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29 November 2017

**TO: DISTRICT SECRETARIES
DISTRICT PRESIDENTS
MEDIA**

**District Secretaries are required forward a copy of this circular together with attachments to all clubs.
Clubs are required to bring the content and attachments to the notice of their members.**

CIRCULAR 70/2017

SAIDS Acknowledgement & Obligations for all Competitive Players

Bowls SA is a signatory of an agreement regarding drug-free sport, as part of the world-wide organisation – World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). The South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport (SAIDS) implements world-wide protocols in this regard. Despite Coaches being informed of the compliance requirements for many years and circulars about this matter, a player tested positive for the prohibited substances, **Hydrochlorothiazide which is categorised as a Class S5 – Diuretic as well as Cathine which is categorised as a Class S6 – Stimulant on the World Anti-Doping Code 2017 Prohibited List International Standard** when SAIDS implemented their testing protocols at the 2017 National Mixed Pairs Tournament. **The source of the prohibited substances came from Enapco (blood-pressure tablets) and Relislim (slimming tablets). The Player sanction was a four (4) month suspension.**

In the future, it is virtually guaranteed that SAIDS will be at future tournaments – ANY tournament organized at ANY level – but especially national- and district-level tournaments. We can also be assured that future cases will be viewed far more strictly than this first case involving a Bowls SA member.

Players must take note that the supplements industry is NOT regulated, and the majority of these products contain banned substances, even if not listed on the label! Please note that these supplements include the majority of 'energy' shakes/drinks. A quote from SAIDS website: "*NOTE: You cannot search for dietary or sport "supplements" as they are not regulated and are not subjected to rigorous controls to verify ingredients, dosage, efficacy, safety... * As such, you simply don't know for sure what's in it and therefore SAIDS, similar to WADA, caution athletes against the use of dietary supplements.*" For more information on anti-doping cases involving these types of substances, please refer to the SAIDS website and Facebook page (*links provided below*).

SAIDS is not obliged to notify federations which events they intend to visit and may arrive at any tournament and randomly target any players they choose. The players and their managers / coaches have no option about complying with their requirements and taking responsibility for the consequences. **Circular 32 details this however, the information must filter down to player level.**

In order to protect your Clubs, your District, your Coaches AND your Players, it is vital that you provide the following 4 documents to every player entering District tournaments:

Executive Committee:

President: Robert Forbes, Vice President: Charles Levy
Members: Heather Boucher, Trevor Davis, Ian Stayt and Andrew Strong



sport & recreation
Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



1. Bowls SA 2017/Circulars 8 and 32
2. This Bowls SA 2017/Circular 70
3. The attached Compliance form
4. The attached TUE (Therapeutic Use Exemption) application document (if necessary) – 2017 document attached, but in future, players should go to the online link to access the current form (<http://www.drugfreesport.org.za/tue-application-form-contacts/>).

Note that since January 2016, coaches are deemed responsible for their players and can suffer the same penalties as the players unless they can prove otherwise.

In order to complete the compliance form, players are required to check any medications they take and the list of ingredients of these medications on the SAIDS web-site (*see links provided below*). Should any medication or ingredients of any medication be indicated as a banned substance (anything other than green), the player should first consult his/her medical Doctor to find a safe alternative. Only if this is not available, should the player then apply for a TUE.

No Club or District tournament entries should be accepted until the Compliance form and, where applicable, the TUE document, are uploaded onto the Membership Database (*process provided below*). Should Clubs and / or Districts choose not to comply with this directive, please note that Bowls SA will not be in a position to assist in any cases against such players. **No entries for any National tournaments run under the auspices of Bowls SA, will be accepted without these documents being present, from the date of this circular, starting with entries for the Bowls SA Masters in February 2018.** Managers/Coaches will also be required to sign the entry document for all National Tournaments, to confirm that all players were timeously informed of the SAIDS requirements, in order to provide time for these players to apply for the TUE prior to the tournament. Any participant taking banned substances under medical supervision **should be in possession of a TUE, dated at least 30 days before the event** – presenting a doctor's prescription or certificate is of no use at the time of sample collection or at a subsequent hearing. Please note that application for the TUE after being tested is irrelevant to the case should the player be tested positive for any banned substances.

The collection process is an embarrassing one, but has to be followed strictly according to the official's instructions. There may be no excuses or deviations from what they require. They have been trained only to deal with the collecting of the sample and are not interested in what you may have taken – this is outside of their mandate. The samples are then sent away where the process is controlled by another centre. The players have the right to be accompanied by a coach or witness to support them through the collection process.

The Administrative Process for Compliance:

1. The attached completed *Bowls SA SAIDS Acknowledgement & Compliance* form signed as required.
2. A copy (electronic or printed) of the TUE document, if necessary, must accompany the returned form.
3. The following outlines the **proposed specification** to include the documentation and consent information required by SAIDS for all Bowls SA Members participating in Club, District & National Tournaments.

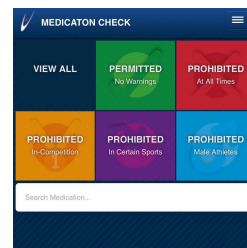
The data on the Database is entered and maintained by Club Administrators, District Administrators and National Administrators according to their relevant access profiles and is superintended by the Systems Administrator.

- i. Currently we have a Members table listing all relevant biological, residential and personal information of all members – check that the contact information is up to date.
- ii. All members will have an indicator on their record, indicating that the required documents are either uploaded or need to be uploaded. This will be an automated process.
- iii. By changing the indicator, the administrator will automatically be requested to upload the documents not yet there (or remove and upload a replacement should information change in the future)
 - a. Scanned image – Completed *Bowls SA SAIDS Acknowledgement & Compliance* form
 - b. Scanned image – TUE (if applicable)

These documents are not required for initial registration of the member, but it will be the responsibility of the Club Administrator to ensure that the documents are in place on the database before any member is allowed entry to any official tournament.

Online Information Access:

- Drug-free Sport website: <http://www.drugfreesport.org.za>
- Drug-free Sport Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/drugfreesportZA>
- SAIDS Anti-Doping Rules: <http://www.drugfreesport.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/SAIDS-Anti-Doping-Rules-2016.pdf> – any player competing at top-level should be familiar with the content of this document, along with the coaches/managers involved. Note that in future, players and coaches/managers should check the SAIDS website (link provided above) for the current rules.
- Prohibited List: <http://www.drugfreesport.org.za/prohibited-list/>
- Medication Check: <http://www.drugfreesport.org.za/online-medication-check/>
Mobile phone app: *Do not use any of the free app downloads. You must use the app from the Drug-free Sport website's home page, which **must** be downloaded annually every January. Scroll down to "View our online medication, check App" click there, then add it to your home screen on your phone using the browser's menu (The icon will then be added to your home screen, where you can quickly access this website). Type the item in the 'Search Medication' box and tap 'View All.*
- TUE application: <http://www.drugfreesport.org.za/tue-application-form-contacts/>
- WADA – Process (*current*): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3jgmfPsZbrs>
- Sample Collection Process (*current*): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=388W2sk4I4A>
- The Athletes View (e.g.): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iVoQg-lZ1yE>
- World Anti-Doping Rules 2016 (Bowls SA web-site):
<http://www.bowlssa.co.za/files/Publications/SAIDS Anti-Doping Rules 2016.pdf>



List of Attached Documents:

- *Bowls SA SAIDS Acknowledgement & Compliance Form* – note that 2 versions are attached – the .docx for those with access to later versions of MS Office and who would prefer to complete the form using a digital device OR the .pdf for those who need to print it and complete it by hand.
- *TUE-Application-Form_V6-2017.pdf* – Note that future applicants should download the current application form from the online link provided above.

Queries regarding various aspects:

Should there be any queries regarding this process, please contact the relevant person on the list below:

- | | | |
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| • The uploading of information | Heather Boucher | hebouch@gmail.com |
| • Bowls SA Tournament entry Compliance | Ian Stayt | ian@ihmcc.biz |
| • SAIDS / WADA Education & Compliance | Trevor Davis | tpdavis@mweb.co.za |

JOHN RAVENSCROFT
OPERATIONS MANAGER