

UKAD Policy: Public disclosure of provisional suspensions and charges

February 2021

UKAD Policy – Publication of provisional suspensions and charges

Only in exceptional circumstances will UKAD publicly disclose the fact that an athlete or other person has been provisionally suspended and/or charged with an Anti-Doping Rule Violation (ADRV) under the UK Anti-Doping Rules before the charge has been determined and the outcome published.

For these purposes, ‘exceptional circumstances’ means where there are compelling reasons for public disclosure that override the interests of the athlete or other person in not having these matters disclosed unless and until the charge is (a) admitted in an agreed decision, or (b) upheld by an independent hearing panel.

For example, ‘exceptional circumstances’ warranting UKAD’s public disclosure of a provisional suspension and/or charge will be deemed to exist where the fact of the charge and/or the provisional suspension has already been publicly reported due to a separate disciplinary process, such as a tribunal conducted by a professional regulatory body, or criminal proceedings.

The decision to publicly disclose will be taken by the Chief Executive on the advice of Directors.

This Policy does not change or limit Article 14.1.4 of the UK Anti-Doping Rules, which permits UKAD to respond to public comments attributed to or based on information provided by a person charged with an ADRV, or a member of their entourage or representative.