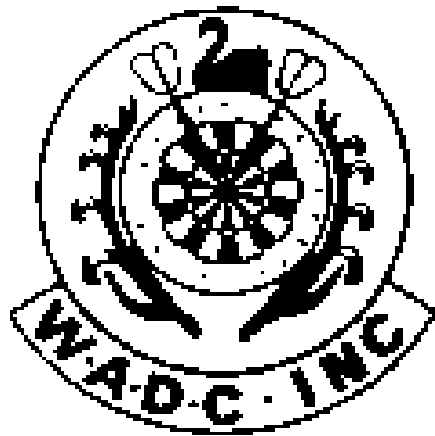


# Western Australian Darts Council Inc



## **POLICY ON DRUGS**

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## POLICY 1.1

### POLICY ON DRUGS

#### 1.0 APPLICATION

##### 1.01 Discovery

Any Dart player found by the:

- ◆ The Western Australia Darts Council Inc.,
- ◆ The Darts Federation of Australia Inc.,
- ◆ The World Darts Federation Inc.
- ◆ Or any National Darts Association Body.

To have used drugs or stimulants, or participated in doping practices prohibited by the by this Policy or Policies of:

- ◆ The Darts Federation of Australia Inc.,
- ◆ The World Darts Federation Inc.,
- ◆ Or any National Darts Association Body.

Such player being a member of their respective Affiliated Associations will be ineligible for life for financial or any other assistance from the Western Australian Darts Council Inc.

##### 1.02 Aiding and abetting

Any Coach or Official who aids, abets, counsels, procures or is knowingly involved in a darts players breach of the Policies of the Darts Federation of Australia Inc., World Darts Federation Inc., or any National Darts Association Body.

Such Coach or Official being a member of their respective Affiliated Association will be ineligible for life for any financial support or other assistance from the Western Australian Darts Council Inc.

##### 1.03 Definition

Doping or drug abuse in Darts, is the use of a substance by, or distribution to any dart player, which could have the effect of artificially improving the dart player's physical, and /or mental condition and so augment the dart player's performance. Banned substances under this clause fall into five (5) major groupings of:

- ◆ Stimulants.
  - ◆ Narcotics.
  - ◆ Anabolic steroids.
  - ◆ Non-prescribed beta-blockers.
  - ◆ Illegal drugs.
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#### 1.04 Professional Confidentiality

This policy does not intend to require any medical practitioner or sports scientist or psychologist or other person in professional confidentiality with a dart player to make any disclosure about the player's contravention of the doping provisions if the knowledge of that contravention is obtained in a situation of confidentiality. This exception does not include Coaches, Administrators or any other official appointed by the Western Australian Darts Council Inc. or Affiliated Associations even if such person were a medical practitioner. Coaches Administrators or any other Official are obligated to notify the Board of Management of the Western Australian Darts Council Inc of any alleged or suspected breaches of this policy.

## 2.0 ILLEGAL DRUGS

#### 2.01 Restrictions

Players competing in events sanctioned by the Western Australian Darts Council Inc shall not possess, use or be under the influence of Illegal drugs whilst under the control of the W.A.D.C. Inc or its nominated organiser.

Players found to be in possession of, using, or to be under the influence of illegal drugs, whilst at the venue of any sanctioned darts event shall be liable to immediate disqualification and to further disciplinary action as determined by the Western Australian Darts Council Inc Board of Management.

The use of prescription drugs duly prescribed by a registered medical practitioner shall be exempted from this By-law. The onus shall rest with the player to provide, on demand, any evidence that such drugs consumed at a darts event have been prescribed by a medical practitioner.

#### 2.02 Interpretations

Generally, the use of drugs in darts will fall under four basic purposes of:

- ◆ Medicines.
- ◆ Restorative agents.
- ◆ Sports related medication
- ◆ Performance enhancing drugs

#### 2.03 Medicines

Medicines are generally described as those products prescribed by a practicing medical practitioner for the legitimate treatment of a specific condition e.g. insulin, diuretics, etc. These products are not banned in the sport of darts whilst taken under these circumstances.

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#### 2.04 Restorative agents

Restorative agents are products that are usually available from retail pharmaceutical outlets such as anti-inflammatory agents, local anesthetics, analgesic rubs etc. Such products are not prohibited in the sport of darts.

#### 2.05 Performance Influencing Drugs

Beta-blocker drugs are generally prescribed for persons suffering from coronary heart disease and hypertension. Such drugs do, however, have a side effect of controlling tremor. The use of beta-blocker drugs that are not medically indicated and prescribed but are used solely for the purposes of influencing performance, is deemed illegal in the sport of darts.

The onus is on the player to produce, on demand, a certificate to demonstrate the medical need for this group of drugs. Such certificate shall be in the player's possession wherever he or she takes the area to play.

#### 2.06 Sports Related Medication

Amphetamines are a group of drugs that are chemically related to adrenaline and are used to increase wakefulness and delay fatigue.

The use of amphetamines is banned in the sport of darts.

Given the significant side effects of amphetamines it is unlikely that players will resort to their use if they are fully aware of the side effects. Coaches and officials should make a point of publicising these side effects, which include:

- ◆ Insomnia and its resultant effect on the next days play.
  - ◆ Excessive nervousness and palpitations, which seriously impede the level of performance.
  - ◆ A warping of judgement that often results in the player believing they are performing well when in fact their performance is suffering.
  - ◆ The loss of normal sensations of fatigue that result in the masking of the bodies normal fatigue alarm system. When the body is stressed in such conditions, collapse and even death may occur.
  - ◆ The sustained use of amphetamines can bring about a change in behaviour coupled with increased hostility and aggression.
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### **3.0 TRANQUILLISERS**

#### **3.01 Non Influencing**

After careful evaluation the Western Australian Darts Council Inc Board of Management has concluded that the use of tranquillisers would not support increased sports performance.

#### **3.02 Not Prohibited**

The use of tranquillisers is not prohibited in the sport of darts.

#### **3.03 Warning on Use**

Coaches and Officials should be aware that with a repetitive action sport such as darts that the majority of training (reinforcement of the mental template of the action) is undertaken in an environment when tranquillisers would not normally be used.

#### **3.04 Effect of Tranquillisers**

The effect of tranquillisers is to slow down the neuron response systems. The actual performance of the playing action under the influence of tranquillisers becomes slower and unsynchronised with the conditioned mental template of the playing action established through many hours of training. This would normally result in a performance below the player's real skill level.

### **4.00 PENALTIES**

Players competing in W.A.D.C. sanctioned tournaments shall not possess or use illegal drugs whilst under control of the W.A.D.C. or its nominated organisers. Players found to be in possession of or using illegal drugs whilst at the venue of any sanctioned darts event shall be liable to:

- ◆ \$1,000 fine and six (6) months suspension for the first offence.
  - ◆ Life suspension for the second offence.
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