

Rising Star Dean Cadwallader Tests Positive

The West Australian Football League (WAFL) is reeling with news that East Perth footballer Dean Cadwallader has tested positive to anabolic steroids and is banned for a period of two years. Cadwallader as informed by the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority of a positive result taken from him during the state team program.

Cadwallader returned a positive test for nandrolone, which is prohibited both in- and out-of-competition and listed as an S1 Anabolic Agent on the 2010 World Anti-Doping Code Prohibited List; both the 'A' and 'B' samples of the football player returned positive results to nandrolone, the anabolic steroid. The 19-year-old tested positive to the substance and under [Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority](#) (ASADA) regulations for which the prescribed penalty is an automatic suspension of two years.

The 19-year-old from Stirling made his league debut for the Royals in round two in 2010 and played in 11 games before he was dropped for the clash with Claremont on June 26. A speedy midfielder on the radar of a number of AFL clubs, Dean Cadwallader, was stood down by East Perth when the club was notified of the first positive test. The AFL hopeful was not allowed to play competitive football until June 2012 under the ruling. His period of ineligibility was fixed at two years backdated to June 21, 2010.

WAFL tribunal chairman Paul Heaney said Cadwallader admitted that he willingly took the drug to increase his weight after being told by his coach that he need to put on weight if he wants to be eligible for the AFL draft and play league football in WA. The WAFL had conducted the tribunal process in strict accordance with the AFL's anti-doping code, acting WAFL operations manager Steve Hargrave said and added the West Australian Football League is in close consultation with key partners such as the AFL, DSR, Sports Medicine Australia, and ASADA in our ongoing development of the WAFL drug education program.

Nandrolone is commonly used by professional sportsmen to increase muscle mass and has been used illegally by athletes including Linford Christie and tennis player [Petr Korda](#).

Cadwallader said he would like to acknowledge his actions and expressed regret for the disappointment caused to all. The player rendered an apology to his family, my teammates, the East Perth Football Club and its staff, its members and its supporters and said he has made a big mistake and paid a heavy price for that. Cadwallader expressed hopes that he can soon come back to the game and make a positive contribution. The footballer chose not to inform the club of how and why the banned steroid was taken.

East Perth coach Tony Micale said there was no need for Cadwallader to do anything like that as he had he natural talent to achieve the highest level without using drugs and said he is shocked to learn about the doping incident. Micale added that Dean had just made an error of judgment on this occasion and said he was not aware of other players at the club using drugs or not and declined to comment when asked how long Dean had been taking nandrolone.