

SAAA Drug Testing Procedures and Appeals Rules

Every athlete, in every class agrees to compete under the current rules and procedures of the SAAA, as stated in the most current revision of our rules (<https://www.saaa-national.org/information>).

These rules include drug testing for performance enhancing drugs. For a list of all banned substances, please see the list of “Prohibited at all times” on the World Anti-Doping agency (WADA) website <https://www.wada-ama.org/en/content/what-is-prohibited/prohibited-at-all-times/anabolic-agents>

WHEN WILL ATHLETES BE TESTED?

As an athlete participating at an SAAA highland games competition, athlete agrees to both random drug testing and automatic testing for any new World Record. Random testing will be done at the discretion of the Athletic Director.

HOW WILL THE TEST BE ADMINISTERED?

Athletes will be tested, with two representatives present. Typically, this would be one representative of the SAAA, and one representative of the IHGF. A urine sample will be taken upon request, and submitted to a local testing laboratory. The athlete will be required to lower clothing to their knees and raise all shirts to only cover their chest. The athlete will sign the sample to ensure it is authentic and their own.

WHAT IF THE ATHLETE REFUSES TO BE TESTED?

Refusal to accept a required test will count as a failed test. Refusal to accept any of the rules of testing or SAAA procedures will also result in a failed test. Visual confirmation by SAAA officials of a “whizzinator” or similar device used to falsify sample specimens, will result in a failed test.

EXCEPTIONS AND APPEALS

If an athlete tests positive for a banned substance, but that athlete can produce a prescription for legal use of the substance, and the substance is listed as legal for that state at the time of testing, an exception will be made for the athlete. If the athlete tests positive for other banned substances, without a prescription, or the substance is listed as a controlled substance, like Trenbolone (Schedule III controlled substance), no exceptions will be made for these instances.

In the event an athlete tests positive, they may appeal the test with proof of an existing legal prescription, or with a blood and urine test, done at a third party testing facility that is accepted by the SAAA, within 10 days of the positive SAAA test result. All appealed tests will be paid for by the appealing athlete. Results shall be provided in full to the Athletic Director of the event. All appeals will be voted on by the SAAA board to determine if penalties will be enforced, or not.

PENALTIES

Any athlete that tests positive will receive a **two (2) year ban** from all SAAA highland games events. If an athlete fails a second test, they will receive a **four (4) year ban** and after a third (3) failed test, they will be **banned from all competitions for life**.