

Redskins Defensive End Jarvis Jenkins Suspended

Jarvis Jenkins has become the eighth [Washington Redskins](#) player to receive an NFL drugs-related suspension in 22 months. The Redskins defensive end was sanctioned for four games without pay for testing positive for a banned performance enhancing drug.

Jenkins appealed the suspension imposed on him after he was informed that he had tested positive for a drug used by athletes in connection with steroids and used by women for breast cancer. His appeal was ruled out by the league. After the suspension news broke out, Chris Baker and Kedric Golston emerged as the leading candidates to start while Jenkins is away. Jenkins is however allowed to practice during training camp and can play in pre-season games. He will miss games against the Philadelphia Eagles, Green Bay Packers, Detroit Lions, and Oakland Raiders. Jenkins, during the suspension of four games, will forfeit \$167,009 of his \$709,789 base salary this season. His troubles may increase in case the Redskins seek repayment of \$116,371 of the \$1.978 signing bonus Jenkins received in 2011. Jenkins will be eligible to return to the active roster on September 30, following the Week 4 game against the Oakland Raiders, and will miss the first four games of the regular season.

The NFL star, who was on the practice field at training camp working with the first-string unit when the suspension was announced, later issued a statement saying he was confused and shocked to learn that he had tested positive for what he called “an obscure substance.” Jenkins later on addressed reporters following the practice and apologized to the team, fans, and his parents. He added that it was a simple mistake and he is accepting his responsibilities like a man. He added that the support from teammates was appreciated and would serve as motivation for him during his time away from the facilities.

Jarvis Jenkins further added that he used to take pre-workout and [recovery supplements](#) and took an over-the-counter supplement that didn't have the “NSF (National Science Foundation certification)” label, a label that certifies that the supplement has been certified as acceptable under an agreement between the league and players' union. He however remarked that he did make a point to check the ingredients of the supplement, but he learned that was not a fail-safe method. Jenkins also remarked that his team did a good job of educating players about the drug policies of NFL but the results are debatable. In 2011, left tackle Trent Williams, tight end Fred Davis, and cornerback Phillip Buchanon served four-game sanctions while linebacker Rob Jackson is suspended for the first four games this year while safety Tanard Jackson is serving an indefinite suspension and expected to be reinstated this year.

Team coach Mike Shanahan, acknowledging the trouble, said we have emphasized it, but may be not enough. He added that hopefully our players will learn that without the label of NSF, you can't take any supplements, because you never know what's going to be in the supplements. Shanahan added that we'll pay the price for it and hopefully our players will learn from it.