



# SPORT INTEGRITY *MATTERS*

ISSUE 11 | DECEMBER 2022

**THE COACHING EVOLUTION**  
WINNING – BUT NOT AT  
ALL COSTS

STARTING IN THE VIRTUAL  
INTEGRITY PATHWAY

STAKEHOLDER  
SURVEY RESULTS

JOINING FORCES TO  
TACKLE GLOBAL THREATS







## SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA

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### FEEDBACK

Do you have a story about an integrity issue that you want to share with the sports community through future issues of *Sport Integrity Matters*?

Send an email to [communications@sportintegrity.gov.au](mailto:communications@sportintegrity.gov.au)

All feedback is appreciated.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Sport Integrity Australia continues to evolve at a rapid pace as we prepare for a 'golden decade of sport' in Australia.

With Australia hosting a range of international sporting events culminating with the 2032 Brisbane Olympics and Paralympics, Sport Integrity Australia's role has never been more important as today's five-year-old could be our future Olympian or Paralympian.

It is imperative that we instil a culture of clean, safe and fair sport in our young athletes as they journey towards 2032.

With this in mind Sport Integrity Australia is developing new initiatives such as a Safety in Sport Division, which will be established in January 2023 and will expand our capability by putting in place an appropriate structure and expertise that is trauma-informed, culturally appropriate and person-centred.

The Safety in Sport Division will oversee critical initiatives including the dedicated 1300 reporting hotline, the Safeguarding in Sport Continuous Improvement Program in partnership with the National Office of Child Protection, the Independent Complaints Handling Model, the Confidential Reporting Scheme, an expanded education platform which will have a greater focus on safety in sport at all levels and addressing culturally sensitive issues.

We are also looking to bolster our understanding and capabilities to fully understand and respond to issues around racism, racial abuse and discrimination.

Sport Integrity Australia will engage new members to its expanded leadership team, including a Cultural Adviser who will advise the agency on how best to manage a range of issues on discrimination based on race, culture, sexual and gender identity, as well as abuse and mistreatment across Australian sport.

We will also look to entrench specialists from the offices of the Australian Human Rights Commission and the eSafety Commissioner to enhance internal skills and ensure efforts across mutual areas of interest are complementary.

Making sport safe also means ensuring the people who work in sport are appropriate. Sport Integrity Australia will start work on the development of a Safety in Sport Register and Accreditation program, which will offer sports with a list of personnel suitable to work in sport.

Another area being addressed is the online abuse of athletes, in many instances the abuse is coming from disgruntled gamblers, in other instances the abuse is racially or sexually oriented. In an effort to fully understand the nature and impact of online harm, such as cyber-hate and trolling upon women involved in sport, Sport Integrity Australia is co-funding a PhD research project.

The PhD scholar will complete a doctoral research program to identify ways to reduce the increasing levels of online abuse and cyber-hate. Once we fully understand the problem we will develop strategies to deal with the issue and ensure the wellbeing of women involved in sport. (See page 20 for more details.)

Sport in Australia has embraced the need for change, with 85 sports committed to signing up to the National Integrity Framework by 31 December 2022 which is a fantastic result for both sport and their athletes.

Education continues to play a vital role at Sport Integrity Australia.

As was highlighted during WADA's Global Education Conference in Sydney in September, Australia is a leader when it comes to innovative and effective

education. This resulted in Australia recording zero positives to supplement use in the 2021-22 calendar year following a concerted campaign to raise awareness among athletes and the sporting community of the dangers of supplement use.

Another important role is to protect Australian sport from corrupt influences.

With the growth of gambling on sports in the regulated environment (estimated at \$11 billion in 2018-19) and an increase in the number of sporting competitions being streamed, the threats to Australian sport are obvious. As I mentioned at Interpol's General Assembly in October, a coordinated domestic and global enforcement focus on corruption in sport, in partnership with sport, is needed. After all, organised crime operates in a borderless environment.

For this reason I expect integrity issues in sport to grow significantly, which is why we all need to work together. I would like to thank all our partners for their efforts so far, but in many ways our work is just beginning.

It has been a year of great change, I am anticipating an even greater evolution of our role in the next 12 months.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Sharpe'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

**David Sharpe APM OAM**  
Chief Executive Officer



# THE COACHING EVOLUTION

## WINNING – BUT **NOT** AT ALL COSTS

Coaches are being called to account more than ever with approximately 60 per cent of conduct complaints being investigated by Sport Integrity Australia involving the cohort.

Although many suggest the win-at-all-costs culture is changing as the role of the coach expands into a people first approach, with the measure of success not always results driven.

Former captain of the Australian Diamonds Caitlin Bassett said a win-at-all-costs attitude is dangerous. "As an athlete I've experienced success, but what happens when you don't win? Are you a failure?" she asked.

Cameron Tradell, Director of Coaching and Officiating at the Australian Sports Commission, said having coaches create that positive environment "where people feel safe and that they belong is at the heart of everything we do".

Allan Yates, long-time coach and President of Basketball ACT, said clubs themselves are now suspending coaches with "the enforcement of penalties for poor behaviour becoming more commonplace".

We look at the coaching evolution in Australian from grassroots to elite.



THERE ARE APPROX.

**1,544,780**

COACHES, INSTRUCTORS  
AND TRAINERS  
CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN  
AUSTRALIAN SPORT



AusPlay 2022 survey



## COACHING DEVELOPMENT

**Cameron Tradell, Director Coaching and Officiating at the Australian Sports Commission**

A review in 2016 highlighted that 78% of coaches did not hold appropriate sport accreditation.

"We need to get a focus on how we get people to value education and training to support the coaching environment and then how that, in turn, impacts the quality of the experience of the participant," Tradell said.

The Australian Sports Commission has recognised a coach's need to focus on the person first, by asking participants (rather than telling them) what they feel they need for a physically and psychologically safe environment.

"The difference between what we used to do and what we do now is the difference between delivering sport to people and coaching people in sport.

"The participant is at the core of the positive environment we're creating, where people feel safe and have a sense of belonging."

Whether in team sports or individual sports, Tradell said understanding the needs of individuals, including their motivation and how they measure success, is essential for coaches to create the right environment not just for the participant, but for their support crew (which includes parents).

"We identified two things: one is that the coach provides the environment and the second is that the participant has the experience," Tradell said.

"You don't know if your participants have had a great experience unless you've asked them ... so you need a feedback loop ... constantly remaining connected we've got a better chance of optimising the environment ... and they've got a voice, they're heard."

He acknowledged that at all levels of coaching there is a pressure placed on coaches by players, parents, spectators, sport and clubs, but he suggested that those pressures were changing.

"There is different pressure than there was ... I think some of the big ones are the focus on winning and winning being the only measure of success. Winning, despite the way you win, rather than really driving the values of how we play it and how we interact and connect."

He suggested that perhaps the traditional win-at-all-costs methodology was becoming a thing of the past.

"If anyone has seen an Under 6's junior football game every single child is competing in every single second of that game to just get their foot on the ball ... they're looking at success as being 'I just want to kick the ball four times in a row', and they celebrate those as the wins, whereas the adults are looking at the goals scored.

"The truth is, in a 12-team competition, if success is winning does that mean one team wins and we've got 11 losers which means 11 coaches and 11 teams have failed?"

"So we [adults] celebrate things the kids aren't even looking at and we're creating an adult concept of what success

“The participant is at the core of the positive environment we're creating, where people feel safe and have a sense of belonging.”

looks like, whereas kids just want to contribute and they see that as success and growth."

A more nurturing environment provides two-way communication, he said, creating resilient and self-thinking athletes who explore other ways to achieve a result and are happy to be part of the solution because of the supportive and inclusive environment that has been created.

"If you've got a coach that is yelling at you and abusing you, you are less likely to open up and be able to talk openly about any issues you've got, any problems you've got due to a lack of understanding, a lack of clarity on your

*Cameron Tradell connecting with community coaches, an integral part of his role as Director Coaching and Officiating at the Australian Sports Commission.*



role," he said. "I certainly know which sporting environment I'd prefer to be associated with."

He said he has seen success from both styles.

"I've seen coaches behaving poorly and still able to win and I've seen coaches who don't behave that way and who have great success. I don't think there is any benefit to creating these unsafe environments."

Tradell is excited that most sports are embracing the change in coaching culture and wanting to eliminate bullying, abuse and psychologically damaging coaching styles.

The free Community Coaching Essential Skills Course, available on the Australian Sports Commission's Australian Sports Learning Centre, is bridging the gap between old school thinking with the new age focus.

"We want people to realise that coaching is far greater than technical and tactical," he said.

"It's how you create the right environment for people to turn up and enjoy the experiences and create psychologically safe environments so that people can feel good about themselves, understand their role and contribute as part of a group." ■

“I've seen coaches behaving poorly and still able to win and I've seen coaches who don't behave that way and who have great success. I don't think there is any benefit to creating these unsafe environments.”

## COMMUNITY COACHING ESSENTIAL SKILLS COURSE

Find the free Community Coaching Essential Skills Course at the Australian Sports Commission's Australian Sport Learning Centre ([ausport.gov.au](https://ausport.gov.au)).

This award-winning course has been designed so coaches can learn at their own pace and complete modules anywhere, anytime and on any device. It's easy!

1. Create your account
2. Enrol
3. Complete your 8 modules
4. Download your certificate
5. Make use of the resource documents

The course is designed to assist new, returning or current coaches to create positive, safe and inclusive learning environments for participants to learn, enjoy and thrive through sport. Each module takes around 20 minutes (including assessment) with a total estimated time of 3 hours.





## LONG-TIME COACH

### Allan Yates, coach and President of Basketball ACT

Allan Yates has coached basketball for over 50 years, from under 12s through to the national league, and has seen first-hand the changes occurring in coaching culture and styles in response to societal expectations.

"Certainly these days there's much more emphasis on engaging with your players and bringing them along rather than criticising them for the way in which they play," Yates said. "It's a lot more about positive reinforcement than it is about criticism."

"I have a view that coaches are either philosophers or dictators and I've waxed and waned between both [as a coach] over the years."

"I think my philosopher keeps things in train, but every now and then my dictator flares ..."

While he admitted sports once turned a blind eye to the win-at-all-costs behaviours, he believed public pressure and the evolution of today's modern society is changing that.

"Coaches and certainly the administration of sport have to be very aware of that obligation and what can and can't be done today. You can't do things today that you might have done 25 years ago, or even 10 years ago."

Referencing his own coaching style, he admitted his approach "certainly has changed".

"As your life experience changes so does your approach to other people, again that's a societal thing and it flows to the approach to basketball. It's really important as a coach to coach the individual not just the group. I think that is a big thing that has changed a lot these days. You have to be aware that each individual has to be nurtured."

While coaches dealt with expectations from players, club, sport and fans, they also had to deal with their own expectations, he said.

"Coaches ask themselves more questions than players ask themselves because players are concerned about their own performance and how they can contribute to the team's performance, but the coach is responsible for the team's performance. That's about maximising the performance of the individuals."

He said there was a whole range of issues that weren't there 20 years ago which coaches now needed to take into account when dealing with the players, their parents and supporters.

"Being in a much more litigious society brings additional pressures, we're very aware of our obligations in that space on a whole range of issues – racism, sexism, ageism, referees."

When it comes to coaching during talent identification phases, particularly the pathways age groups, he said there were a whole set of other complexities.

"Young players have to learn to take criticism ... and that changes at different levels, between men and women, and at different ages. The guiding influence has to be the welfare of the kids ... taking into account the best results for the kids."



Allan Yates continues to coach young basketballers in the ACT.

As for the attributes that bring out the best in athletes, a coach's role is "to make your players in your team feel valued. It's the same as in society, if they don't feel valued they won't feel good about themselves and they aren't going to deliver as much." ■

I have a view that coaches are either philosophers or dictators and I've waxed and waned between both [as a coach] over the years.





“Coaches who focus to connect with athletes get the best out of them by understanding their learning style and recognising the way they perform or react to certain circumstances...”



*Caitlin Bassett proudly wearing the green and gold.  
©Narelle Spangher*



## ELITE ATHLETE

### Caitlin Bassett, former Australian Diamonds captain, dual Commonwealth Games and World Champion gold medallist

It wasn't until Bassett took on the captaincy of the Diamonds that she said she fully appreciated the pressures coaches at the elite level were under.

"Once I was in a leadership role sitting beside the coach I could see the pressures, particularly at press conferences. There was a lot of pressure around marquee events and the pressure for gold," Bassett said.

She learned a lot from her coaches about how to handle pressures coming from outside the team and recognised that a good coach absorbs much of that pressure.

"Our Diamond's coach Lisa Alexander changed the narrative in that regard. If the media challenged her she flipped the switch and was smart in dealing with them, by making it less about results and more about the development of the team ... she didn't deflect the pressures on to us."

Bassett said a great coach approaches athletes as humans, not just as athletes. During her netball career and now in her new role as Player Development Manager at Cricket NSW, she's seen a shift in coaches moving to what she described as more of a "people management role" with the assistant coaches and other specialists focusing on the other aspects of coaching.

"Coaches who focus to connect with athletes get the best out of them by understanding their learning style and recognising the way they perform or react to certain circumstances and nurturing the individual in accordance with who they are and how they respond," Bassett said.

She agreed that the role of the elite coach has changed over time and is enjoying seeing athletes who are transitioning to coaching bringing a collaborative style of coaching with them.

"Gone are the days of the scary intimidating coach ... it's now a more collaborative approach to working with the athlete rather than coaching at the athlete," she said. "The athlete enjoys the journey more and so you ultimately get more out of them."

"As an athlete I've experienced success, but what happens when you don't win? Are you a failure? The win-at-all-costs attitude is dangerous. Sport teaches you so much more than winning. In netball we were always taught, 'you either win or you learn!'"

Bassett said she learned later in her career not to read narratives from those outside the inner sanctum after any losses. "The losing [as a successful team] is what drove us, not the noise from outside," she said. "A good coach directs the focus back and keeps the team focused on moving forward. Lisa would tell us to 'don't look out, keep your eyes in!'"

Bassett said she was well aware of the pressures coaches faced and the mental health aspects that go with that.

"It's great when it's great and horrible when it's horrible," she said. "I think there is a lot of pressure for coaches that go far beyond the team, the club and the sport to the fans and the scrutiny of the public." ■

“Gone are the days of the scary intimidating coach ... it's now a more collaborative approach to working with the athlete rather than coaching at the athlete. The athlete enjoys the journey more and so you ultimately get more out of them.”

*Caitlin Bassett is also a Sport Integrity Australia Athlete Educator*





# 2023 **OUT SOON!** ANNUAL UPDATE

activities | case studies | videos | athlete tips



**Be aware of substances that are banned in sport**



**Know what to do if anyone ever approaches you to throw a competition**



**Understand the new hotline where you can report bad behaviour from anyone in sport**

## Also

- Prohibited List
- TUEs
- Medicinal Cannabis
- SARMs
- Prohibited Association
- Dried Blood Spot Testing
- Reminder: Social Media and Doping Control
- Batch-tested Supplements
- Supplement Sponsorship/Endorsement
- Competition Manipulation
- Match-fixing
- Member Protection
- Reporting Prohibited Conduct

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<https://elearning.sportintegrity.gov.au>





# virtual STARTING ON THE INTEGRITY PATHWAY

The Decision Making in Sport Workshop plays out real-life scenarios for students to tackle in a safe space.

Looking to build good culture and sportsmanship in your pathway athletes, but don't think they're quite ready for traditional anti-doping education? Sport Integrity Australia's Decision Making in Sport Workshop is a great first step to introduce athletes to integrity and what it means to be a good sport.

During the early years of an athlete's career, they undergo a process of developing their own personal values system which is likely to carry through to senior sport. Values-based education is vital at this stage of development to lay the foundation for clean sport behaviours.

To capitalise on this opportunity, the Sport Integrity Australia Education team has recently developed a

Decision Making in Sport Workshop for school students and young athletes. Designed for 14–18 year olds, the workshop utilises Virtual Reality (VR) to explore tricky, sport-related scenarios regarding integrity in sport and anti-doping. This workshop is a great introduction to clean sport education before diving into anti-doping or match-fixing content.

During the workshop, Sport Integrity Australia's athlete presenters introduce a decision making framework that allows participants to reflect upon their values and principles to help navigate situations. After identifying which values and principles are most important to them, the participants are faced with a number of difficult choices. As they progress through the scenarios, they are

encouraged to stay true to themselves by making choices consistent with their own moral beliefs.

Throughout the workshop there are opportunities for students to wear the VR headset whilst the footage is casting on a screen for the rest of the group to see. At key points during the scenarios when a major decision is encountered, the entire group discuss their perspectives, before a decision is made on screen.

After the workshop, participants should have a better understanding of what guides their decision making – for example, if teamwork, honesty, winning or accountability is most important to them. Having worked through the decision making framework, they will have a template to assist in making difficult choices in the future. Participants will also have identified people they can talk to about tough choices and any slippery slopes to look out for ("everyone else is doing it", "it's a stupid rule anyway", etc.)

The workshop runs for approximately 50 minutes and is suitable for groups of 20 students or less. To enquire about booking a workshop, email [education@sportintegrity.gov.au](mailto:education@sportintegrity.gov.au).

Here's a sneak peek of the VR experience <https://youtu.be/Rp3VKCa2Pqs>.

“ This workshop is a great introduction to clean sport education before diving into anti-doping or match-fixing content. ”



# MEET OUR ATHLETE EDUCATORS

Sport Integrity Australia is committed to working in partnership with sports and athletes to protect the integrity of the Australian sporting landscape. Athlete Educators provide face-to-face education sessions for sporting groups around the country.

Our Athlete Educators are current and former Australian athletes who have lived and breathed the testing process and are aware of the integrity risks within their sporting environment.

Many also have their own stories, having competed internationally against athletes who have later been found to have doped, who know of team members who have been the subject of inadvertent anti-doping rule violations or have faced integrity dilemmas themselves.

## Ashleigh Brennan (Gymnastics)

- Dual Olympian (Artistic)
- 3x World Championship team member
- 2x Commonwealth Games gold medallist
- 14-year representative career
- Exercise physiologist
- Co-founder of Find My Balance

"I'm passionate about presenting to athletes and support personnel on all integrity threats. Being a past athlete and being on the receiving end of these education sessions, I understand how valuable the information is and the great impact it has on an athlete's sporting career. I really wish I had the Sport Integrity app back when I was competing. It makes it so easy to check if a medication or supplement is prohibited as well as having easy access to the 11 ADRVs."



**Top tip:** *Surround yourself with a supportive team who has a positive influence on you and respects your sporting and life ambitions.*

## Cruz Hogan (Athletics)

- Elite javelin thrower
- 2022 World Athletics Championships representative
- 2022 Oceanic javelin champion
- 3 x Australian Senior national medallist
- 6 x Western Australian state champion
- Performance scientist (Western Australian Institute of Sport)

"Clean, fair sport is absolutely crucial. Without it, sport loses its integrity, its power to inspire, its ability to unite and to define character. It's up to us as athletes to become role models within our community and to take a strong stance against doping. For over 20 years, I've put my body through a lot to become a better athlete. I expect nothing less from my competitors. I also expect a clean, fair playing field."



**Top tip:** *Pre-workout supplements are often high risk for containing prohibited substances in sport. As an athlete, it is extremely important to know what to watch out for to avoid consuming prohibited substances when investigating supplement options.*

## Michaela Leonard (Rugby union)

- Brumbies rugby 2018-2022
- Brumbies captain 2020 and 2021
- Debuted for Australia in 2019
- Captained Australia A at the 2019 Oceania championships
- Played for Matatu in 2022 Super Rugby Aupiki
- Australian representative 2022 World Cup
- Physiotherapist

"Sport has provided me with so much joy and opportunity throughout my life to date and I want to be in a position where I can give back to the industry and protect the integrity of the games we love so much and the athletes who participate in them. Sport integrity and anti-doping is often an element of sport we as athletes find daunting and I want to help spread awareness and education surrounding the positives of what we do and empower athletes to feel confident in their choices and the processes around what we do."



**Top tip:** *If you're unsure ask; education is always better than ignorance. And remember, no one ever tested positive to a banana!*





### Deborah Greenbaum (Aerobic gymnastics)

- 12 x Australia National Champion
- Australian team representative in over 20 international events
- Senior Elite athlete of the year 2016-2018, 2021
- International brevet gymnastics judge (FIG cat3)
- Internationally certified gymnastics coach (FIG II)
- Therapeutic Goods Administration Pharmacovigilance Pharmacist

"Success in sport is meant to be about the hard work and effort you put in every single day, not your ability to play the system. Sport Integrity Australia ensures a level playing field and keeps the true spirit of sport alive. By being an athlete educator I am able to assist in spreading this important message to the sporting community."



**Top tip:** *Be as informed as possible when it comes to anti-doping. Listen and utilise those who are trying to assist and educate you, especially athlete educators and your local pharmacist. Pharmacists are trained in understanding medications and supplements and are a readily available resource to assist you with any questions you may have.*

### Monique Murphy (Para swimming)

- Australian Dolphins Swim Team
- Rio Paralympic Games
- Paralympic Women's S10 400m Freestyle silver medallist
- Named on 5-consecutive Australian swim teams

"Since my accident I have had to manage continual surgeries and chronic illnesses which forced me to become hyper vigilant regarding what I can and cannot put in my body and when. With the right support and education, you can manage your health and elite sport. I am committed to clean sport and have found that sport has been the most effective remedy for my physical, emotional and mental health."



**Top tip:** *Always take a screen shot when you use Global Dro so you have a record of what you took and when.*

### Bronwen Knox (Water polo)

- 4x Olympian
- 2 x Olympic bronze medallist
- Sport Integrity Australia Athlete Advisory Group member
- Highest capped female player with 394 caps for Australia
- Captained Australian team in 2010, 2013-2016
- Won multiple medals at FINA World Cups and Championships
- Integrity Officer for taekwondo, judo and boxing

"Education shifts the power back into the hands of the athlete, they are able to protect not only themselves but be an integral part of protecting sport. Education helps safeguard sport for all involved. My hopes for the future of sport is to create an industry that takes care of its young coming through in the grassroots, but also protects those at the highest level."



**Top tip:** *The Sport Integrity app is a great resource to have at your fingertips.*



## Lachlan Carter (Swimming)

- Competed at Olympic trials, Commonwealth Games trials World Championship trials
- Multiple National medallist and finalist
- Trains under head coach Michael Bohl
- Studying Bachelor of Business at Griffith University

"Being an elite athlete I know the hours of commitment, the hard work and the sacrifices you have to make to achieve your dreams. So it never really sat well with me that others out there could be knowingly or unknowingly cheating which is why clean sport and integrity in sport is so important to me. I wanted to be able to give back to sport and educate athletes on these principles so that they can move forward and achieve the most out of their careers and futures in sport."

**Top tip:** *You are responsible for whatever is in your body.*



## Alyce Wood (Kayak)

- Dual Olympian (Rio 2016 & Tokyo 2020)
- World Champion
- Multiple World Cup medallist
- Multiple Australian champion
- Small business owner
- Athlete advocate
- Public speaker

"I used to perceive getting drug tested or filling out my whereabouts as an annoyance. Whereas now I see it as a privilege. By being on the radar of Sport Integrity Australia or WADA it means you're pretty good at the sport you're doing."

**Top tip:** *Keep a folder on your phone with photos or screenshots (from Global DRO) of the medication and/or supplements you have taken. This makes it so much easier to remember what to write down when you're being tested.*



## Caitlin Bassett (Netball)

- Elite netballer for 18 years
- 2 x World Championship Gold (2011 & 2015)
- 1 x Commonwealth Games Gold (2014)
- 2 x SSN Premierships (2017 & 2018)
- Australian Diamonds Captain 2017-2021
- Bachelor of Communication
- Currently completing a Graduate Certificate in Counselling
- Player Development Manager of Female Programs at Cricket NSW
- Commentator for Fox Netball

Sport has provided me with incredible opportunities and I want to help keep it fair for everyone to enjoy.

Since retiring from elite sport I am keen to give back and working with Sport integrity Australia is a great way to help others while staying involved in sport.

**Top tip:** *Take photos of your medications to store on your phone come testing time.*



## Jaime Roberts (Kayak)

- Tokyo Olympian
- World Cup silver medallist (K4 500)
- Former state ski surf lifesaving champion
- National ski finalist (surf lifesaving)
- World Championships representative (surf lifesaving)
- Engineering graduate

"Racing at the Tokyo Olympic Games was the highest honour I achieved. Today, I aim to inspire our future generations and help foster and grow the paddling community in Western Australia. Over my time in sport I've developed a deep passion for fairness and inclusion. Sport is such a special part of my life and I hope it always gives everyone as much joy as sport gives me."

**Top tip:** *Know your rights and responsibilities as an athlete. This will help you know what you can and can't do when you are getting tested.*





## Laura Brittain (Weightlifting)

- Retired Olympic Weightlifter
- Broke over 12 state records (WA)
- National-level competitor
- Exercise physiologist

"I am so passionate about encouraging participation in sport, especially from a young age. It offers so many unparalleled benefits. I want to know that everyone has the opportunity to play in a safe, inclusive and respectful environment that rewards nothing but hard work, integrity and good sportsmanship."

**Top tip:** *I'm a huge believer in taking a food first approach; dialling in your nutrition is so much more powerful than a (potentially contaminated) supplement will ever be!*



## Jonty O'Callaghan (Para alpine skiing)

- Winter Paralympian
- Victorian Institute of Sport scholarship holder
- 2017 Europa Cup bronze medal (Men's Giant Slalom)
- 2017 Europa Cup 5th place (Super-G)
- 2017 World Para-alpine Skiing Championships 18th place (Giant Slalom)

"Sports integrity is particularly important to me as I think it's essential that athletes and their support teams are fairly rewarded for all the effort and persistence applied towards their sporting endeavours."

**Top tip:** *Don't be afraid to ask the obvious questions and don't rely on second-hand information.*




## Sophie Taylor (Hockey)


- Australian Hockeyroo
- Physiotherapist
- Overcame Chronic Fatigue
- A.H. Beard Ambassador
- School Sport Victoria Ambassador

"I am incredibly passionate about health, wellbeing and the positive impact movement can have, along with sharing my journey around the challenges and adversity I have confronted and the life lessons and learnings I unlocked through the process. Integrity in sport is so important to me as every athlete has the right to participate on a level playing field. Having the opportunity to educate and empower athletes is something I am really passionate about and love having the opportunity to do."

**Top tip:** *Download the Sport Integrity app – this is a fantastic resource to have in your back pocket at all times!*









**SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA**

## Request an education session



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# INSIDE THE NETWORK

Sport Integrity Australia launched a 24-person **National Integrity Manager Network** in July to enhance the integrity capabilities of sports that have adopted the National Integrity Framework.

Funded by Sport Integrity Australia, the network was created to boost sport's understanding, awareness and capability to manage integrity threats at all levels, with some integrity managers working across more than one sport.

Jen Krawczyk, the National Integrity Manager for Snow Australia, the Olympic Winter Institute of Australia (OWIA) and the Australian Curling Federation (ACF), discussed her role, the challenges and how the national network will enhance sport integrity in Australia.

"Nowhere else in the world has a troop of integrity managers pushing out a national framework from elite levels to grassroots," Krawczyk said. "The National Integrity Manager Network is a very exciting initiative, I'm pleased to be part of it."

While it has been a steep learning curve, she said there was a lot of learning support from Sport Integrity Australia and the sporting organisations.

"I can't remember the last time I had so much education in a new role."

Krawczyk has already had a full career in the integrity space with an impressive résumé that started in British Horseracing and then Racing Victoria where she worked in integrity, anti-doping and the intelligence unit, before moving into equine welfare.

A move from horse racing to snow sports is quite a departure.

"Funnily enough, integrity in equine sport is not that dissimilar to integrity for humans ... I have found that athlete wellbeing parallels equine wellbeing," she said.

"I am loving learning about my sports in regards to the sport themselves but also the funding models, the stakeholders, different people and it's really great to be part of something as exciting as Australia's sport integrity focus and the National Integrity Framework initiative."

With so many new starters in the integrity manager space, Krawczyk marvelled at how well the network was progressing in a relatively short time and how they were all working together to support each other, share ideas and embed integrity into the standard method of operation and culture of sport.

"The network of National Integrity Managers is amazing," she said. "There is such a diverse set of skills and Sport Integrity Australia is doing a great job making us feel like we're a team. There is a real culture of sharing."



Jen Krawczyk







“Nowhere else in the world has a troop of integrity managers pushing out a national framework from elite levels to grassroots ... the National Integrity Manager Network is a very exciting initiative, I'm pleased to be part of it.”

As for the challenges the integrity managers are currently facing, much of it stems from sports being resource and time poor and, with so many other factors to consider in sport already, the National Integrity Framework adds another layer.

Krawczyk believed a big hurdle was engagement with clubs and athletes, but believed integrity managers could take on some of those pressures.

"From top-level athletes to community volunteers, they're all time poor, so adding another layer they need to include into their sporting day ... and trying to shoe horn another thing in is difficult. So the integrity manager gives that assistance and keeps that engagement."

With the integrity managers sitting within the national sporting organisation or national sporting organisation for people with disability, there's the challenge of how to then filter the information, resources and culture to the grassroots levels of each sport.

Using Curling as an example, Krawczyk said they've created a working group with a representative from each state body. "That group will determine how to filter the information down to each level and, because each state body is represented and active on that

working group, they have ownership to help implement."

With the National Integrity Framework still in its infancy and having already started some education sessions with OWIA and Snow Australia athletes, Krawczyk said one of the main challenges she's faced was getting the message across.

"The National Integrity Framework doesn't sound that exciting, so keeping their attention and getting engagement is the challenge. So my approach is to find ways to feed little snippets of the policy but focus more on the need for sports to understand the behaviour. For me, it's basically about being a good human."

She said the role was less about policing and more about changing culture and hoped to one day see the integrity manager become another important member of the high performance team.

"Just like a physio, wellbeing coach, nutritionist, the integrity manager is an important piece of the puzzle. We're all giving the same message that the coaches and wellbeing crew are giving. I'm lucky that OWIA in particular has treated me like that from the induction level."

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The National Integrity Manager Network was created to enhance the integrity capabilities of sports that have adopted the National Integrity Framework.

The network embeds 19 Integrity Managers within sports and an additional six Integrity Support Officers within Sport Integrity Australia to support the implementation of the National Integrity Framework – a suite of policies designed to mitigate integrity threats, keep athletes safe and competitions fair.

Each position is funded by Sport Integrity Australia with the aim of boosting sport's understanding, awareness and capability to manage integrity threats at all levels. With some integrity managers working across more than one sport, the network will provide integrity support to 54 Australian sports.



# SPORT ON NOTICE

In the latest episode of the Sport Integrity Australia podcast *On Side*, esteemed lawyers **Richard Young** and **Adair Donaldson** provide valuable insights into their roles, including on anti-doping and abuse cases. Here is an edited transcript of their podcast interviews.

## RICHARD YOUNG

**You've worked on some really big cases. Lance Armstrong, Sun Yang, Alberto Salazar, BALCO ...**

**Richard Young:** You can throw in Essendon as well.

**Which one did you lose sleep over?**

All of them. It's funny, as I've gotten older I know how much I don't know and so I actually do lose sleep.

**Did you get much pushback from your role in these cases?**

Probably. Yeah. I'm not real welcome in China because of Sun Yang. I'm not going back to Russia because of my role in the Russian investigation. After the Essendon case I sure got a lot of letters from Melbourne.

**Much is said about the fact that none of the [Essendon] players tested positive in a similar way I guess to Lance Armstrong in that for years he was tested yet never tested positive... but there are many other anti-doping rule violations as opposed to simply testing positive.**

Right. Lance said 'I was tested 300 times and I never tested positive'. The same is true with Marion Jones. Same is true in a lot of our big cases and that just means that they were very good at either being tipped off that the collectors were coming or in being very careful when and how they doped that it wouldn't be detected. It wasn't until, I think, the Sydney Games that we started testing for EPO and that was the drug of choice in the cycling



community. So yeah, he was tested 300 times but he wasn't tested for EPO effectively. That's not a real good excuse now. Our best, our most significant cases, are all non-analytical (not a positive anti-doping test) investigation cases.

**Does it surprise you that the Essendon issue continues to bubble along?**

A little bit. I mean books have been written about it. It was in the press pretty constantly, I mean it was a big deal ... but, you know, to us we had to deal with it as 'were the rules violated, or weren't they?'

**Moving away from anti-doping on to abuse because you also work in the abuse of athletes in sport and you've done a number of high profile cases in that area as well.**

Yeah, and a lot of low profile cases too.

**Is it mainly coaches?**

Yes, sometimes it's other athletes, occasionally it's an athlete support person... The worst case in the United States is Larry Nassar, the doctor in gymnastics. I'd never seen a doctor case out of hundreds. He was the first one. Didn't mean that other athlete support personnel couldn't do it, but I was pretty shocked to see that it was a doctor as opposed to a coach or somebody else.

**When you say abuse, most people think of sexual abuse, but there is other abuse. Is it a coach trying to get the best out of an athlete? Is it direct abuse? Is it hard to prosecute?**

Yes. Yes, yes in a nutshell and that will be one of the issues for Sport Integrity Australia. Is it emotional abuse? Is it motivational coaching? Is it what good coaches do? Or, is it emotional abuse? And you know there are egregious examples like coaches beating their athletes, physical abuse, but the emotional abuse gets tough, but you gotta deal with the cases and bring them if you want kids to be safe in sport or you want any athlete to be safe in sport. It shouldn't be a world where in order to achieve your athletic goals you have to put up with emotional abuse, just like if you want kids to love sport and succeed in sport you shouldn't feel like you gotta dope in order to have a chance to succeed.

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*US lawyer Richard Young is a leader in anti-doping litigation. He was the lead drafter of the original World Anti-Doping Code and subsequent Code Amendments and has worked on the doping cases against Tour de France winners Lance Armstrong and Floyd Landis, Marion Jones, and the BALCO doping scandal. He also worked on the Essendon Thymosin Beta-4 case.*



## ADAIR DONALDSON

**How do you see sport as being a positive driver in terms of cultural change?**

**Adair Donaldson:** The great thing about sport is that it disarms audiences. What I mean by that is that when an incident occurs, and sometimes it is really poor incidents that occur that may make the front page of the newspaper, but it means that we're starting to have that conversation in relation to these issues, and people may want to talk about it, OK as a sporting issue, but then if we start breaking it down we start having a wider conversation about the impact it's having in the community. And for me, that's really important.

**Do you find that *Athlete A* was a driver for people coming out [with complaints]?**

The wonderful thing that they had was this solidarity amongst them all. There wasn't just one person coming out and saying, 'hey, this is what's happened' and then leaving that person out there to be carrying the weight themselves. This was this group of incredible women that came forward and said 'what happened to us as children should never ever have happened and it needs to be changed'. Now, in the wake of them coming forward, we've seen what happened, we've seen the steps that Sport Integrity Australia has taken, we've seen the Redress Scheme that has been put in place ...

**Because it is a trust thing, isn't it?**

It is a trust thing. What we do is we look after people that have survived trauma in institutions and, generally speaking, it takes a long time for a person to come forward to share that trauma and when they do come forward, well, that's a big effort, that's a big step for them to take. And, you're right, it involves developing trust there. From my perspective it makes it very easy to do your job when you're looking after such incredible people that are strong, courageous, stoic individuals.

**Are they looking for somebody to speak to or they're looking for redress, as you've mentioned, are they looking to punish? What are they looking for?**

Invariably when a survivor comes forward that has survived abuse in an institution, they're looking for [the] four 'A's. The first is **acknowledgement**, acknowledgement of what happened.



“I suspect the reason why people are coming forward now is that they feel confident that they will be listened to.”



Secondly, an **apology**. Thirdly, an **assurance**, by them coming forward and sharing their trauma that it's going to make a difference for others and, finally, **assistance**. So you'll appreciate that when we talk about those young athletes that came forward were children, and some of them we're talking 6, 7, 8 years of age when it started, that they've got debilitating injuries as a result of what they experienced, they're receiving no support at the moment, there's no support out there for them, so it's pretty important to make sure that there is going to be some assistance that's provided to them.

**The National Integrity Framework – do you see that as an important piece of work going forward in that at least sports now have an understanding of the framework and guidelines about their responsibilities?**

Oh, very much so, very much so ... It gives sports a lot of comfort, I suppose, from the point of view that they know that there's an independent body that's going to be reviewing it, that the complaints can go to, that it's going to be an independent investigation. That's really very important.

**Not everybody who feels as though they have been abused is going to get comfort from it though, let's be frank.**

And that's going to be the case no matter what. There is going to be a

significant number of people that won't be happy with that process, but it's the best we've got and it's a far, [it's] a lot better than what we've had in the past, so that to me, is a really good step in the right direction.

**Who did athletes come to before you came on the scene or before people like you came on the scene? They just kept quiet?**

They kept quiet, they kept quiet ... I suspect the reason why people are coming forward now is that they feel confident that they will be listened to. Isn't that good? Because in the past these people have just suffered in silence.

.....  
*Adair Donaldson is the director at Australian law firm Donaldson Law.*

*He specialises in assisting survivors of trauma. He works closely with sporting bodies addressing cultural issues with respect to harassment, abuse, violence and alcohol-related issues.*

**This podcast is available on all major streaming services.**





# PRIORITISING THE athlete voice

## A WORD FROM THE NEW ATHLETE ADVISORY GROUP 12 MONTHS IN

This year has seen the recognition of the athlete voice as an important part of Sport Integrity Australia's approach to clean, fair and safe sport in Australia in which it would like to see grow and strengthen.

For the Athlete Advisory Group (AAG), our question is **how can we best champion the athlete voice within the sport integrity landscape?**

Additionally, **how do we leverage the athlete perspective to inform decision making processes, policies and procedures that then impact how sport is experienced in the field of play?**

In December 2021, the new AAG formed by Sport Integrity Australia was introduced via [Sport Integrity Matters](#), featuring current and former Australian athletes. A year on, the current crop of AAG members say there's a lot more they hope to bring to the table, and here they've provided a snapshot of their first 12 months.

### THE WORLD ANTI-DOPING AGENCY (WADA) GLOBAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

AAG members made key contributions at the 2022 WADA Global Education Conference in Sydney where Bronwen Knox integrated athlete insights into her emcee duties and Cassie Fien delivered a powerful keynote on the experience of inadvertent prohibited substance use.

The impact of Cassie's story touched many, with her passion about educating and protecting athletes from inadvertent doping clearly evident in her presentation with feedback suggesting her session was one of the best

of the week. As a result she was invited to share her story at an Athlete Forum held by Drug Free Sport New Zealand (DFSNZ) in Cambridge, New Zealand.

Sport Integrity Australia and DFSNZ are committed to their partnership in protecting sport and are often seeking opportunities to engage, collaborate and learn in the ever changing space of integrity within sport. Cassie's invitation as a member of the AAG is just one example of how the two countries are working together to protect the athletes who are in the field of playing fair.

### THE REGIONAL ATHLETES FORUM

The WADA Global Education Conference provided the opportunity for Australia to host a Regional Athletes Forum between Australia and our counterparts from WADA and DFSNZ. This Forum allowed athletes to share experiences, learnings and barriers. Ben Sanford, chair of the New Zealand Athlete Commission and chair of the WADA Athletes Commission, provided valuable insights and advice to the global anti-doping landscape.

AAG members saw great value in the Forum, particularly in regards to sharing ideas and experiences. The relationship will continue to strengthen and the athlete groups from both countries plan to meet annually to share and learn.

### THE AAG TERMS OF REFERENCE

A major outcome of the Regional Athletes Forum was a review of the AAG's Terms of Reference, primarily around how to ensure that the AAG is representative of a genuinely diverse athlete voice. Key changes include seeking out the voice of an indigenous athlete and adding a provision for 'gender balance' that also recognises non-binary individuals.



## CHAMPIONS OF CHAIRS

AAG representatives attended 'Champions of Chairs', which is an event hosted by the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) to bring together athlete committee chairs and senior athlete leaders to focus on current challenges facing athlete committees in the high performance sporting environment.

Attendance allowed the AAG to connect with other athletes who are leaders in their sport and begin to create meaningful ways to operate within this space.

Members of the AAG who attended were encouraged by the fact that the lived experiences of athletes are being recognised as important within the governance and strategy side of sport. The AAG have confirmed their commitment to creating a space and avenues for athletes to raise their concerns and provide their thoughts and look forward to building on these avenues in 2023.

## CONSULTATION WITH THE AAG ON CHANGES TO THE PROHIBITED LIST

To ensure athlete involvement in Australia's response to WADA's proposed changes to the Prohibited List, Sport Integrity Australia consulted with the AAG to consolidate a

position on adding Tramadol to the WADA Prohibited Substance list and also sought their advice on Virtual Testing Protocols.

Consultation with AAG members has also resulted in improvements to sample collection kits which will come into effect in 2023. The new sample kits, will require less paperwork, therefore better management of athlete time (particularly mid-competition), and are considered to be more user friendly.

## THE OVERALL AAG EXPERIENCE

As a group, the AAG agree it's been motivating to experience Sport Integrity Australia making good on their commitment to the athlete voice across the integrity space. From sound boarding education programs, providing perspective on testing protocols, test driving the National Integrity Framework portal and the athlete Annual Update course, providing feedback on topics such as wastewater testing in athlete venues, and being invited wholeheartedly by CEO David Sharpe to give 'warts and all' feedback, the AAG feel that the 'how' of valuing athlete voice is on the right track.

In 2023 the AAG hope to build stronger and more visible conduits between the athlete experience and those making decisions on how integrity issues are prevented and managed.

It really is a team effort. In that regard, we very much look forward to working with Sport Integrity Australia in 2023.

### The AAG

Bronwen Knox | Jonathan Goerlach | Eric Mackenzie  
Ellie Cole | Katrina Fanning | Bronwen Downie | Damon Kelly  
Blake Gaudry | Cassie Fien | Tom Symonds | Jenna O'Hea



*Left: AAG members in the Sport Integrity Australia office.  
Left to right: Eric Mackenzie, Cassie Fien, Bronwen Knox,  
Blake Gaudry and Damon Kelly  
Below: Regional Athletes Forum, Sydney 2022*



# SURVEY

# STAKEHOLDER SURVEY RESULTS

In June 2022, Sport Integrity Australia conducted its annual stakeholder survey to provide insights into the impact of our work so far.

We received **683 responses** from our broad stakeholder group including athletes, support personnel, sporting organisation representatives and non-sporting organisation representatives. These results will better inform our strategy development and how we do our key activities.

## General

**96%** of respondents say the agency **has a positive impact on the sporting community**

**91%** of respondents trust in the agency as **a credible source of information on the integrity of sport**

**89%** of respondents **have confidence in the agency to positively contribute towards protecting the integrity of sport in Australia**

**80%** of respondents said the agency is **successful in coordinating a national approach to protecting the integrity of sport and the health and welfare of those who participate in sport in Australia**

**79%** of respondents said the agency is **successfully contributing towards achieving fair and honest sporting performances and outcomes**

**79%** of respondents said the agency is **successfully contributing towards promoting positive conduct by athletes, administrators, officials, supporters and other stakeholders, on and off the sporting arena**

**79%** of respondents said the agency is **successfully contributing towards enhancing the reputation and standing of sporting contests and of sport overall**

**78%** of respondents said the agency is **successfully contributing towards achieving a safe, fair and inclusive sporting environment at all levels**





## Education and information services

- 71,572 online education course completions
- 86 education sessions with 3,102 attendees
- 14,047 app downloads
- 643,705 web page views with 224,572 users
- 82% of respondents agree the agency's education and information services reduce the risk of an accidental breach of anti-doping regulations
- 70% of respondents agree the agency's education and information services reduce the risk of deliberate doping
- 63% of respondents agree the agency's education and information services reduced their risk of breaching competition manipulation rules in their sport (e.g. match-fixing)
- 73% of respondents agree the agency's education and information services increased their awareness of the effects of illicit drugs in sport
- 60% of national sporting organisation representative respondents said Sport Integrity Australia was effective in helping them prevent sports integrity threats in their sport through education and information sharing

## Testing

- 3,941 samples collected
- 1,596 testing missions
- 680+ tests on the final Commonwealth Games team
- 1,831 reviews of Athlete Biological Passports
- 53% of national sporting organisation representative respondents said Sport Integrity Australia was effective in helping them detect sports integrity threats in their sport through testing and investigations

# TOP 6 INTEGRITY THREATS

(respondents could select multiple answers)

Bullying **55%**

Intimidation **40%**

Harassment **38%**

Doping **36%**

Selection or categorisation processes **36%**

Discrimination **36%**



## Tip-offs and reporting

86% of athlete and support personnel respondents probably or definitely would report behaviour (or conduct) detrimental to promoting a safe, fair and inclusive environment in their sport

*Of the 86%, the main reasons for reporting behaviour (or conduct) would be:*

- 79% to protect the integrity of the sport
- 74% because of concern for the welfare of the athlete
- 65% because of concern the behaviour would have a negative effect on other athletes
- 52% because they hate cheating in their sport
- 35% because of concern they would breach policy if they did not report it

*Of the 86%, the athlete respondents' preferred method to report the behaviour (or conduct) to Sport Integrity Australia would be:*

- 31% via the Sport Integrity app
- 22% via the Sport Integrity Australia website
- 28% via email
- 28% via a phone call

*Main reasons for not reporting:*

- 30% of athlete and support personnel respondents who did not report behaviour (or conduct) detrimental to promoting a safe, fair and inclusive environment in their sport **couldn't be sure the behaviour (or conduct) really was reportable**
- 36% of athlete and support personnel respondents who did not report behaviour (or conduct) detrimental to promoting a safe, fair and inclusive environment in their sport **worried about the repercussions to them, their team, or their club**

# CYBERBULLIES

## RESEARCH FOR CHANGE

Understanding online harm faced by female athletes is the focus of a joint PhD research project between Sport Integrity Australia and the University of Canberra.

Sport Integrity Australia and the University of Canberra (UC) continue their partnership through the initiative aimed at strengthening Australia's capabilities to deal with threats to sport.

Sport Integrity Australia CEO David Sharpe said the PhD research project was "vital to help stem the scourge of online abuse directed at sportswomen".

"When it comes to cyberbullying, the PhD is the Australian Government taking the lead with UC to better understand the problem and how we might respond to it because it's becoming a bigger problem than we can manage alone," he said.

"Partnering with a world-leading tertiary institute is critical to inform our business and to provide us with evidence-based approach to sport integrity responses."

Partnering with universities like UC and agencies such as the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, helps us all to better understand how to address this ever-growing threat more broadly.

Research suggests that cyberbullying and trolling are often experienced by women in sport and appear to be more prevalent against women of colour and women with a disability. This is being identified as a barrier to entry and retention in sport.

University of Canberra Vice-Chancellor Professor Paddy Nixon said this partnership "connects us to the real challenges".

"With Sport Integrity Australia at the forefront of sport integrity, and we as a university leading sport integrity research in Australia, this partnership is very unique," he said. "This has been done in very few places in the world."

He said the MoU between Sport Integrity Australia and the University of Canberra also allowed for future collaboration between the two bodies in scientific and integrity in sport research.

UC Director of Sport Carrie Graf said sport integrity was an important theme running through the university's entire sporting strategy so "the partnership with Sport Integrity Australia is absolutely critical to the growth and work we are doing".

"The research we can do in partnership with Sport Integrity Australia can have a major impact on the community more



Seated are Paddy Nixon (L) and David Sharpe (R) pictured with key UC and Sport Integrity Australia staff signing the joint PhD research project on cyberbullying.

“When it comes to cyberbullying, the PhD is the Australian Government taking the lead with UC to better understand the problem and how we might respond to it...”

broadly, not just the sports community. It's such a critical piece in the sport industry."

Associate Professor Dr Catherine Ordway, the Sport Integrity Research Lead at the university, said the partnership had far-reaching possibilities beyond the PhD.

"What we want to do is set up an international hub for research because no one organisation and no one country can answer all the different challenges and threats to sport," she said. "So it's really that we work with the best minds across a number of different industries and feed that into the sports industry. So that's what we want to do is set up an international research hub here at the University of Canberra so that we can draw on all those minds and start solving some of these problems so it does feed through, both at the community level and all the way through to the high performance level."



# THE KEN FITCH FELLOWSHIP AND THE WINNER IS ...

Congratulations to Dr Kira James who was announced as the inaugural winner of the Ken Fitch Fellowship award at the recent Australasian College of Sport and Exercise Physicians (ACSEP) Annual Scientific Conference in Glenelg, South Australia.

Dr James, a Cairns-based Sport and Exercise Medicine Physician, is one of the current Australian Swimming team doctors and travelled to Beijing as the Australian Winter Paralympic Snowboard Team doctor.

Through her ACSEP training she's also been involved with other national teams such as Water Polo, Football and Paralympic swimming where she's worked closely on anti-doping policies, testing and athlete management. Her strong interest in anti-doping education in her community earned her the Fellowship, which commences in January 2023.

The Fellowship provides specific education and mentoring to an Australasian College of Sport and Exercise Medicine Registrar or Early Career Fellow to become a champion for clean sport and a peer contact for the sport and exercise medicine cohort.

Dr James is passionate about regional health inequality including access to elite level of care and education for current and future athletes, so the Fellowship aligns well with her vision.

"A large number of these regional athletes do not have access to the state or national institute hubs and would benefit from an extended network closer to home," she said. "Many young country and indigenous

athletes will now be aspiring for Brisbane 2032 which will be here before we know it!

"Having the opportunity to be at the forefront of anti-doping in Australia and also to represent the more regional and rural-based athletes and medical practitioners in this field is an honour."

The 12-month Fellowship aims to improve knowledge and skill in anti-doping medicine while providing an opportunity for the recipient to work closely with members of the Australian Sports Drug Medical Advisory Committee (ASDMAC) and the Science and Medicine team within Sport Integrity Australia.

"Two of my training supervisors had roles within ASDMAC and previously ASADA which always had been an area of interest for me," Dr James said. "I always planned to enquire further about Sport Integrity Australia/ ASDMAC roles ... so when this Fellowship role was offered I jumped at the opportunity."

The Fellowship honours the work of Adjunct Professor Ken Fitch OA, who was the inaugural Chair of ASDMAC until his retirement in 2013, and helped to develop and shape the field of sports medicine in Australia and internationally.



*Dr Kira James at the Cairns Esplanade Lagoon, where she is based as a Sport and Exercise Physician for Far North Queensland.*

In 1985, Ken became a member of the Australian Sports Commission's National Program on Drugs in Sport (later the Australian Sports Drug Agency) and was deputy chairman from 1987 to 1992. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Australasian College of Sport and Exercise Physicians and a world leader in the field of anti-doping.

"I am flattered to be the inaugural recipient of the Ken Fitch Fellowship," said Dr James, "and can't wait to work with the ASDMAC and Sport Integrity Australia teams in 2023."

## CLUB ALERT!



Australian Government  
Australian Sports Commission



SPORT INTEGRITY  
AUSTRALIA

Free online safeguarding module  
Help keep your environments safe

Available now on the Game Plan platform  
[www.sportaus.gov.au/club-development](http://www.sportaus.gov.au/club-development)

# BREAKING DOWN THE BARRIERS

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

International Day of People with Disability on 3 December recognised the contributions and achievements of the 4.4 million Australians with disability.

Sport Integrity Australia's Athlete Advisory Group member Jonathan Goerlach said 1 in 5 Australians have disability, not all of which are visible.

"International Day of People with Disability is a day where we recognise the real life stories of lived experience, the progress our movement has made, but also highlights the mountain of work still to come to change attitudes and perceptions of disability," Goerlach said.

As someone living with vision impairment, Goerlach knows only too well the perceptions that come with disability, but he hasn't let that stop him from achieving great things in sport.

In addition to his Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games bronze medal and the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, his sporting career includes many other achievements and national highlights. But it's not necessarily these big wins that have stuck with him the most.

"I grew up in a small regional town where there wasn't much else to do as a child but play some form of sport, so I found my way into several sports over many years. I have a naturally competitive nature so I wanted to be the best at whichever sport I played," Goerlach said.

"My favourite sporting moments are my own achievements as a kid," he said. "Winning my first tennis trophy, making my first State cross country team, scoring my first goal for my soccer club - those are the moments I reflect on and remember fondly which also fuels my motivation to continue achieving firsts such as being the first male vision impaired triathlete at a Paralympic Games."

It's these childhood memories and the love of sport that fuels his Paralympic dreams and his desire to inspire children around the world to live out theirs.

"I encourage kids to pick a sport they are passionate about and just go for it!



Jonathan Goerlach (above) and with guide David Mainwaring (right) competing at Birmingham 2022. Photo: Commonwealth Games Australia

“Don't look at the barriers and assume it's all too hard.”

No barrier is too great and the community that surrounds you in that sport will support your passion."

As an active member of the Athlete Advisory Group, Goerlach has an opportunity to make lasting change, not just in Para sport, but in the sport integrity space generally.

"Para sport is a rapidly evolving world ... with Para sports becoming truly elite," he said. "As we start to see prizemoney and sponsorship become the norm it opens Para sport to the same integrity issues we see in able-bodied sports such as match fixing, performance enhancing and gambling, and the addition of classification manipulation.

"We need to get ahead of these inevitable issues and ensure our athletes and staff are educated and that we have robust systems in place."

Observed by the United Nations as an annual day of recognition, International

Day of People with Disability is a joint effort between government, schools, organisations, community groups, business and individuals to increase public awareness, understanding and acceptance of people with a disability.

To better understand what sporting communities can do to ensure everyone gets the opportunity to enjoy physical activity in an inclusive and supportive way, Goerlach said sports needed to find solutions under the guidance of the person/s with accessibility requirements.

"Don't look at the barriers and assume it's all too hard."

**For more information including resources and information kits for communities, visit the [International Day of People with Disability website](#).**



# SUPPLEMENTS

## ATHLETE BIWARI

Sport Integrity Australia's advice to athletes has always been that no supplement is safe to use. However, we do recognise that there may be circumstances where sports dietitians recommend supplements, or where athletes will take the risk and use supplements of their own accord.

With that in mind, Sport Integrity Australia's advice for athletes who do choose to use supplements is that they **should only ever use batch-tested products** – that is, supplements which have been screened for banned substances by an independent laboratory before reaching the market.

To help bring this advice to life, the agency developed the Sport Integrity app, in what has been billed as "a game-changer" for athletes. The app means that, for the first time, athletes have a list of low-risk, batch-tested supplements to choose from and a survey to assess the risk of other products.

As of November 2022, the app has been downloaded 68,530 times, with almost 23,000 supplement checks a year.

Anti-doping rule violations due to supplements accounted for a third of positive doping tests between 2016 and 2019, with the majority of those unintentional.

If an athlete does choose to take supplements, they should only choose batch-tested products, from [HASTA](#) or [Informed Sport](#), and check the batch number on the Sport Integrity app.

## MYTH BUSTERS

The risk to an athlete's career and reputation is real. Below are the common myths surrounding supplements.

### It's on the shelf, it's safe.

**False.** Supplements sold in Australia have been found to contain ingredients banned in sport.

Although some supplements are screened for banned ingredients before they reach the shelves, this is not true for all supplements. Multiple studies have found as many as one in five supplements contained a banned substance.

In good news, there have been some improvements to the safety of products sold in Australian shops in recent years. In 2020, the Therapeutic Goods Administration announced that from 30 November, in order for sports supplements with therapeutic claims containing higher-risk ingredients to be advertised and supplied, they must be included in the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods. This meant that certain products would undergo greater regulation and scrutiny, leading to a safer marketplace for athletes. However this change doesn't apply to all products and doesn't mean all supplements are safe.

### All ingredients are listed on the label.

**False.** Research has shown that the ingredient list on supplement bottles doesn't always match the product contents. That makes it difficult for athletes to know exactly what is going into their body. It is not uncommon for banned substances to be added deliberately during the manufacturing process, or added accidentally through contamination. Because of this, Sport Integrity Australia is unable to guarantee whether a specific supplement, or batch of a supplement, is safe to use.

### I have nothing to worry about if I buy a supplement manufactured in Australia.

**False.** Our advice is to only use supplements that have been screened for prohibited substances by an independent company (also known as 'batch testing'), such as [HASTA](#) or [Informed Sport](#). Supplements screened by these companies cannot offer a full guarantee that an athlete will not test positive, but they are significantly less



“...Sport Integrity Australia's advice for athletes who do choose to use supplements is that they **should only ever use batch-tested products...**”

risky than other supplements. While the Sport Integrity app will warn you if you have searched for a supplement that we know contains, or lists, a banned ingredient, it also provides a tool for athletes to conduct a risk analysis for the supplement you may be considering.

### Supplements are good for your health.

**False.** There are numerous products that have “no beneficial effects whatsoever”, according to the AIS Chief Medical Officer Dr David Hughes.

He warns supplements for weight loss, fat burning or pre-workout “are high risk for contamination with stimulants”.

“Supplements that claim to increase muscle bulk can be contaminated with anabolic steroids, which could be in the supplement despite the fact they are not on the label,” Dr Hughes said.

“In the vast majority of cases supplements are not required if you have good diet, if you get good sleep and if you undertake good scientifically-based training.”

Supplement use can be required for some athletes, and athletes should also seek the advice of an accredited sports dietitian or sports doctor before using them.

### Australian supplements are safe.

**False.** In 2016, life science company LGC conducted the Australian Supplements Survey which analysed 67 common supplement products available for purchase in Australia. They found one in five products contained one or more substances banned in sport. Importantly, none of the products identified listed any banned substances on their ingredients list. An updated survey is being conducted, due for publication in 2023.

We urge people to seek medical advice before taking any supplement. A Western Australian man lost his liver after taking popular weight-loss products widely available in protein powders and supplements. He is not alone. ([www.sportintegrity.gov.au/news/blog/2019-02/i-had-14-days-live](http://www.sportintegrity.gov.au/news/blog/2019-02/i-had-14-days-live))

### Athletes need to take supplements to get their best performance.

**False.** Nutritionists have long advised athletes to take a Food First approach to performance. The value you get when you are invested in long-term nutritional advice, particularly if it's individualised to you, will be a lot better in the long run. To achieve your best performance, you need to consider your nutrition, competition strategies, how to fuel, how to hydrate and rest periods before even considering a supplement. This is called the Food First Philosophy, because real food and real nutrition are the most important ways to fuel your body.

### If I test positive from a supplement, I won't be penalised.

**False.** Even if an athlete has demonstrated that their positive test originated from a contaminated dietary supplement, under the World Anti-Doping Code athletes are strictly responsible for any prohibited substance found in their body, regardless of how it got there.

### Herbal supplements are safer for athletes to use.

**False.** Generally, herbal supplements are one of the riskiest kinds of products on the market because sometimes the amount of information about what's in the product and the amount of variability that comes from within herbal products is so great that you really can't be sure what you're buying. If you choose to take a supplement, be an informed consumer. Lower your risk by checking the supplement on the free Sport Integrity app. Download from [Google Play](#) or [Apple](#) stores.

### If I am able to buy a supplement online, then surely that means it's legal?

**No.** Whether it is sold online or on a supermarket shelf does not mean it's legal. It's certainly a case of buyer beware, particularly when products are manufactured or sourced online from overseas suppliers. These suppliers may not be subject to the same laws and standards as Australia and may also contain substances that are not legal in Australia. Bringing them in to Australia may not only be harmful to an athlete's health, but a risk to their sporting career.

### The Sport Integrity app gives a guarantee that the supplement is safe.

**False.** The Sport Integrity app cannot 100% guarantee a supplement is safe. Our advice is if athletes choose to use supplements, they should only use supplements that have been screened for prohibited substances by an independent company (also known as 'batch testing'), such as [HASTA](#) or [Informed Sport](#). Supplements screened by these companies cannot offer a full guarantee that an athlete will not test positive, but they are significantly less risky than other supplements. This is because laboratories can only screen for substances they are aware of and the WADA Prohibited List doesn't specifically list every banned substance by name or chemical structure. Instead it includes a phrase to include substances not specifically listed as a catch all for “...other substances with a similar chemical structure or similar biological effect(s)”.









# JOINING FORCES TO TACKLE

# GLOBAL THREATS



INTERPOL

Criminal gangs target athletes and officials around the world, Australia is not immune. Sport Integrity Australia will play a key role in tackling this global threat head-on.

"The threat to sport is real," Sport Integrity Australia CEO David Sharpe warned at a recent INTERPOL General Assembly.

"Organised crime associations are targeting sports in Australia and around the world," he said. "For this reason we must have a coordinated domestic and global enforcement focus on corruption in sport, in partnership with sport."

Sharpe said Sport Integrity Australia was aware of increased activity overseas with criminals blackmailing sports people by befriending and then entrapping them through provision of recreational drugs, financial loans and the like.

At the General Assembly he also spoke of the rise in organised crime and the unregulated betting market globally and how intelligence sharing between enforcement agencies and the sports themselves has changed the game. He cited a recent example in table tennis (see case study).

"Match-fixing is the issue we hear most about," said Sharpe, "but another area of concern is foreign ownership of sports franchises which allows organised crime networks to purchase franchises, embed players and officials and influence outcomes, thereby creating a haven for money laundering, tax evasion and hiding wealth."

The INTERPOL General Assembly agreed that a response to match-fixing and corruption in sport needed to be a priority and would require law enforcement agencies from around the world to tackle match-fixing and corruption in sport together.

Recognising the work Australia is already doing in this space, the INTERPOL Anti-Corruption response team sought our expertise via the secondment of a Sport Integrity Australia staff

member, Jason Whybrow, Director of Sports Wagering and Competition Manipulation.

With his long history in anti-doping, major events and sport corruption roles, Whybrow has gone to Lyon to work with the INTERPOL Financial Crime and Anti-Corruption Centre (IFCACC) to share knowledge and help with the development of a global approach to getting ahead of the global match-fixing threat.

"The role will probably involve quite a bit of stakeholder briefing internally and with other international parties about what we've seen in Australia and what our response has involved," said Whybrow when asked about what the INTERPOL secondment might include.

"I am hoping that I can help the INTERPOL Anti-Corruption team with their processes and mapping as we roll out a global approach to sports corruption responses.

"Alongside the green-and-gold pathway of events, there are significant sport environment programs that INTERPOL already assists with. Many of the international engagements we are involved in are part of the INTERPOL approach and they are eager to work towards a more cohesive law enforcement coordination with global governments."

His secondment will not only be of benefit to INTERPOL but will also value add to Australian efforts by being able to bring back key learnings and knowledge to improve responses here at home.

"We recognise what's happening offshore and know that we can't ignore that our sports are open to these global influences, whether that be in anti-doping, major event staging, corruption or match-fixing," Whybrow said.





“The INTERPOL General Assembly agreed that a response to match-fixing and corruption in sport needed to be a priority and would require law enforcement agencies from around the world to tackle match-fixing and corruption in sport together.”

“Secondments such as this one are important for the global environment to share intel, create networks, recognise the challenges individual regions face and to achieve a more consistent approach to further protect sport, both internationally and here in Australia.”

Sharpe agreed.

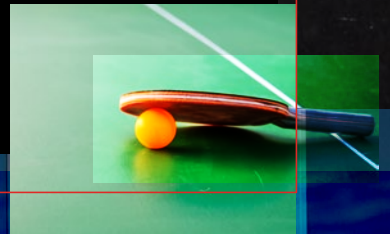
“Sport unifies us globally,” he said. “We all have a role to play in protecting it from corruption. This secondment is an incredible opportunity for everyone and I am proud we could offer expertise such as Jason’s from within our agency.”

*Jason Whybrow, Director Sports Wagering and Competition Manipulation.*



### CASE STUDY

*Through assessing a large number of financial transactions across betting in Australia and Europe, a global table tennis match-fixing syndicate operating in Australia was dismantled. The case was a complex investigation involving significant financial transactions and following a money trail globally. The taskforce model and information sharing between Sport Integrity Australia, law enforcement and betting service providers globally was critical to the success of this operation.*



**AUSTRALIA HAS A STRONGLY REGULATED AND MATURE GAMBLING SECTOR, BETTING MORE THAN A\$225 BILLION PER YEAR, INCLUDING OVER A\$11 BILLION ON SPORTS.**

THE **UNREGULATED GLOBAL BETTING MARKETS** ARE ESTIMATED TO BE WORTH USD \$1.75 TRILLION PER YEAR.





# GLOBAL EFFORT TO KEEP SPORT CLEAN, SAFE

In mid-November, the Minister for Sport, the Hon Anika Wells MP, and Sport Integrity Australia Deputy CEO Darren Mullaly travelled to Montréal to attend the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Executive Committee and Foundation Board meetings, hold discussions with key WADA staff about building capacity and capability in the Oceania region and meet with the Canadian Minister for Sport to discuss sport integrity issues and systems.

## WADA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND FOUNDATION BOARD MEETINGS

The Minister is a member of both the WADA Executive Committee (ExCo) and the WADA Foundation Board (FB), the two highest decision-making bodies for WADA. One of the key agenda items for these meetings was an update on the compliance status of the Russian Anti-Doping Agency (RUSADA).

Since the Court of Arbitration for Sport Award (the Award) on 17 December 2020, which found that RUSADA was non-compliant with the 2018 World Anti-Doping Code and imposed a two-year sanction, WADA has been monitoring the implementation of the Award by Code Signatories across a number of workstreams, as well as monitoring RUSADA. The sanction is due to end on 17 December 2022, however RUSADA cannot be reinstated until approved by WADA's ExCo.

After the two-year period covered by the CAS award has elapsed on 17 December 2022, WADA will launch a three-phase process. First, WADA Management will carefully assess whether RUSADA has met all the conditions of reinstatement as laid out in the CAS award. Second, once WADA Management considers that all conditions have been met, it will refer the matter to the independent [Compliance Review Committee](#) (CRC) for its review. Third, following that review, if the CRC agrees with WADA Management that the conditions have been met, it will make a recommendation to the ExCo for its consideration.

At the meeting, as Chair of OneVoice – the group of Public Authorities – the Minister noted the groups' concerns about how any reinstatement of RUSADA would be handled. She raised that "it is imperative that the reinstatement (of RUSADA) is very carefully managed and very carefully

communicated by WADA" and "in particular, we are concerned about a virtual audit not being sufficient for us to have confidence in the process". Before approving the reinstatement of RUSADA, ExCo members will need to be confident that the technical aspects of reinstatement have been satisfied in compliance with the international Standard for Code Compliance of Signatories (ISCCS) and that the practical and political implications have been carefully considered and planned. WADA acknowledged the importance of the situation and agreed to provide further and more detailed reporting.

### Key outcomes

- On 6 July 2022 Australia, alongside 34 like-minded countries, supported a joint statement on Russia's war on Ukraine and international sport. The statement concerns the suspension of Russian and Belarusian sport national governing bodies from international sport federations, broadcast of sports competitions into Russia and Belarus, and the removal of officials closely aligned to the Russian and Belarusian state from positions of influence in international sport federations.
- On 8 November 2022 President Bańka tweeted that despite putting RUSADA on notice to resolve the Kamila Valieva case (Olympic ice skating) no progress was made. WADA has therefore taken the step (as allowed in the World Anti-Doping Code) to refer the matter straight to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.





Opposite: The WADA Executive Committee met in a hybrid format – both virtually and in person – in Montreal, Canada, in November. Above: Australia’s Minister for Sport Anika Wells (centre) with WADA Vice President Yang Yang (left) and President Witold Bańka (right). Above right: Minister Wells and Mr Mullaly at the OneVoice meeting.

## BUILDING CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY IN THE OCEANIA REGION

During the trip, the Minister and Mr Mullaly held several meetings with key WADA staff, including President Witold Bańka, the Director General Olivier Niggli and the Directors of the Regional Offices, to discuss several matters, including building the anti-doping capability and capability of the Oceania region and to hear about the operations, visions and challenges of the WADA Regional Offices.

Through these discussions, the Minister and Mr Mullaly were able to gain valuable insights about experiences in other regions that will help inform how we approach building capacity and capability in the Oceania region, as well as an increased understanding of why Pacific engagement is so important.

While other Oceania nations may not have the same resources to devote to anti-doping as Australia and

New Zealand, their sporting culture and prowess was clear for all to see. Discussions were held regarding ways WADA might be able to engage and support the region. The Minister also shared her interest in speaking with other Sports Ministers in the region and raising the possibility for Australia to continue supporting our Pacific neighbours.

### Did you know?

- Australia (through Sport Integrity Australia) currently provides ongoing support to the region through a grant to the Oceania Regional Anti-Doping Organisation.
- In late 2023, the Solomon Islands will host the Pacific Games – a multi-sport festival held every four years.

## MEETING THE CANADIAN MINISTER FOR SPORT

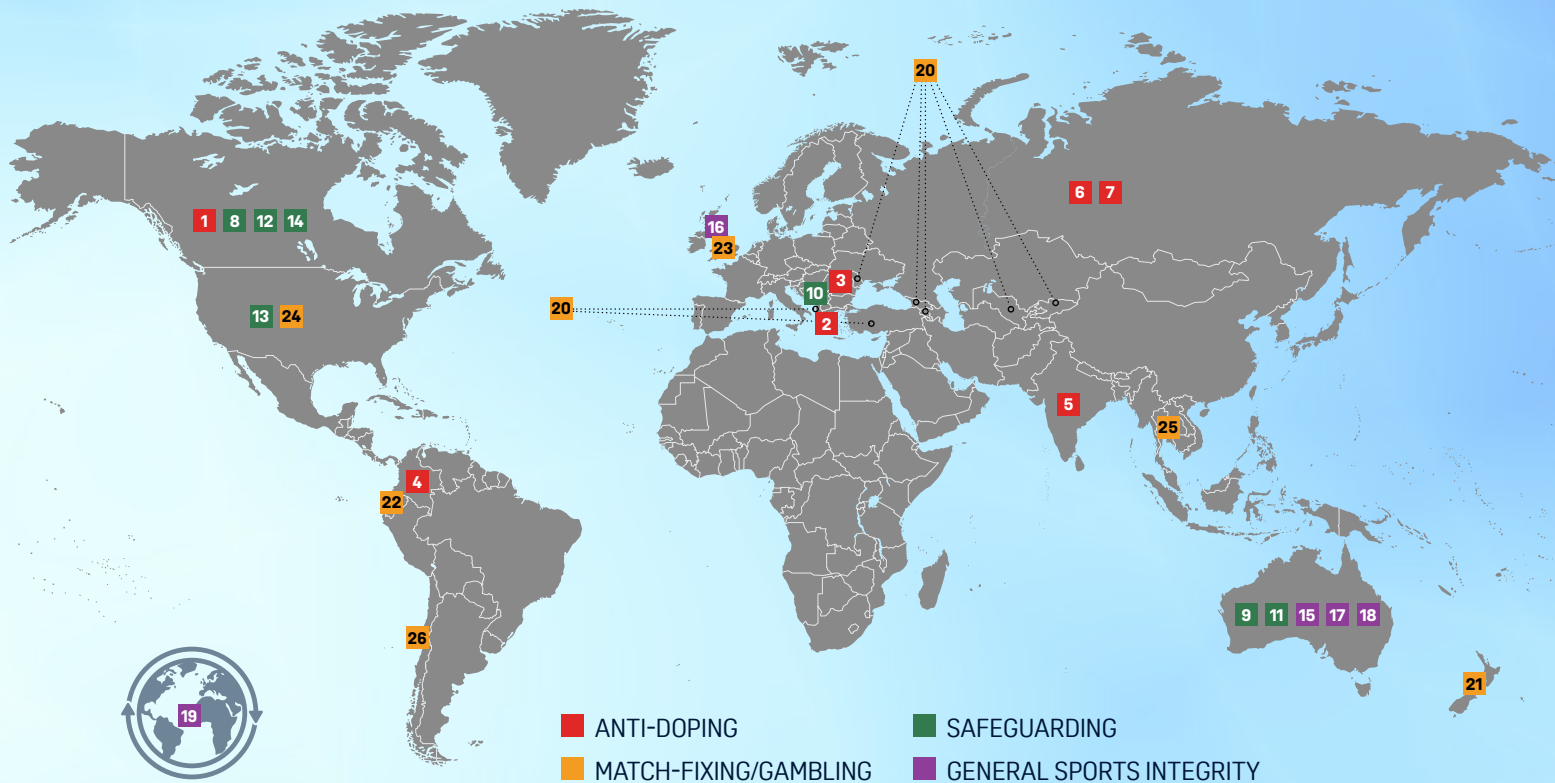
While in Montréal, Minister Wells met with the Canadian Minister for Sport, the Hon Pascale St-Onge, to discuss the importance of improving safety and preventing abuse in sport. Like many countries, Canada is currently dealing with multiple allegations of abuse across a number of sports, including Bobsleigh, Skeleton, Hockey (Ice) and Water Polo.

Minister St-Onge recently established a new Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner to deal with complaints independently. The office began its work in June 2022, established by the federal government as an independent agency to investigate allegations of abuse in sport.

This meeting enabled Minister Wells to share Australia’s recent success in this area, including the implementation of the National Integrity Framework, with 82 of 98 recognised sports signed up; and her recent announcement in which the Australian Government strengthened their commitment to protecting sporting participants through Sport Integrity Australia’s new Safety in Sport Division.



# SNAPSHOT OF GLOBAL ISSUES



## ANTI-DOPING

### BOBSLEIGH

### CANADA 1

Olympic bronze medallist Christine de Bruin has been suspended for three years after she tested positive for the banned substance Ligandrol in out-of-competition testing in August.

### BASKETBALL

### GREECE 2

A doctor, who administered banned substances and unapproved treatments to athletes, was arrested in Greece after an investigation sparked by EuroLeague player Dinos Mitoglou's lawsuit against her. Mitoglou was provisionally suspended in 2021 as a result of treatment allegedly provided by the doctor for a severe foot injury.

### TENNIS

### ROMANIA 3

Two-time Grand Slam winner Simona Halep has been provisionally suspended after testing positive for Roxadustat, a prohibited anti-anemia drug that stimulates the body to produce more of the natural hormone erythropoietin, or EPO.

### CYCLING

### COLOMBIA 4

Nairo Quintana's appeal against the International Cycling Union's (UCI) punishment for using tramadol at the Tour de France was dismissed by the Court of Arbitration for Sport. The Colombian was retroactively disqualified from this year's Tour de France after two blood samples came back positive for tramadol which will be banned by WADA from 2024, but is already banned in-competition by the UCI.

### ATHLETICS

### INDIA 5

An athletics trainer has been banned for four years by a National Anti-Doping Agency panel for administering a prohibited substance to a young athlete. Mumbai coach Mickey Menezes' trainee Kirti Bhoite failed a doping test during the Khelo India Youth Games in Guwahati in 2020.

### ICE SKATING

### RUSSIA 6

WADA President Witold Bańka has referred the case of Russian figure skater Kamila Valieva straight to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. Then 15, she tested positive for banned substance trimetazidine in late December 2021.

### ATHLETICS

### RUSSIA 7

Banned 2012 Olympic 400m hurdles champion Natalia Antyukh is set to lose her gold medal from the London Games after the Athletics Integrity Unit disqualified her results from July 2012 to June 2013. The Russian beat American Lashinda Demus, who will be upgraded to the gold if the International Olympic Committee acts on the ruling.





# SAFEGUARDING

## FOOTBALL CANADA 8

Bob Birarda, a former Vancouver Whitecaps and Soccer Canada coach, was sentenced to nearly 16 months jail for violating the "sexual integrity" of four players, three of whom were under 18 at the time of the offences, which occurred between 1988 and 2008.

## ATHLETICS AUSTRALIA 9

A woman is seeking \$2.8 million in damages for personal injuries she suffered at the hands of her former sports coach Ernest Odgers, who was found guilty in 1996 of gross indecency and received a suspended jail term before going on to assault another child two years later.

## TENNIS SERBIA 10

A father has been arrested for an alleged assault on his 14-year-old daughter in Serbia, following a video of the incident going viral. The Ministry of Internal Affairs in Belgrade confirmed that officers identified and arrested a Chinese national believed to be the man in the video.

## GOLF AUSTRALIA 11

Sean Patrick Lynch, 68, was found guilty and sentenced to 18 months in prison for the "horrid and depraved" treatment of a teenager. The court found Lynch used his skills as a mind coach to manipulate the girl into a sexual relationship by claiming it would help with her golf game.

# GENERAL SPORT INTEGRITY

## SOCCER AUSTRALIA 15

Sydney United 58 has been hit with a \$15,000 fine and some of the heaviest suspended sanctions ever issued by Football Australia due to anti-social behaviour during the Australia Cup final. Two people were given life bans for performing Nazi salutes, while the club could be stripped of points and banned from future tournaments if their fans breach the federation's requirements.

## CRICKET SCOTLAND 16

Cricket Scotland has confirmed it will investigate 43 allegations of racism against 27 people, two clubs and two regional associations following the completion of an independent review.

## BASKETBALL AUSTRALIA 17

A newspaper investigation has uncovered an alarming trend of vile social media abuse and death threats

## WATER POLO CANADA 12

Four former members of Canada's national water polo team program have filed a \$5.5 million lawsuit against the federation, alleging its top executives, coaches and support staff fostered a toxic culture for more than a decade. According to the lawsuit, athletes were sexually harassed, encouraged to make sexual, racist, and homophobic jokes, threatened, mocked for their physical appearance and warned repeatedly to honour the organisation's "circle of trust"

## CURLING USA 13

USA Curling chief executive Jeff Plush has resigned from his post after the publication of a damning report into systemic "verbal and emotional abuse and sexual misconduct" at the National Women's Soccer League while he was commissioner. The inquiry found Plush failed to prevent Portland Thorns coach Paul Riley from coaching in the league, despite abuse allegations against him.

## GYMNASTICS CANADA 14

A group of more than 500 Canadian gymnasts is "urging and imploring" federal sports minister to initiate an independent third-party judicial investigation into their experiences which include being publicly humiliated, sexually groomed, forced to train on significant injuries, deprived of food and verbally and physically abused.

aimed at NBL players from all 10 teams. It found NBL players were copping online abuse after every game, not only from frustrated gamblers and trolls, but teenage fans.

## AFL AUSTRALIA 18

Lawyers for the four families at the centre of the Hawthorn cultural safety review have called on the AFL to begin an independent investigation into the league's handling of racism, deeper than the claims that have been made against the Hawks between 2008-16.

## MOTOR RACING GLOBAL 19

Red Bull were fined \$10.5 million and had their budget for aerodynamic development reduced by 10 per cent after exceeding Formula One's USD\$145 million cost cap.

# MATCH-FIXING/ GAMBLING

## ATHLETICS SEVERAL 20

Seven countries have been placed on a new competition manipulation watch list by World Athletics following an investigation of suspicious results conducted by the Athletics Integrity Unit. They are Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

## FOOTBALL NEW ZEALAND 21

A footballer playing in New Zealand's Central League has been provisionally suspended over allegations of insider betting. The player, who can't be named while the investigation is ongoing, was identified by New Zealand Football's integrity programme and information sharing partnership with the TAB.

## FOOTBALL ECUADOR 22

Ecuador faced being kicked out of the World Cup after one of their players confessed in an official investigation to using a false birth certificate. The player in question made eight appearances in World Cup qualifying and is alleged to have been born in Ecuador or across the border in Colombia.

## FOOTBALL UNITED KINGDOM 23

Former Reading FC defender Kynan Isaac has been handed a 12-year ban after being found guilty of match-fixing and placing illegal bets. Isaac was found guilty of plotting with acquaintances to purposefully get a booking during a FA Cup tie he played in last season.

## MOTOR SPORT US 24

An appeals panel denied the attempt by Stewart-Haas Racing to overturn \$200,000 in NASCAR fines for manipulation of a playoff race. NASCAR issued the original penalty after determining driver Cole Custer deliberately slowed on the final lap to hold up traffic and assist teammate Chase Briscoe in gaining positions. Briscoe needed to advance in the playoff race.

## SNOOKER THAILAND 25

Snooker player Thanawat Tirapongpaiboon is cooperating with the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association and faces a formal hearing with six matches under scrutiny between 2013 and 2015.

## TENNIS CHILE 26

Chilean tennis coach and former player Sebastián Rivera has been banned from the sport for life after being found guilty of a record 64 match-fixing offences.



**SPORT INTEGRITY  
AUSTRALIA**

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