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## Australian golfer receives 18-month ban from Court of Arbitration for Sport

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The Court of Arbitration for Sport's (CAS) decision to impose an 18-month sanction on Australian golfer Daniel Nisbet for the possession of a prohibited substance was today acknowledged by the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA).

The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service stopped Mr Nisbet at Brisbane Airport on 10 August 2009 and seized a product in his possession listed as containing Norandrostene. The matter was referred to ASADA as a possible violation of doping rules.

Subsequent analysis of the seized product confirmed the presence of the banned substance dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA).

DHEA is listed as an S1 Anabolic Agent on the World Anti-Doping Code Prohibited List and is prohibited both in- and out-of-competition. Athletes in possession, using or attempting to use this prohibited substance potentially face serious penalties, including a two-year ban for first offences.

In deciding to impose a reduced 18-month sanction, the CAS stated that Mr Nisbet's conduct "was not aimed at cheating in his chosen sport." Among factors that the CAS took into consideration were that Mr Nisbet is of good character; that there is no evidence he ever consumed a prohibited substance; and that he fully cooperated with the investigating authorities.

CAS backdated the sanction start date to 25 November 2009, the day the athlete was provisionally suspended. Mr Nisbet is ineligible to compete in any national and international sports that have adopted the World Anti-Doping Code until midnight on 24 May 2011.

**-ENDS-**

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