



2024 ENGLAND BOXING ANNUAL OVERVIEW OF CLEAN SPORT ACTIVITIES

Off the back of an Olympic cycle, it is possible to see the International Olympic Committee's (ICO) and in this case the International Testing Agency's (ITA) classifications of sport based on their games time anti-doping programme. In their pre-games testing report the ITA ranked Boxing as a 'high-risk' sport, however only one boxer from Nigeria was severed with an (Anti-Doping Rule Violation) ADRV. Given the risk level associated with the sport of amateur boxing it is pertinent to ensure a comprehensive education programme is in place to support athletes at all levels as well as Athlete Support Personal (ASP). Prominent professional boxing ADRVs potentially undermine the positive work in amateur boxing with the broader association of doping across generic boxing activities, therefore a positive education campaign across the membership is necessary to offset any misinterpretation or misrepresentation in England.

UKAD's Assurance Framework

The annual submission made to UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) has been completed as of March 2024 and correlates with smaller submissions made throughout the year based on Testing and Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs). Following feedback from UKAD and the appointment of a new Compliance & Safeguarding Manager (CSM), who takes over the Anti-Doping Lead (ADL) role due to UKAD experience as a staff member and National Trainer (NT), the UKAD template for Implementation Plan submission has been adopted from 2024 onwards. This provides a granular breakdown of education activity across pathways and supports UKAD in its collation of data and subsequent generation of education support and training.

Education

Education opportunities are categorised by WADA as '*values-based education*', '*awareness*', '*information*' and '*anti-doping education*'. EB has adopted this categorisation through the delivery of broad education material to members, reflecting the updates to the Implementation Plan as well as utilising the Comms Team to support with access to a wider audience.

Anti-Doping Education

Three face to face 100% Me workshops have been delivered in 2024 to a total of 46 attendees. This comprised the EB Senior Squad who are a mandatory group requiring education at least every two years and two optional groups of U19s and Performance Pathway coaches. This education is vital for boxers in the Senior Squad and to those travelling internationally due to the TUE requirements placed on athletes as part of the transition between International Federations (IF). The Pathway Coaches are identified as being a key optional group due to their opportunity to signpost boxers in their core athlete support personal (ASP) influencer roles. The appointment of the new CSM within the Compliance Team has strengthened this delivery and supported the record keeping for education which is also

necessary to report back to UKAD. A calendar of delivery is now developing from these workshops, underpinned by the recruitment of boxers and coaches onto Performance Pathways.

Additionally a suite of free to access e-Learning courses is also available through the UKAD website and the Clean Sport Hub. Team Managers and England Coaches have been signposted to these courses to guarantee clean sport education has taken place and to up skill them in their roles. These have also been promoted to EB staff and the wider membership with some positive, independent take up. All e-Learning and workshop based attendance is certificated for two years and bespoke certification upload for each course is available through the Locker, supporting the tracking of member's qualifications and reporting to UKAD.

Values-Based Education

Values-based education (VBE) has been embedded into the delivery of workshops through the use of scenario based learning, mock media conferences and continuum exercises, alongside the alignment of UKAD's 100% Me values with EB's own values and Strategic Plan. VBE is heavily relied on when delivering education to athletes and ASP returning from a sanction, which is not necessary at this time.

Awareness

The Comms Team have been excellent at promoting clean sport through social media and the website and an Annual Comms Plan is now in place with key messages to be shared each month. These reflect the need for EB to share Prohibited List and TUE Pool updates which were posted out in the summer and autumn of 2024. The social media posts also reflect key topics for updates from UKAD and often piggyback off reposts from UKAD, World Anti-Doping Association (WADA) and the ITA. Image based posts, video content and links to further reading all have a different demographic to appeal to and are pushed out via different channels from X to TikTok, which also have their different demographics of users. This achieves a broad awareness campaign across channels and members.

Information

Following previous updates to the EB website and clean sport page, further updates have been made in 2024 to reflect global changes by WADA and to remove dates, in order to future proof content and update requirements. Much of the awareness information and EB policy relates back to this page, to provide current guidance and useful signposting.

Boxers in the National TUE Pool (Senior Squad) were all directly emailed the updates to the TUE Pool requirements in July 2024 with a follow up email sent in November 2024 to advise of the annual updates to WADA's Prohibited List published on 01 January 2025.

Delivery & Workforce

Workshops Delivered

26 July 2024 – 100% Me Workshop – Senior Squad
 11 October 2024 – 100% Me Workshop – U19 (Colorado) Squad
 23 November 2024 – 100% Me Workshop – Pathway Coaches

Workforce

Anthony Sheppard – ADL, Educator & NT
 Danny Williams – Educator
 Andrea Rankine – Educator
 Chris Smith – Board ADL

Testing & Results Management

EB's Senior Squad form the National TUE Pool and EB's transition between the IBA and World Boxing has meant that updated process have been required for the application of a TUE. World Boxing have

partnered with the ITA and their process have been used in TUE applications in 2024. No boxers currently form part of the National Registered Testing pool (NRTP) for EB.

As a new IF, World Boxing has increased its in-competition testing of athletes across events in order to generate positive data, to further substantiate its governance structure and achieve recognition from the International Olympic Committee (IOC). This is imperative if Boxing is to remain an Olympic sport and be present at LA28. EB welcomes this move in all aspects.

There have been no reported ADRV's within EB and the Compliance team remains in contact with UKAD's Intelligence & Investigations Team in order to share information between parties. Any ADRV or potential ADRV is confidential between the National Anti-Doping Organisation (NADO) and respondent and would not be reported internally until published publicly. No EB members are listed to be under a suspension for an ADRV as of 31 December 2024 and UKADs testing data to Q3 (December 2024) shows 50 tests completed in amateur boxing with GB Boxing.

Summary

Data collated from education activity is collated bi-monthly to report back to sub-committees and the Board. This includes feedback on targets set in the Implementation Plan and shared with UKAD. 2024 data indicates a positive year for EB, with UKAD's Assurance Framework requirements having been met.
