



drug free sport
new zealand

P +64 9 582 0388 F +64 9 580 0381
Level 1, Building 2, Central Park Corporate Centre
666 Great South Road, Ellerslie, Auckland 1051
P O Box 17451, Auckland 1546
drugfreesport.org.nz

14 February 2023

Dear Athlete

Prohibited Association Notice – Sonny Webster

Drug Free Sport New Zealand (DFSNZ) is the national anti-doping organisation for New Zealand, responsible for enforcing New Zealand's Sports Anti-Doping Rules (SADR). As a registered member of Weightlifting New Zealand, the SADR applies to you, regardless of your competition level.

DFSNZ has become aware that Sonny Webster will be in New Zealand in June 2023 offering coaching seminars. The seminars will potentially cover aspects of weightlifting. His ban prohibits him from participating in sport in any capacity, which includes coaching athletes who are bound to the SADR.

In accordance with the prohibited association rule (SADR 2.10) this letter notifies you that you are prohibited from associating in any professional or sport related capacity with Mr Sonny Webster, who is currently serving an 4-year ban for an anti-doping rule violation. Mr Webster's ban ends on 13 June 2024.

The prohibited association rule (SADR 2.10) aims to prevent athletes from associating (in a professional or sport-related capacity) with an athlete support person who is serving a ban for doping. Having now received this notice, should you breach this rule, you would be committing an anti-doping rule violation and could be banned from sport for up to two years.

Some examples of the kinds of association with Mr Webster that should be avoided include obtaining any sort of training, strategy, technical, nutritional or medical advice or assistance. The prohibition applies whether or not the association involves payment to Mr Webster.

You should also avoid associating with any person who may be acting as an intermediary for Mr Webster, in offering the kinds of services outlined above.

SADR 2.10 (in full) is attached to this letter for your information.

Please direct any response to this notice to Hayden Tapper at DFSNZ. I can be contacted by phone at +64 9 582 0521 or +64 278375814, or by email hayden.tapper@drugfreesport.org.nz. **All contact will be treated confidentially.**

Information is also available on our website (www.drugfreesport.org.nz).

Thank you for your cooperation and support of clean sport.

Yours sincerely

Hayden Tapper
Investigations and Intelligence Manager

Encl: 2023 SADR 2.10

Sport Anti-Doping Rules

2.10 Prohibited Association

2.10.1 Association by an Athlete or other Person subject to the authority of an AntiDoping Organisation in a professional or sport-related capacity with any Athlete Support Person who:

2.10.1.1 If subject to the authority of an Anti-Doping Organisation, is serving a period of Ineligibility; or

2.10.1.2 If not subject to the authority of an Anti-Doping Organisation and where Ineligibility has not been addressed in a Results Management process pursuant to the Code, has been convicted or found in a criminal, disciplinary, or professional proceeding to have engaged in conduct which would have constituted a violation of antidoping rules if Code-compliant rules had been applicable to such Person. The disqualifying status of such Person shall be in force for the longer of six years from the criminal, professional, or disciplinary decision or the duration of the criminal, disciplinary, or professional sanction imposed; or

2.10.1.3 Is serving as a front or intermediary for an individual described in Rule 2.10.1.1 or Rule 2.10.1.2.

2.10.2 To establish a violation of Rule 2.10, an Anti-Doping Organisation must establish that the Athlete or other Person knew of the Athlete Support Person's disqualifying status. The burden shall be on the Athlete or other Person to establish that any association with an Athlete Support Person described in Rule 2.10.1.1 or Rule 2.10.1.2 is not in a professional or sport-related capacity and/or that such association could not have been reasonably avoided. Anti-Doping Organisations that are aware of the Athlete Support Personnel who meet the criteria described in Rule 2.10.1.1, Rule 2.10.1.2 or Rule 2.10.1.3 shall submit that information to WADA. 1

[Comment to Rule 2.10: Athletes and other Persons must not work with coaches, trainers, physicians or other Athlete Support Personnel who are Ineligible on account of an anti-doping rule violation or who have been criminally convicted or professionally disciplined in relation to doping. This also prohibits association with any other Athlete who is acting as a coach or Athlete Support Person while serving a period of Ineligibility. Some examples of the types of association which are prohibited include: obtaining training, strategy, technique, nutrition or medical advice; obtaining therapy, treatment or prescriptions; providing any bodily products for analysis; or allowing the Athlete Support Person to serve as an agent or representative. Prohibited association need not involve any form of compensation.]

While Rule 2.10 does not require the Anti-Doping Organisation to notify the Athlete or other Person about the Athlete Support Person's disqualifying status, such notice, if provided, would be important evidence to establish that the Athlete or other Person knew about the disqualifying status of the Athlete Support Person.]