Clean Sport Forum 2014 Emphasizes On 2015 Code Implementation

Over 100 attendees from across the sporting landscape met at Lord’s Cricket Ground on September 25 in London. This meeting was made to discuss preparations for the implementation of the 2015 World Anti-Doping Code.

The fourth annual forum provided the opportunity for UK Anti-Doping to update important stakeholders on the recent developments within anti-doping. It also facilitated UK Anti-Doping to communicate best practice advice across a wide range of areas. This one-day event allowed delegates to share their experiences with network, colleagues, and know more about how UK Anti-Doping can help protect their sport.

European and Commonwealth silver medalist Lynsey Sharp spoke about her experiences of the anti-doping system. Lynsey remarked doping has had a massive effect on her career so far, but she looks forward to the positive impact the 2015 Code will have in the years to come.

UKAD Chief Executive Andy Parkinson emphasized on the importance of collective responsibility to make sure successful implementation of the WADA 2015 Code. Delegates, including Commonwealth Games England Deputy Chef de Mission Graeme Dell and England Boxing Chief Executive Mark Abberley, also heard from other speakers about the possible impact of the WADA 2015 Code on their organizations.

UKAD Chief Executive Andy Parkinson also remarked this is a busy time for anti-doping with the 2015 World Anti-Doping Code coming into effect in three months, along with a revised set of UK Anti-Doping Rules. He remarked to implement these changes effectively will require a collective effort from all our partners in the UK, across every sport. The UKAD Chief Executive added this year’s Forum was about ensuring sports have a clear understanding about their responsibility in this process, and take away best practice examples of how to manage the impact of changes. Parkinson also said the enthusiasm of attendees was really positive, particularly during the closed CEO Forum and added it is imperative that this level of interest is maintained so that every sport has an effective anti-doping strategy that will help minimize the risk of doping in the UK.

In another development, sport medical personnel working with some of the leading athletes of the UK met on September 15, 2014 for the inaugural UK Anti-Doping Athlete Support Personnel (ASP) Forum. This forum promotes and encourages transfer of knowledge within the athlete support community. It also ensures that Anti-Doping Athlete Support Personnel recognize and understand their important role in keeping sport clean. UKAD Director of Communications and Education Nicola Newman said UKAD appreciates the vital role athlete support personnel play in promoting the values of clean sport and the trust athletes place in them to provide accurate and clear anti-doping advice. Newman added this Forum was an important opportunity to engage with this group and ensure they appreciate their expanded role and responsibilities ahead of the 2015 Code. British Olympic Association (BOA) Intensive Rehabilitation Unit Manager James Moore said the event has attracted such a wide variety of sports and
some of the best people in their disciplines. Moore added he thinks it is great UKAD has initiated this and engaged with this group.