

Damon Allen Accepts Sanction for Doping Violation

Damon Allen, Jr. of Philadelphia, an athlete in the sport of boxing, has tested positive for a prohibited substance and accepted a suspension for his doping offense, according to a statement by the United States Anti-doping Agency (USADA).

The 19-year-old Allen, Jr. tested positive for Furosemide, a diuretic, as the result of an out-of-competition sample collected on July 19, 2011.

Under the USADA Protocol for Olympic and Paralympic Movement Testing and the International Boxing Association (AIBA) anti-doping rules, both of which have adopted the World Anti-Doping Code and the World Anti-Doping Agency Prohibited List, diuretics are prohibited and listed as Specified Substances, and therefore the presence of those substances in an athlete's sample can result in a reduced sanction.

A six-month period of ineligibility was accepted by Allen, Jr. that began on September 1, 2011, the day he accepted a provisional suspension. The boxing athlete is also disqualified from all results obtained on or subsequent to July 19, 2011, the day his urine sample was collected, including forfeiture of any medals, points and prizes as a result of the sanction.

Damon was the silver medalist at the 2010 National Golden Gloves (Little Rock, Ark.) and took the first place at the 2009 Junior National Golden Gloves (Mesquite, Nev.). The boxer won the first place at the 2008 & 2009 Ringside World Championships (Kansas City, Mo.); Placed second at the 2009 Junior Olympic Nationals (Denver, Colo.) and the Third place at the 2008 Junior Olympic Nationals (Marquette, Mich.). A runner-up in 2010 National Golden Gloves tournament and a semi-finalist at 2011 US championships, the Northern Michigan University student lost all results since then but his ban is retroactive to September 1, the day he accepted a provisional suspension. The boxer fought in the US Olympic Boxing Trials in Mobile, Alabama, but did not book a spot for the London Olympics in the 132-pound division.

Furosemide is a diuretic but is commonly used as a masking agent and high-profile fighters such as Julio Cesar Chavez Jr. and former Guzman rival, Ali Funeka, and former Jr. Featherweight and super featherweight champion, Joan Guzman, have served suspensions for the banned substance. Furosemide or Lasix is a loop diuretic that is used for treating congestive heart failure and edema and is even used for preventing Thoroughbred and Standardbred race horses from bleeding through the nose during races and can increase the risk of digoxin toxicity due to hypokalemia. The drug is also suggested for health complications including Nephrotic syndrome, in adjunct therapy for cerebral/pulmonary edema where rapid diuresis is required (IV injection), hepatic cirrhosis, renal impairment, and in the management of severe hypercalcemia in combination with adequate rehydration. It is a noncompetitive subtype-specific blocker of GABA-A receptors and is detectable in urine 36–72 hours following injection. Furosemide is injected either intramuscularly (IM) or intravenously (IV) and its use is prohibited by most equestrian organizations. The drug is included on the World Anti-Doping Agency's banned drug list as it can be used allegedly as a masking agent for other drugs.