

Angela Hill Out Of UFC 207 For Drug Testing Rule

Former "Ultimate Fighter" competitor and current Invicta FC champion [Angela Hill](#) has been ruled ineligible due to UFC's anti-doping policy.

The former World Kickboxing Association champion is ranked #3 female MMA strawweight in the world by Fight Matrix as of May 23, 2016. The Australian mixed martial artist, who competes in the Strawweight division and is currently signed with the Invicta Fighting Championships, was about to make a return to the UFC for a matchup against No. 5 ranked strawweight contender Jessica Andrade. However, the current Invicta FC champion was required to undergo four months of testing from the United States Anti-Doping Agency before she can be re-allowed to re-enter the promotion.

The rule from the anti-doping policy of UFC reads that an athlete who gives notice of retirement to UFC or has otherwise ceased to have a contractual relationship with UFC may not resume competing in UFC bouts until he or she has given UFC written notice of his or her intent to resume competing and has made him or herself available for testing for a period of four months before returning to competition. It further reads that UFC may grant an exemption to the four-month notice rule in exceptional circumstances or where the strict application of that rule would be manifestly unfair to an athlete.

Former heavyweight champion Brock Lesnar was granted an exemption when he made his return at UFC 200 in July. Lesnar however failed a pair of drug tests for the estrogen blocker [Clomiphene](#) that ended with his bout against Mark Hunt and suspended for one year for the infraction.

Jeff Novitzky, the UFC vice president of health and performance, remarked any fighter that ceases to have a contractual obligation with the UFC, so had a contract and ceases (to have a contract), as the rule reads now by any means or methods. Novitzky added the athlete has to be re-signed or unretired and they have to be back in the program for a period of four months whether it is being cut by the UFC or a decision on behalf of the athlete.

The UFC vice president of health and performance added the UFC does have the ability to waive that as we did in the case of Brock Lesnar, if, and he thinks the wording is it would be manifestly unfair to the athlete. Novitzky added we in the case of Angela Hill did not feel based on several factors including the amount of time that she would have been back in the program, we didn't feel that it met that criteria and therefore she wasn't granted that waiver.

Novitzky also remarked the UFC examines the exemptions individually with discussions inside the promotion as well as involving United States Anti-[Doping](#) Agency. The UFC vice president of health and performance added it is absolutely on a case by case basis and added there is an internal discussion in the UFC and then we also have that discussion with USADA to make sure they're comfortable on it and so that is exactly what had happened.