



7 April 2010

DOPING VIOLATION

Cyclist Stephen Sabine gets two-year ban for doping violation

The Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) welcomes Cycling Australia's decision to impose a two-year sanction on Stephen Sabine for the presence and use of an anabolic steroid and glucocorticosteroids.

ASADA conducted an in-competition test on Mr Sabine on 26 April 2009 during the South Australian Criterium Championships. The sample taken from the cyclist returned a positive test for the prohibited substances of testosterone, prednisone and prednisolone.

Testosterone is classed as an anabolic steroid and is prohibited both in- and out-of-competition. Prednisone and prednisolone are both glucocorticosteroids that are prohibited in-competition when administered by oral, intravenous, intramuscular or rectal routes. Mr Sabine admitted to taking the glucocorticosteroids orally.

Mr Sabine waived his right to a hearing and accepted the maximum two-year ban.

On 5 March 2010, Cycling Australia announced that they would start Mr Sabine's two-year sanction from the date of his provisional suspension from the sport.

Mr Sabine is banned from taking part in recognised sports until midnight on 19 June 2011. Competition results for Mr Sabine from the 2009 South Australian Criterium Championships will also be disqualified as a consequence of the doping violation.

The abuse of anabolic steroids is harmful to the health of athletes by bringing on serious medical conditions like heart problems, liver damage and infertility.

- ENDS -

Media contact: 0418 450 113

