

# Professional Athletes view on anti doping policy

Play the game conference

Coventry, June 11<sup>th</sup>

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President EU Athletes

We love WADA !



# The big questions of today: No 1

Who represents the athlete ?

Are the athletes represented in WADA ?



## WADA Statutes

### Article 4- Object

The object of the Foundation is:

1. to promote and coordinate at international level the fight against doping in sport in all its forms including through in and out-of-competition; to this end, the Foundation will cooperate with intergovernmental organizations, governments, public authorities and other public and private bodies fighting against doping in sport, *inter alia* the International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Sports Federations (IF), National Olympic Committees (NOC) **and the athletes**; it will seek **and obtain** from all of the above the **moral and political commitment** to follow its recommendations; --

- “Clean athletes are willing to be tested and if you speak with them, you will realize that they are actually happy when the testers knock at their door.”

**WADA's Vice President Prof Arne Ljungqvist  
EU Conference on Anti-Doping, Athens – May 13, 2009**

# EU Athletes



- 25 members
- 25.000 professional Athletes
- 15 countries



# The big questions of today: No 2

Practical question

Who here has ever experienced the current anti doping procedures ?



# The big questions of today: No 3



## Legal Questions

How do we balance the rights of athletes against the 'fight of doping'?

# European commission



## 1. Citizens

- The human right to privacy
- W29 has clearly stated that the WADA regulation is against European legislation

## 2. Employees

- EU athletes has put anti doping on the social dialogue agenda
- WADA regulations should be according the working time directory

## 3 Sportsmen and women

- Anti-doping regulations

“Nobody is above the law”



# The big questions of today: No 4

## Philosophical Questions

How far should we go to win the  
'war on drugs'?



# How far should we go?

- Is a drug free sport possible?
- When is the 'fight against doping' successful?
- Is it acceptable if 2 innocent athletes are punished on procedural grounds if 10 drug cheats are caught with the same rule?
- If these regulations do not catch drug cheats how far are we willing to go?
- one size fits all. Is it still right to treat all sports the same? Should football and chess be subject to the same rules or is it time to get smarter?



# The big questions of today: No 4a

## Philosophical Questions



What makes athletes so special that a witch-hunt is accepted ?

# Kasun de Silva

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following content:

- Search Bar:** "Google" logo, search input "kasun de silva", and search button "Zoeken".
- Navigation:** "Het Internet" menu and user profile "lem.ell@gmail.com".
- Results:** "Resultaten 1 - 10 van circa 122 voor kasun de silva doping (0,24 seconden)".
- Result 1:** "INTERNATIONAL RUGBY BOARD IN THE MATTER OF REGULATIONS RELATING TO ...".
  - Location: P.O. Box 49000, Colombo 11, Sri Lanka.
  - Author: Im Ricketts (Anti-Doping Manager, International Rugby Board), I or the Board, Susan Ahom (Council), I or the Player, Kasun De Silva (Player) ...
  - URL: [www.irb.com/imm/document/training/04/000204\\_qm\\_destivadecision\\_4411.pdf](http://www.irb.com/imm/document/training/04/000204_qm_destivadecision_4411.pdf)
  - Link: [Geef uw mening](#)
- Result 2:** "International Rugby Board - Anti doping news".
  - Date: 15 Feb 2008 ...
  - Text: Following an adverse analytical finding in Colombo, the sanction for Sri Lanka player Kasun De Silva has been set at three months by an ...
  - URL: [www.irb.com/sin/anti/doping/news/newsid=2007086.html](http://www.irb.com/sin/anti/doping/news/newsid=2007086.html)
  - Link: [in cache](#) - [Geef uw mening](#)
- Result 3:** "IRB suspends Kasun de Silva for two years".
  - Date: 2 Dec 2007 ...
  - Text: IRB suspends Kasun de Silva for two years. Dr Henry Jayachandra ... Under the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) convention, the IRB will incur ...
  - URL: [sundaytimes.lk/071202/Sports/s205.html](http://sundaytimes.lk/071202/Sports/s205.html)
  - Link: [in cache](#) - [Geef uw mening](#)
- Result 4:** "Lankan ruggerie tested positive".
  - Date: 26 Nov 2007 ...
  - Text: CA and ICA's flanker Kasun De Silva had allegedly tested positive for a ... If De Silva is found guilty, the IRB under the World Anti Doping ...
  - URL: [sundaytimes.lk/071126/Sports/sp214.html](http://sundaytimes.lk/071126/Sports/sp214.html)
  - Link: [in cache](#) - [Geef uw mening](#)
- Result 5:** "Asian Athletics Association".
  - Text: Chanaka U. de Silva (Sri Lanka), Javelin throw (men), I ... Udaya Viraj, Jay Augustine, Amitha Kasun, Udara Silva, Kasun Sampath, Sumith Kanayake, .... role especially in sports and the area of doping, the 60 year old doctor said ...
  - URL: [www.asianathletics.org/news2007.htm](http://www.asianathletics.org/news2007.htm)
  - Link: [in cache](#) - [Geef uw mening](#)
- Result 6:** "The Tribune, Chandigarh, India - Sports Tribune".
  - Date: 25 Apr 2007 ...
  - Text: by the bank's Sri Lankan recruit Kasun Jayasinghe at Chennai on December 23 ... turned out to be shockingly one-sided with Douglas De Silva, ... time to check doping methods. It is a matter of grave concern and ... They should take stringent and punitive measures to root out the evil of doping. ...
  - URL: [www.tribuneindia.com/2007/20070425/sport/trib.htm](http://www.tribuneindia.com/2007/20070425/sport/trib.htm)
  - Link: [in cache](#) - [Geef uw mening](#)
- Result 7:** "Nabon special".
  - Text: ... Iran, Usman, Sameera Silva, D.H. Rajuru and Pradeep Uyanage, ... IIRLL, QUAR LRS: Imal Riyal, Kasun Chandara, Likanysko, Inandu, Chanaka, Uresh Uyanage ... There will be a total of 41 doping control stations, 24 in Beijing and ...
  - URL: [www.nabon.lk/2005/05/25/special7.htm](http://www.nabon.lk/2005/05/25/special7.htm)
  - Link: [in cache](#) - [Geef uw mening](#)

# EU Athletes statement

- Like everyone else, athletes are protected by European employment legislation and human rights laws.
- Parts of the WADA Code interfere with players rights either the 'family of sport' or the courts needs to decide whether this is lawful and proportionate.
- We are committed to drug free sport and want to negotiate with WADA to create a fair, effective and lawful anti-doping policy.



The end