



IAF Anti-Doping Policy 2020.

Introduction

The international sports community is firmly devoted to the anti-doping commitment, as regulated and administered by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). The International Aikido Federation (IAF), representing the discipline Aikido - a demonstration sport without any form of competition, ranking or medaling- also commits itself completely to those objectives and regulations. The IAF will not accept any use or handling of achievement-enhancing drugs or methods defined by WADA as doping. Violations of this will result in sanctions according to the directives of the WADA Code (see <https://www.wada-ama.org/en>). The IAF will also vigorously act on suspicions of such violations, and inform its members of the WADA Code, its implications and considerations in Aikido, as well as actions taken by the IAF in relation to it. The IAF will continue to participate emphatically in the struggle against doping in the world of sports. Doping is a violation of the spirit of aikido, as defined by its founder Morihei Ueshiba.

The use of any substance or method listed in the WADA Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods is prohibited also in Aikido. The IAF is a signatory of the World Anti-Doping Code and will act forcefully to uphold it within the aikido community. The IAF also urgently encourage all its member organizations to do the same. The IAF will keep a keen watch over the aikido community, and intervene as needed, in order to quickly and forcefully react to any doping related issues in Aikido. Its member organizations are requested to do the same.

Non-Competition

As Aikido is a demonstration sport, a sport without competition, the IAF and its members may be proud to say that to this day there are no doping cases among its practitioners at international level and national level. This is why Aikido is currently regarded as a low-risk activity when it comes to doping.

In order to preserve that record, the IAF is determined to keep a close watch on aikido in regard to doping, so as to be aware of any change or exception to the above. The fact that aikido has been spared of doping habits in the past is not to be taken as a guarantee for doping not appearing in the future.

Aikido Events

Although there are no competitions in Aikido, the IAF and its members should be aware of three types of events in Aikido where practitioners may want to excel. The first type of event is a Kyu or Dan grading, which is organized outside the control of the IAF and, where the applicant is expected to perform Aikido with the utmost skill. The second type of events are seminars, which fall into the "Sports-for-all" category. The third type of events are the Embukai, the Aikido demonstrations in which aikido practitioners show what Aikido means to them. During the Embukai IAF might conduct anti-doping activities (i.e. education and/or testing). Some of the practitioners who will take part to the Embukai are considered International Level Athletes as defined by the IAF in the IAF Anti-Doping Regulations.

Although there has not yet been any indication of doping used at events of the abovementioned types, the IAF and its member organizations should keep them under close observation in order to quickly spot any occurrence of doping. The IAF encourages to also observe the dojo practice as to verify that they remain at all times doping-free at that level as well.

Athletes of multiple sports

Although Aikido is at low risk of doping, the IAF and its member organizations should be aware of the possibility that some aikido practitioners who also practice other sports may use doping substances or methods for the purpose of improving their results in those other sports. Certainly, such doping is equally offensive to the IAF. Even in the case where a certain doping substance or method is neither health hazardous nor relevant to Aikido, and therefore not a violation according to IAF rules, the IAF shall at the very least respects and supports sanctions taken against Aikido practitioners decided by other sports organizations or Anti-Doping Agencies.

Out-of-Competition

The Aikido community should be aware of that the World Anti-Doping Code does not foresee only in-competition testing, but also out-of-competition situations, such as regular practice in any sports club, also in seminars and training camps. IAF is currently exempted from conducting out-of-competition testing, however IAF has still the competence and possibility to conduct those testing, where deemed necessary and in some countries other Anti-Doping Organizations might decide to conduct out-of-competition tests on Practitioners as well.

Trafficking and Administration of doping

The WADA Code includes regulations about trafficking and administration of doping substances or methods, which are regarded very severely. The IAF agrees completely with the WADA view on such behavior, which is particularly deplorable since it may tempt practitioners to commence doping. If

young practitioners are exposed to such temptations, this is regarded as a particularly deplorable behavior. The IAF and its member nations should take decisive and firm action against any sign of trafficking or administration of doping, as described in the WADA Code.

Doping Lists

WADA keeps an updated list of prohibited substances and methods at its website (<https://www.wada-ama.org/en>). The IAF refers to that list and the prohibition of the substances and methods referred to therein .

Sanctions

The WADA Code specifies the sanctions applied, when prohibited substances or methods are used or administered. The standard sanction for an intentionally first-time violation of the rules is four years exclusion from all activities within the sport. If the violation is not intentional the standard is two years. Depending on the specifics of the violation, the sanction can be higher or lower. For repeated offenses, the sanction is eight years to life. The IAF supports the sanction rules of the WADA Code, and the procedures by which to administer them, while taking in account that because there is no competition in Aikido, practitioners may be somewhat unaware that the WADA Code applies also to Aikido practitioners. The educational process supported by the IAF aims to sensitize the practitioners to this issue.

Decisions (including sanctions and other measures) regarding violations of the doping rules, specified in the IAF Anti-Doping Regulations and WADA Code, during any Aikido Embukai organized by the IAF, fall under the jurisdiction of the IAF's Doping Hearing Panel. The IAF member organizations shall uphold such decisions, and cooperate to their enforcement. The IAF refers to, and supports the rules provided in the World Anti-Doping Code as to due process, the right to a fair hearing and/or to appeal the decision of the IAF. The IAF cannot decide on any sanction without first giving the accused person opportunity to be heard on the matter.

As for violations of the doping rules during Aikido events organized and /or supervised by a national member organization of the IAF, the IAF shall be informed by such member organization of any such decision. As for violations of the doping rules during aikido events under no obvious IAF or member organization supervision or control, the matter may be presented to the IAF for investigation. The IAF will be obliged to find the proper body to handle the case, or to recommend proper measures where that cannot be decided.

Testing

The IAF has outsourced to administer the limited testing for the IAF Embukai to the International Testing Agency (ITA).

The IAF also encourages its national member organizations to cooperate with local Anti-Doping Agencies, in order to facilitate testing if required of Aikido practitioners. At present, the IAF has no indication of doping taking place in Aikido at all. The IAF is eager to be informed of tests done on Aikido practitioners, and the results thereof, so that the IAF can adjust its policy and actions when

needed. The member organizations are requested to inform the IAF promptly of any tests taking place within their organization. The IAF will also promptly inform its member organizations of such events, especially if there are cases of violation of the WADA prohibited list.

Information

To ensure doping-free Aikido practice all over the world, the IAF recognizes the crucial importance of information. The IAF will produce such information, accurately and promptly, and spread it through the channels at its disposal. It is very important that the member organizations participate in this, to ensure that such information reaches the individual practitioners of aikido. Although the IAF and most of its member organizations have limited means, WADA and the many Anti-Doping Agencies can assist very competently in the effort to keep all aikido practitioners wary of doping, and the terrible damage it does to sports as well as to individual athletes.

Signatory of the WADA Code

The IAF is a committed signatory to the WADA Code since 2009 . The latest revision of the WADA Code 2021 has given the opportunity for the IAF, representing the discipline Aikido, in cooperation with WADA and with the assistance of ITA , to find the right balance for implementing the World Anti-Doping Code for Aikido, a demonstration Sport with its own characteristics and specificity, having no competition.