

## Issued Decision

# UK Anti-Doping and Rynard Landman

### Disciplinary Proceedings under the Anti-Doping Rules of the Welsh Rugby Union

This is an Issued Decision made by UK Anti-Doping Limited ('UKAD') pursuant to the Anti-Doping Rules ('ADR') of the Welsh Rugby Union ('WRU'). It concerns Anti-Doping Rule Violations ('ADRVs') committed by Mr Rynard Landman and records the applicable Consequences.

Capitalised terms used in this Decision shall have the meaning given to them in the ADR unless otherwise indicated.

### Background and Facts

1. The WRU is the national governing body for the sport of rugby union in Wales. UKAD is the National Anti-Doping Organisation ('NADO') in the United Kingdom. The WRU has adopted, as its own ADR, the UK Anti-Doping Rules<sup>1</sup>, which are issued by UKAD and are subject to updates made by UKAD, as necessary and in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code.
2. Mr Landman is a 38-year-old rugby union player. As a player registered with the WRU, at all relevant times, Mr Landman was subject to the jurisdiction of the WRU and bound to comply with the ADR. Pursuant to ADR Article 7.2, UKAD has Results Management responsibility in respect of all Athletes that are subject to the jurisdiction of the WRU.
3. On 8 August 2024, a UKAD Doping Control Officer ('DCO') collected a urine Sample from Mr Landman, Out-of-Competition, at a Newport RFC training session held at Bassaleg School, Forge Road, Forge Lane, Bassaleg, Newport, NP10 8NF.
4. Assisted by the Doping Control Officer in attendance, Mr Landman split the urine Sample into two separate bottles which were given reference numbers A8146297 (the 'A Sample') and B8146297 (the 'B Sample').
5. Both Samples were transported to the World Anti-Doping Agency ('WADA') accredited laboratory, The Drug Control Centre, King's College London (the 'Laboratory'). The Laboratory analysed the A Sample in accordance with the

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<sup>1</sup> Version 1.0, in effect as from 1 January 2021

procedures set out in WADA's International Standard for Laboratories and Testing. Analysis of the A Sample returned Adverse Analytical Findings ('AAFs') for nandrolone and its Metabolite, 19-Norandrosterone, at estimate concentrations of 1 ng/mL and 91 ng/mL, respectively.

6. Nandrolone is listed under S1.1 of the 2024 WADA Prohibited List as Anabolic Androgenic Steroid. It is a non-Specified Substances that is prohibited at all times.
7. On 4 October 2024, UKAD sent Mr Landman a notification letter ('Notice Letter'). The Notice Letter confirmed the imposition of a Provisional Suspension and formally notified Mr Landman, in accordance with ADR Article 7.8, that he may have committed ADRVs pursuant to ADR Article 2.1 (Presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in an Athlete's Sample) and/or ADR Article 2.2 (Use or Attempted Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method). UKAD invited Mr Landman to provide an explanation for the alleged ADRVs.
8. On 12 October 2024, Mr Landman responded to the Notice Letter and admitted the asserted ADRVs. He said that he had used nandrolone between June and August 2023 when he had retired from professional rugby. He said that when he returned to playing rugby in November 2023, he assumed the substance would have cleared his system.
9. On 15 October 2024, UKAD requested further information from Mr Landman relating to the date on which he purportedly last used nandrolone. Mr Landman responded to confirm that his last ingestion of nandrolone was in August 2023.
10. On 23 October 2024, UKAD received a preliminary expert opinion from Professor David Cowan, Professor Emeritus in Pharmaceutical Toxicology at King's College London, on whether it was likely that Mr Landman's admitted purported Use of nandrolone in August 2023 would result in an AAF for nandrolone and its Metabolite in August 2024. In summary, Professor Cowan considered it unlikely that nandrolone parent compound would be found in a Sample one year after its purported administration.
11. On 31 October 2024, UKAD proceeded to issue Mr Landman with a Charge Letter in accordance with ADR Article 7.11.2. The Charge Letter asserted the commission of ADRVs pursuant to Article 2.1 (Presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in an Athlete's Sample) and/or Article 2.2 (Use of a Prohibited Substance) and asserted four (4) year period of Ineligibility in respect of Mr Landman's ADRVs.

### **Admission and Consequences**

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12. On 6 November 2024, Mr Landman responded to the Charge Letter and admitted the ADRVs outlined. Whilst Mr Landman continued to maintain his last Use of nandrolone

took place in August 2023, Mr Landman nevertheless accepted the asserted period of Ineligibility of four years.

13. UKAD wrote to Mr Landman to make clear, on the basis of the preliminary scientific opinion provided by Professor Cowan, it did not accept his account of when he last used nandrolone. However, as Mr Landman has accepted the ADRVs and the asserted period of Ineligibility, UKAD has determined that it is possible to resolve this case by way of this Decision and without the need for a hearing.

14. ADR Article 2.1 provides that the following is an ADRV:

**2.1 Presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in an Athlete's Sample, unless the Athlete establishes that the presence is consistent with a TUE granted in accordance with Article 4.**

15. ADR Article 2.2 provides that the following is an ADRV:

**2.2 Use or Attempted Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method, unless the Athlete establishes that the Use or Attempted Use is consistent with a TUE granted in accordance with Article 4.**

16. ADR Article 10.2 provides as follows:

**10.2 Imposition of a Period of Ineligibility for the Presence, Use or Attempted Use, or Possession of a Prohibited Substance and/or a Prohibited Method.**

*The period of Ineligibility for an Anti-Doping Rule Violation under Article 2.1, 2.2 or 2.6 that is the Athlete's or other Person's first anti-doping offence shall be as follows, subject to potential elimination, reduction or suspension pursuant to Article 10.5, 10.6 or 10.7:*

*10.2.1 Save where Article 10.2.4(a) applies, the period of Ineligibility shall be four (4) years where:*

*(a) The Anti-Doping Rule Violation does not involve a Specified Substance or a Specified Method, unless the Athlete or other Person can establish that the Anti-Doping Rule Violation was not intentional.*

*(b) [...]*

*10.2.2 If Article 10.2.1 does not apply, then (subject to Article 10.2.4(a)) the period of Ineligibility shall be two (2) years.*

17. In accordance with ADR Article 10.2.1(a), since this matter concerns a non-Specified Substance, the applicable period of Ineligibility shall be four (4) years, unless Mr Landman can establish, on the balance of probabilities, that the ADRVs were not 'intentional' (within the meaning of ADR Article 10.2.3).

18. Within his responses to UKAD, Mr Landman accepted responsibility for the presence of nandrolone detected in his Sample and admitted the ADRVs with which he has been charged. Mr Landman has not sought to establish that his ADRVs were not 'intentional' (within the meaning of ADR Article 10.2.3). Accordingly, Mr Landman is not entitled to a two (2) year period of Ineligibility pursuant to ADR Article 10.2.2, or any reduction pursuant to ADR Article 10.5 (No Fault or Negligence) or ADR Article 10.6 (No Significant Fault or Negligence) thereafter. Consequently, the period of Ineligibility under ADR Article 10.2.1(a) of four (4) years applies as the standard sanction.
19. For the purposes of imposing a sanction, the ADRVs will be considered together as a single first violation, pursuant to ADR Article 10.9.4 which states as follows:

*10.9.4 Additional rules for certain potential multiple offences:*

- (a) For the purposes of imposing sanctions under Article 10.9, except as provided in Articles 10.9.4(b) and 10.9.4(c) an Anti-Doping Rule Violation will only be considered a second (or third, as applicable) Anti-Doping Rule Violation if UKAD can establish that the Athlete or other Person committed the additional Anti-Doping Rule Violation after they received notice, or after UKAD or its designee made a reasonable attempt to give notice, of the first (or the second, as applicable) Anti-Doping Rule Violation. Otherwise, the first and second Anti-Doping Rule Violations (or the second and third Anti-Doping Rule Violations as applicable) shall be considered as one single first Anti-Doping Rule Violation, and the sanction imposed shall be based on the Anti-Doping Rule Violation that carries the most severe sanction...*

### **Application of ADR Article 10.8.1**

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20. ADR Article 10.8.1 provides:

*10.8.1 One (1) year reduction for certain Anti-Doping Rule Violations based on early admission and acceptance of sanction:*

*Where UKAD sends an Athlete or other Person a Charge Letter for an Anti-Doping Rule Violation that carries an asserted period of Ineligibility of four (4) or more years (including any period of Ineligibility asserted under Article 10.4), if the Athlete or other Person admits the violation and accepts the asserted period of Ineligibility no later than twenty (20) days after receiving the Charge Letter, they shall receive a one (1) year reduction in the period of Ineligibility asserted by UKAD. Where the Athlete or other Person receives the one (1) year reduction in the asserted period of Ineligibility under this Article 10.8.1, no further reduction in*

*the asserted period of Ineligibility shall be allowed under any other Article.*

21. Mr Landman admitted the ADRVs and accepted the asserted period of Ineligibility of four (4) years on 6 November 2024 (having been sent the Charge Letter on 31 October 2024). Accordingly, ADR Article 10.8.1 applies and Mr Landman shall receive a one (1) year reduction to the period of Ineligibility of four (4) years. The period of Ineligibility to be imposed is therefore three (3) years.

### **Commencement of period of Ineligibility**

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22. ADR Article 10.13 requires that the period of Ineligibility starts on the date Ineligibility is accepted or otherwise imposed where there is no hearing.
23. However, ADR Article 10.13.2 allows for credit to be given against the total period of Ineligibility to be served where an Athlete has been provisionally suspended and has respected the terms of that Provisional Suspension.
24. Mr Landman has been subject to a Provisional Suspension since the date he received UKAD's first Notice Letter, i.e., since 4 October 2024 and as far as UKAD is aware he has respected the terms of that Provisional Suspension. Therefore, affording Mr Landman credit for the time he has spent provisionally suspended, his period of Ineligibility is deemed to have commenced on 4 October 2024 and will end at 11.59pm on 3 October 2027.

### **Status during Ineligibility**

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25. During the period of Ineligibility, in accordance with ADR Article 10.14.1, Mr Landman shall not be permitted to participate in any capacity (or assist any Athlete participating in any capacity) in a Competition, Event or other activity (other than authorised anti-doping education or rehabilitation programmes) organised, convened, authorised or recognised by:
- a) The WRU;
  - b) Any Signatory;
  - c) Any club or other body that is a member of, or affiliated to, or licensed by, a Signatory or a Signatory's member organisation;
  - d) Any professional league or any international or national-level Event organisation;  
or
  - e) Any elite or national-level sporting activity funded by a governmental agency.
26. Mr Landman may return to train with a team or to use the facilities of a WRU club or a Signatory's member organisation during the last two months of his period of Ineligibility (i.e. from 11.59pm on 3 August 2027) pursuant to ADR Article 10.14.4(b).

## Summary

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27. For the reasons given above, UKAD has issued this Decision in accordance with ADR Article 7.12.2, and records that:
- a) Mr Landman has committed ADRVs pursuant to ADR Articles 2.1 and 2.2;
  - b) In accordance with ADR Article 10.9.4(a) the ADRVs are considered as one single ADRV for the purposes of imposing a sanction;
  - c) The applicable period of Ineligibility is four (4) years under the application of ADR Articles 10.2.1(a);
  - d) In accordance with ADR Article 10.8.1, Mr Landman is entitled to a one (1) year reduction to the asserted period of Ineligibility of four (4) years. A period of Ineligibility of three (3) years is therefore imposed;
  - e) Acknowledging Mr Landman's Provisional Suspension, the period of Ineligibility is deemed to have commenced on 4 October 2024 and will expire at 11.59pm on 3 October 2027; and
  - f) Mr Landman's status during the period of Ineligibility shall be as detailed in ADR Article 10.14.
28. Mr Landman, the WRU, World Rugby, and WADA have a right to appeal against this Decision or any part of it in accordance with ADR Article 13.4.
29. This Decision will be publicly announced via UKAD's website in accordance with ADR Article 8.5.3 and ADR Article 10.15.

**18 November 2024**