

Stephen Dank Found Guilty By AFL Anti-Doping Tribunal

The AFL anti-doping tribunal has found [Stephen Dank](#) guilty of 10 breaches. The controversial sports scientist was facing 34 charges including trafficking, attempt to trafficking and complicity in matters related to a range of prohibited substances.

The breaches mostly related to time of Dank with Essendon, but also included his stint with the Gold Coast Suns and dealings with a former Carlton coach.

An AFL statement read the Tribunal has found that the former Essendon support person has been found guilty of 10 breaches of the AFL Anti-Doping Code. The statement also revealed that the prohibited substances in question include Thymosin beta-4 and CJC-1295 and added that former NRL player Sandor Earl admitted to trafficking.

The tribunal said it is comfortably satisfied that Dank violated clause 11.7 of the AFL Code by attempting to traffick in, by selling, giving, transporting, sending, delivering and/or distributing to a third party or parties, namely the Essendon Football Club and athletes of the club, prohibited substances in a product known as Humanofort, namely Insulin Growth Factor 1 (IGF-1), Insulin Growth Factor 2 (IGF-2), Mechano Growth Factor (MGF), Fibroblast Growth Factor (FGF), Follistatin and Thymosin Beta 4, between about January 2012 and September 2012. The tribunal also said it is comfortably satisfied that the former support person violated clause 11.7 of the AFL Code by attempting to traffick in, by selling, giving, transporting, sending, delivering and/or distributing to a third party or parties, namely the Gold Coast Suns Football Club and support persons of the club, a prohibited substance, namely CJC-1295, in December 2010.

AFL general counsel Andrew Dillon said the circumstances surrounding the case have been extremely difficult, given the amount of information and the number of parties involved and added the professionalism and diligence of the Tribunal has been greatly appreciated by the AFL.

The AFL anti-doping tribunal said it is not comfortably satisfied that Dank violated clause 11.8 of the AFL Anti-Doping Code by attempting to administer a substance prohibited both in and out-of-competition, namely [Hexarelin](#), to various Essendon Football Club

Players between about January 2012 and September 2012. It added the tribunal is not comfortably satisfied that Stephen Dank violated clause 11.6 of the AFL Anti-Doping Code by actually possessing, at various times between about January 2012 and September 2012, one or more substances prohibited both in and out-of-competition, namely Thymosin Beta 4 and/or Hexarelin, in connection with athletes (players) competition and/or training at Essendon Football Club.

It also said the tribunal is not comfortably satisfied that Dank violated clause 11.7 of the AFL Code by trafficking in, by selling, giving, transporting, sending, delivering and/or distributing to a third party or parties, namely the Essendon Football Club and athletes, prohibited substances in a product known as Humanofort, namely Insulin Growth Factor 1 (IGF-1), Insulin Growth Factor 2 (IGF-2), Mechano Growth Factor (MGF), [Fibroblast Growth Factor](#) (FGF), Follistatin and Thymosin Beta 4, between about January 2012 and September 2012.

The Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) is contemplating an appeal to that tribunal decision and said it is disappointed in the tribunal's decision to clear Dank of a number of serious alleged violations.