



Australian Government

Australian Sports  
Anti-Doping Authority

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Doping violation

### Two-year sports ban for rugby union player Brendan Bunyan

The Australian Rugby Union's (ARU) decision to impose a two-year ban on amateur rugby player Brendan Bunyan for the possession and attempted use of Insulin-like Growth Factor-1 (IGF-1) was today acknowledged by the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA).

On 27 March 2010, the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service seized a package at the International Mail Sydney Gateway Facility and notified ASADA.

ASADA confirmed that the package contained the prohibited substance IGF-1 and that the intended recipient of the package was Mr Bunyan.

Mr Bunyan's ban was backdated to the date of his provisional suspension. This 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 11 August 2013.

IGF-1 is classed as a category S2 substance on WADA's Prohibited List and is prohibited in- and out-of-competition. Used for a range of therapeutic purposes, its use may cause anabolic effects such as tissue growth.

Anyone considering the non-therapeutic use of IGF-1 should be aware that a number of serious side effects can result from its use including increased risk of cardiovascular disease, liver damage and hypoglycaemia.

Any athletes unaware of their anti-doping responsibilities are encouraged to seek additional information online at ASADA's website [www.asada.gov.au](http://www.asada.gov.au)

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