

US Taekwondo Athlete Receives Sanction

Nathaniel Tadd of Houston, Texas, an athlete in the sport of Taekwondo, has tested positive for a prohibited substance, according to a statement issued by the United States Anti-doping Agency (USADA).

The 20-year-old received a suspension for his doping offense after testing positive for methylhexaneamine, a stimulant. The positive test pertains to a urine sample collected at the Senior Nationals competition, on July 3, 2011, in San Jose, California. Stimulants are prohibited under the USADA Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing and the rules of the World Taekwondo Federation, both of which have adopted the World Anti-Doping Code and the World Anti-Doping Agency Prohibited List.

A two-year period of ineligibility was received by Tadd that began on November 16, 2011, the day he received his sanction. The Taekwondo athlete is also disqualified from all results obtained during the Senior Nationals, which began on June 28, 2011, as well as any other competitive results obtained subsequent to June 28, 2011, including forfeiture of any medals, points, and prizes.

[An advisory was issued by the USADA on June 16, 2011](#) for making athletes aware of the concerns regarding methylhexaneamine.

Methylhexaneamine is a stimulant and was first placed on the WADA Prohibited List in 2010 classed as a Non Specified Stimulant. It has been re-classified as a Specified Stimulant from 2011 and is prohibited in-competition only. Products that contain any of the following ingredients on the label (Methylhexaneamine; Methylhexanamine; DMAA (dimethylamylamine); Geranamine; Forthane; Forthan; Floradrene; 2-hexanamine, 4-methyl-; 2-hexanamine, 4-methyl- (9CI); 4-methyl-2-hexanamine; 1,3-dimethylamylamine; 4-Methylhexan-2-amine; 1,3-dimethylpentylamine; 2-amino-4-methylhexane; Pentylamine, 1, 3-dimethyl) are reported as an Adverse Analytical Finding for Methylhexaneamine. Methylhexaneamine (MHA) was retained in the Prohibited List for 2012 by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). In 2010, Methylhexaneamine topped the stimulants list for 123 adverse analytical findings worldwide in all sports that accounted for 21.4 per cent of cases in that particular drug class. Many products sold as dietary supplements openly list this substance on their labels like Jack3d (USP Labs), Lipo-6-Black and Hemo-Rage Black (Nutrex), Spriodex (Gaspari Nutrition), F-10 (Advanced Genetics), Clear Shot (E-Pharm), 1.M.R. (BPI Sports), and many others.

The drug figured prominently during the 2010 Commonwealth Games in New Delhi wherein swimmers Richa Mishra, Amar Muralidharan and Jyotsna Pansare, wrestlers Rajeev Tomar, Rahul Mann, Sumeet, Joginder, Mausam Khatri and Gursharanpreet Kaur, and athletes Saurabh Vij and Akash Antil tested positive to it just before the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi. Methylhexaneamine or DMAA is marketed under many names as a dietary supplement but its safety has been questioned. It was originally developed to be used as a nasal decongestant and treatment for hypertrophied or hyperplasic oral tissue. It was reintroduced in 2006 as a dietary supplement under the trademarked name Geranamine. On 19 June 2012, the South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport (SAIDS) made an announcement that the 2012 Comrades Marathon winner, Ludwick Mamabolo, tested positive for the banned stimulant. The New Zealand government indicated in November 2009 that methylhexaneamine

would be scheduled as a restricted substance and made illegal the sale of DMAA products after 7 April 2012.