



3 January 2012

Two-year sporting ban for bodybuilder Oskars Sarkans

The Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) today acknowledged the decision of the International Natural Bodybuilding Association (INBA) to impose a two-year sporting ban on Oskars Sarkans for the presence and use of several prohibited substances.

Metabolites of stanozolol (anabolic agent), metabolites of tamoxifen (hormone antagonist and modulator), Hydrochlorothiazide (diuretic), and Amiloride (diuretic) were detected in a sample ASADA collected in-competition from Mr Sarkans at the INBA's Brisbane Natural Classic on 29 May 2011.

Mr Sarkans's ban means he is ineligible to participate, as an athlete or support person, in any sport that has adopted a World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) compliant anti-doping policy until 22 July 2013.

Anabolic agents pose many threats to an athlete's health and some side effects may include an increase in blood pressure and cholesterol levels which can lead to heart disease. Liver disease and infertility can also result from the use of these agents.

Hormone antagonists and modulators are often used in an attempt to prevent some of the side effects of anabolic agent use and to increase testosterone levels. They can also cause their own side effects such as liver toxicity.

Under WADA's Prohibited List, anabolic agents and hormone antagonists and modulators are prohibited at all times (both in- and out-of-competition).

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

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