



Performance Enhancing Drugs in Sport (PEDS) Policy

Bishops acknowledges that as school sport becomes increasingly competitive there is a temptation for pupils to make use of performance enhancing drugs to gain an unfair advantage over other athletes and to secure places in prestigious teams.

Consequently, Bishops is a SAIDS (South African Institute of Drug Free Sport) Compliant School and has signed the SAIDS School sports Anti-Doping Testing Protocol ("the Protocol"), which is attached and the provisions of which are incorporated into this Policy.

The use of performance enhancing drugs is dangerous to the user's health and constitutes cheating. It is also a serious violation of school rules and may render a boy who tests positive for a substance (or is found in possession of) and is found guilty thereof in a disciplinary hearing subject to, inter alia, suspension in one or more forms or even expulsion in appropriate circumstances.

The fact that being found guilty of using performance enhancing drug is a boy's first offence shall not necessarily disentitle a disciplinary committee to impose the aforementioned sanction or sanctions.

In addition to these sanctions, being found guilty of the use or possession of a performance enhancing substance may lead to the following sanctions being imposed by a disciplinary committee:

- The withdrawal of awards (colours, etc.) for sport; and/or
- Suspension from competing in any specific school sport or school sport in general; and/or
- Being banned from representing the school in competitive sport at any level.

A disciplinary committee may, at its entire discretion, impose any other sanction it deems appropriate in the circumstances.

Any boy who participates in a school sport (whether on a representative basis or not), and any boy who participates, whilst a pupil, in a sport sanctioned by the School to be played or practised outside Bishops, is automatically subject to the provisions of this policy and therefore of the Protocol and may be tested by the school to ensure that he complies with the provisions of the Protocol and the school rules.

Any boy who has been selected for, or who has represented a school's team, may be tested on a regular and/or random basis whether as part of the team or individually.



This testing (screening) may take any of the following forms:

- Random testing of athletes or sportsmen;
- Focussed testing of specific boys who show signs of abusing substances;
- The testing of a whole team.

In the event of a boy refusing to undergo any specific test or screening, such boy may be subject to a disciplinary hearing and the disciplinary committee may impose such sanction as it deems fit in the circumstances. Such sanction may include, but need not be limited to, any of the sanctions applicable to a boy being found guilty of the use or possession or transmission or sale of a performance enhancing substance.

The fact that a boy is temporarily disabled from participating in a sport due to a sports injury should not absolve him from screening for a performance enhancing drug.

Should a boy, on testing/screening for a performance enhancing drug, be found to have been using any other prohibited drug or substance, he shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Bishops Substance Abuse Policy. Where a particular boy is reasonably suspected of using a performance enhancing substance this should be reported to the Deputy Head of Sport who will (in consultation with the boy's House Director and the Teacher-in-Charge of the boy's team and/or sport in question), decide what action to take in the particular situation. Such action may include (but need not be limited to) counselling the boy, requiring him to undergo a test or screening either individually or as part of a wider group/team in terms of the SAIDS protocol.

The possession of PED's by a pupil will be dealt with in terms of the Substance Abuse Policy. In the event of any uncertainty in this regard i.e. as to which policy is to apply, the Deputy Head in charge of Discipline shall have the discretion to decide which policy applies in a specific situation and his decision in this regard will be final.