

## **UFC Featherweight Chad Mendes Flagged For 'Potential' USADA Violation**

Two-time featherweight title contender Chad Mendes has been flagged for a "potential Anti-Doping Policy violation" stemming from an out-of-competition drug test collected by the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), according to an announcement by the UFC.

However, the UFC did not specify the nature of the banned substance found in the sample of Mendes. The 31-year-old Mendes is currently the No. 4 ranked featherweight in the UFC's media-generated rankings. Mendes has been out of action since December 2015, when he suffered a first-round knockout loss at the hands of Frankie Edgar at The Ultimate Fighter 22 Finale. Mendes has dropped three of his last four contests including a failed bid for the interim UFC featherweight title against Conor McGregor at UFC 189. The two-time featherweight title contender has twice fought for the UFC featherweight title and lost to former longtime champion Jose Aldo via first-round knockout in 2012 and then fell short via decision in a highly competitive rematch in 2014.

An official UFC statement read the UFC organization was notified today that the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) has informed Chad Mendes of a potential Anti-Doping Policy violation stemming from an out-of-competition sample collection. The statement further reads USADA, the independent administrator of the UFC Anti-Doping Policy, will handle the results management and appropriate adjudication of this case. The UFC statement continued it important to note that, under the UFC Anti-Doping Policy, there is a full and fair review process that is afforded to all athletes before any sanctions are imposed and further added that additional information will be provided at the appropriate time as the process moves forward.

In the last few weeks, many UFC fighters have failed [anti-doping tests](#).

B.J. Penn was suspended after he disclosed IV use that is prohibited by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency. A UFC statement reads Penn disclosed the usage of a prohibited method – the use of an IV in excess of 50 ML in a six-hour period – during a March 25, 2016, out-of-competition sample collection and was removed from his scheduled bout against Cole Miller on June 4 in Los Angeles.

Few weeks back, Diego Ferreira has been removed from this month's UFC Fight Night 88 event because of a potential failed drug test. In a statement, the UFC had then remarked that it was notified that the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) informed Carlos Diego Ferreira of a potential Anti-Doping Policy violation, stemming from a recent out-of-competition [sample collection](#).

UFC welterweight Tim Means was also named by USADA for a positive drug test stemming from a tainted supplement. Means accepted a suspension of six months, retroactive to the February 3 date he was provisionally suspended for of a potential anti-doping violation. The 32-year-old Means was tested out-of-competition on January 21 and tested positive for [Ostarine](#), a banned androgen modulator with anabolic properties. It was later found out that the banned substance came from a tainted supplement that the fighter admitted to using. He initially faced a suspension of two years as a first-time offender but his punishment was reduced in light of the tainted supplement. The United States Anti-Doping Agency had previously delivered a similar ruling for UFC middleweight Yoel Romero, who failed an out-of-competition test for a growth hormone substitute and subsequently proved his positive test stemmed from a tainted supplement.