

# NOC of Iceland – Anti Doping Unit

## Summary and key figures from the year of 2017

### Introduction

Doping control and anti-doping related work in Iceland is in the hands of the NOC of Iceland. Lyfjaráð (the Anti-Doping Council) includes contact persons and advisors (legal and pharmaceutical) on issues related to laws and regulations concerning drug use and monitoring of athletes, but in addition the council is also the prosecutor in matters relating to ADRVs (Anti-Doping Rule Violations). In 2017 there was one employee (part-time) in the office of the NOC that handled administration work of an anti-doping organization.

The chairman of the council is Davíð Rurik Ólafsson, who succeeded Dr. Skúli Skúlason, and it also consists of Halldór Halldórsson (lawyer) and Daði Jónsson (doctor) who is the chairman of the Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee. Alongside Dr. Jónsson on the TUE Committee is Dr. Tómas Þór Ágústsson. The Anti-Doping Committee is chaired by Áslaug Sigurjónsdóttir, and also consists of Óskar Ármannsson (appointed by the Minister of Culture and Education) and Pétur Sigurður Gunnarsson. The committee organizes and plans anti-doping activities during the year. The committee held eight formal meetings during the year. In 2017, 13 doping control officers were involved in doping control missions carried out by the NADO.

### The Financial Framework

The contribution from the state sector was increased from the previous year and was ISK 23 million (\$200,000) in 2017. Apart from covering deficits between expenses and the actual state support, the NOC has also provided facilities, equipment and a variety of services without the NADO having paid specifically for it. The increase was specifically designed to foster the implementation of a new independent anti-doping organization, Anti-Doping Iceland. The new organization is to be founded on behalf of the NOC of Iceland and the Ministry of Culture and Education and will have the format of a foundation.

### International Cooperation

The annual Nordic meeting of the nordic NADOs was held in Sweden in August. The joint doping control mission of the Nordic NADOs that was held in Iceland was successful. The purpose of the joint mission was to train blood doping control officers (BCOs) in Iceland as well as for the NADOs to share experiences from each other during the procedure of conducting a doping test.

NOC of Iceland is a member of iNADO (Institute of National Anti Doping Organizations) and has been since early in 2015. The institute assists with coordinating anti doping work on an international level.

## **Tests and Results Management**

In 2017, the NOC of Iceland conducted 169 drug tests in total, all but three of them urine. Of those, 151 were on the NOC's behalf, that is, NOC of Iceland was the testing authority and the results management. 53% of the tests were taken in competition and 47% of them out of competition. Tests were conducted in 17 different sports.

Three samples were positive, all from male athletes. A judo athlete was sentenced to a three month ineligibility for having probenecid in his urine sample. Two ice hockey players were sentenced to four years of ineligibility after both of them tested positive for drostanolone and one of them for tamoxifen as well.

## **Education and outreach**

The Icelandic NADO hosted numerous educational events throughout the year. As a part of the university curriculum, the sport science departments of both Reykjavik University and the University of Iceland invite the anti-doping unit to host a lecture each semester for their students. The unit also visits a few secondary schools to discuss appearance and performance enhancing drugs in society in a broader aspect. In January, the unit hosted an international conference on anti-doping and nutritional supplements with former dopers and experts in the field speaking about anti-doping in broad spectrum. Experts included German journalist Hajo Seppelt and Dr. Ron Maughan, a physiologist and renowned speaker about nutritional supplements. Former cyclist Michael Rasmussen also gave his perspective and shared experiences on doping in cycling during his career.

## **Independent NADO**

Continuous efforts were made to finalize the establishment of Anti-Doping Iceland, which would take over anti-doping work in Iceland, as per the UNESCO Convention and Council of Europe's Anti-Doping Convention. This would mean the NOC of Iceland, which has overseen anti-doping from the beginning, would not do so anymore. The Ministry of Culture and Education along with the NOC would be the founders of this independent organization, which would have the form of a foundation, with its own board members.

## Testing figures for 2017

Doping Controls 2017 - Urine				
Sport	Men IC	Women IC	Men OOC	Women OOC
Football	8	0	24	3
Basketball	8	4	4	
Athletics	4	3	4*	
Weightlifting	8	8		1
Taekwondo	2			
Bowling	2			
Handball	3	4	6	
Boxing	3			
Aquatics	2			3**
Powerlifting	2	1	1	1
Volleyball			2	2
Golf	5			
Cycling (road)	3	2	2	
Judo			2	1
Triathlon	2	1		
Ice Hockey	4		8	
Karate			2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>8</b>
* 1 blood sample				
** 2 blood samples				