



19 March 2010

DOPING VIOLATION

Bodybuilder Sam Kassem's two-year ban from sport

The International Natural Bodybuilding Association's (INBA) decision to impose a two-year sanction on bodybuilder Sam Kassem for the presence and use of a prohibited stimulant was today welcomed by the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA).

ASADA collected an in-competition sample from Mr Kassem on 29 September 2009 following the 2009 NSW Natural Physique Titles at Castle Hill RSL, Sydney. This sample tested positive for the specified stimulant, heptaminol.

The INBA imposed a two-year period of ineligibility against Mr Kassem, commencing on 4 March 2010, for the presence and use of heptaminol.

Mr Kassem is banned from taking part in recognised sports until midnight on 4 March 2012. Competition results for Mr Kassem from the 2009 NSW Natural Physique Titles will be disqualified.

Heptaminol is listed as an S6 Stimulant on the World Anti-Doping Code Prohibited List and is prohibited in-competition. Athletes in possession, using or attempting to use this specified stimulant potentially face serious penalties, including a two-year ban for first offences.

-ENDS-

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