

Magee Considers Suing Manufacturer Of Sports Supplements

Former world super-middleweight champion Brian Magee was evaluating the option of a legal action against the manufacturer of a sports supplement that landed him with a doping ban of six months.

The 38-year-old Magee was recently revealed to be the first British athlete to have tested positive for Oxilofrine, the same stimulant sprinter [Asafa Powell](#) admitted had shown up in his system. The Northern Irish boxer Magee was found to have inadvertently ingested the substance that did not appear on the list of ingredients for a supplement he took during the build-up to his [World Boxing Association](#) title defeat to Mikkel Kessler in December. Magee said he feared his career was over when he was informed of the positive test and the boxer who fought Carl Froch in 2006 and is a former British and European champion, said he is intent on returning to the ring.

Though McGee was not given a ban of two years, his failure to double-check the product with a qualified medical practitioner was still deemed “careless and negligent” by UK Anti-Doping, leading to a suspension that was backdated to January and expires next week. Magee told UK Anti-Doping that he had taken a new supplement that also contained another banned substance in beta-methylphenethylamine to combat fatigue after contracting a heavy cold. The judgment of UKAD reflected the fact Oxilofrine or its known synonyms were not listed among the supplement’s ingredients. UK Anti-Doping said in its judgment that the athlete has acted in a careless and negligent manner that has resulted in him committing an anti-doping rule violation.

In a statement, Magge remarked that he was in total shock when told that he had tested positive, and he honestly thought someone was playing a joke. He remarked all I could think was I could get a lifetime ban or even a two-year ban which, at my age, would have meant my career was as good as over. Magee added that I have had 30 or 40 tests in my career and never tested positive and I have always been extremely careful about everything I have taken, and I didn’t do anything differently before the Kessler fight.

The Irish boxer's manager Pat Magee said Brian has had 20 plus tests throughout his career in the amateurs and the professional game and none before this one have returned positive. He added that this news came to a shock to me and Brian and it is out there for anyone to see that he has tested positive, but people won’t read behind that and seek out what really happened. Pat Magee added that Brian has never knowingly taken performance enhancing drugs and it has been confirmed to us by the UKAD that the amount of the substance found in his system would not have proved beneficial or helped in a fight in any way.

A few weeks back, the former director of ethics and anti-doping at UK Sport, Michele Verroke, remarked athletes are being put under so much pressure to improve performance that they are being persuaded to use supplements and added this is a totally unregulated market and they are hugely at risk.