

Media Release:

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Anti-Doping

The Northern Territory Institute of Sport (NTIS) continues to recognise and adopt the strong anti-doping policies of national elite sporting organisations, with NTIS athletes and coaches attending anti-doping seminars conducted during the recent Arafura Games competition held in Darwin.

NTIS Director Dr Ian Ford said the use of prohibited substances and methods is contrary to the ethics of sport and potentially harmful to the health of athletes.

“NTIS athletes and staff attend co-ordinated and effective anti-doping programs at the international and national level with regard to detection, deterrence and prevention of doping,” Dr Ford said.

“The seminars held during the Arafura Games updated staff and athletes on changes to the World Anti-Doping Code 2009 that came into effect on 1 January 2009, and how this will impact on member athletes and support personnel.

“The seminar covered new procedures regarding Therapeutic Use Exemption forms (TUE’s) and testing procedures for minors.

“It was pleasing to see changes to the TUE process which will help our athletes to more easily meet their obligations.

“Attending regular seminars ensures we keep up to date with the latest in testing procedures, prohibited substances and methods and medications.

“NTIS athletes are informed and kept well educated about their anti-doping responsibilities and this helps reduce the risk of athletes inadvertently doping.”

Dr Ford said the NTIS is the Northern Territory Government’s centre for sporting excellence for the identification, development and support for the Territory’s talented athletes.

“We recognise and adopt the anti-doping policies of the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) and relevant National Sporting Organisations (NSOs) which comply with the World Anti-Doping Code.

“With so many of our NTIS athletes competing at a national and international level, including the Olympics, Paralympics and World Championships it is important to learn about the importance of pure performance in sport.

“Integrity, honesty and fair-play are such a big part of sport so it’s imperative that these young developing athletes get the message early on in their careers.”

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