



3 June 2011

DOPING VIOLATION

Victorian athlete Rhett Medford receives two-year sports ban

The decision by the Victorian Athletics League (VAL) to impose a two-year ban on athlete Rhett Medford for refusing or failing, without compelling justification, to submit to a sample collection (Failure to Comply) was today acknowledged by the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA).

On 23 March 2010, Mr Medford committed a Failure to Comply anti-doping rule violation after receiving official notification to submit to an out-of-competition sample collection procedure at the Aberfeldie Athletics Track in Melbourne, Victoria.

All athletes must comply with any request by an ASADA Doping Control Officer to provide a sample. Athletes are warned that a refusal to comply with the sample collection procedure may constitute an anti-doping rule violation.

The Failure to Comply rule violation is one of [eight anti-doping rule violations](#) an athlete or support person can commit under the World Anti-Doping Code.

Mr Medford's two-year ban, which was backdated to the date of his admissions concerning the anti-doping rule violation, means he will be ineligible to participate as an athlete or support person in sport until 20 September 2012.

Under the World Anti-Doping Code's mutual recognition obligations, an anti-doping rule violation involving an athlete or support person applies across all other Code-compliant sports.

Any athletes unaware of their responsibilities are encouraged to seek additional information online at ASADA's website www.asada.gov.au

-ENDS-

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Media Note: Mr Medford violated rule 32.2(c) of Chapter 3 of the International Association of Athletics Federations' (IAAF) Competition Rules 2010. Chapter 3 of these Rules comprise the anti-doping policy of the IAAF, which the VAL has adopted under section 17 of the VAL's Rules and Regulations. Rule 32.2(c) of the policy provides that refusing or failing without compelling justification to submit to sample collection after notification as authorised in applicable anti-doping rules or otherwise evading sample collection (Failure to Comply) constitutes an anti-doping rule violation.