involving the presence and Use of a Prohibited Substance is a four (4) year period of Ineligibility. The CCES asserted the standard four (4) year sanction within its Notice of Charge of June 26, 2023.

### **Confirmation of Violation and Sanction**

- 16. In accordance with CADP Rule 10.8.1, the CCES informed the Athlete on June 26, 2023, that should the Athlete exercise their option to sign the Early Admission and Acceptance Form, the Athlete would receive a one (1) year reduction of the four (4) year period of ineligibility asserted by the CCES.
- 17. On June 28, 2023, the Athlete signed and submitted the Early Admission and Acceptance Form to the CCES. Accordingly, effective June 28, 2023, an ADRV has been confirmed against the Athlete for the presence and Use of the identified Prohibited Substance. In accordance with CADP Rules 10.2.1.1, 7.4.4, 10.8.1 and 10.13.2.2, the sanction for this violation is a three (3) year period of Ineligibility which commenced on March 23, 2023, the

date the athlete accepted a Provisional Suspension, and concludes on March 22, 2026. Further, in accordance with CADP Rule 10.10, any competitive results obtained by the Athlete, from date of Sample collection, must be Disqualified.

18. The CCES now considers this case closed.

Dated at Ottawa, Ontario this 27<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023.

Kevin Bean

**Executive Director, Sport Integrity** 

CCES