

Sonnen Fired From FOX Sports And UFC Broadcasting Positions

Former UFC fighter [Chael Sonnen](#) has been fired by the UFC and FOX Sports organizations from his broadcast positions. This announcement was made after Sonnen failed a second random test given by the Nevada Athletic Commission (NAC) on June 5.

Sonnen's first failed test was on May 24 after which he announced his retirement. Sonnen was scheduled to fight UFC light heavyweight Wanderlei Silva at UFC 175 but announced his retirement after his failed test in May.

FOX and the [UFC](#) released a joint statement to announce that the UFC Tonight co-host was terminated. It was revealed that the UFC and FOX Sports organizations announced the termination of their respective broadcasting services agreements with analyst Chael Sonnen. It was added that this decision comes in light of Sonnen failing a second test conducted by the Nevada Athletic Commission for banned substances in June and Sonnen was previously under temporary suspension by the Nevada Athletic Commission for failing an initial test conducted in May.

In his MMA career, Sonnen has failed three drug tests with the first being after his 2010 title fight against [Anderson Silva](#) in Oakland. The MMA fighter was suspended by the California athletic commission but made false claims to have his suspension reduced.

In May this year, Sonnen tested positive for two prohibited substances and voluntarily admitted to a third banned drug after a random drug test administered on May 24 in Las Vegas. His second failed test this year was confirmed by blood and urine samples given at another random drug test that was administered on June 5 in Portland. In his first random test, Sonnen tested positive for Anastrozole and Clomiphene, which are used to provide relief to men with hypogonadism. Sonnen also claimed he used Human Chorionic Gonadotropin (hCG). In his second test, he failed for Human growth hormone (hGH) and recombinant human erythropoietin (EPO) that are prohibited by the World Anti-Doping Agency.

Anastrozole (also known as Arimidex) is used as an on-cycle support drug to treat side effects of excess estrogens, which are usually associated with the use of harsh and aromatizable steroids. This post cycle therapy drug blocks the action (and not the production) of estrogen. On the other hand, Clomiphene citrate (also called Clomid) is used by athletes during the recovery phase of steroid cycles to restore the production of naturally-occurring hormones, including Testosterone, and prevent side effects of excess estrogens.

According to WADA's description of human growth hormone, hGH is known to act on many aspects of cellular metabolism and is also necessary for skeletal growth in humans and the major role of hGH in body growth is to stimulate the liver and other tissues to secrete insulin-like growth factor (IGF-1) that stimulates production of cartilage cells, resulting in bone growth and also plays a key role in muscle and organ growth.

Sonnen now claims that the second failed test is because of the prescribed medications. He remarked the Commission is aware of other prescribed medications he was taking and he will not challenge their allegations. Sonnen remarked he will cooperate with the Commission and look forward to having a dialogue about how fighters who transition off Testosterone replacement therapy can avoid violating any rules.