SUMMARY INFORMATION TO NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

Regarding IOC Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) Management

On the occasion of the Games of the XXX Olympiad in London in 2012

This note is to describe more in detail the process of applying for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) in the context of the Games of the XXX Olympiad in London.

Please note that athletes are advised to treat the matter of TUEs seriously and in all instances seek expert advice. Using a prohibited substance or prohibited method before or without a TUE approval would constitute an Anti-Doping Rule Violation (ADRV).

Athletes should not assume that each medical professional who prescribes medication has a full understanding of anti-doping related matters in their sport. Athletes must ensure by every means that the prescribed medication does not contain a substance(s) included in the current Prohibited List which can be found on the WADA website. Athletes are ultimately responsible for what enters in their body.

1. Prior to the Games of the XXX Olympiad (OG)

Up until 16 July 2012, each athlete shall continue to follow their regular TUE application procedures, i.e. consult their physician and ask him/her to provide the required supporting medical documentation, as stated in the current International Standard for TUE and seek approval from their National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO) or their relevant International Federation (IF).

Any pre-existing TUEs should be entered in ADAMS if available or forwarded to the IOC to be assessed.

The IOC may however request WADA to review such pre-existing TUE, if the IOC TUEC considers that any TUE does not fulfill the criteria established by WADA. To allow such review, the IOC TUEC may request that the athlete's complete medical file is provided.

Please be reminded that it is the responsibility of each NOC to ensure that athletes accredited for the Games of the XXX Olympiad have obtained a TUE should this be necessary (e.g. injections of insulin for diabetes mellitus, etc).

On 16 July 2012 the IOC becomes the anti-doping organisation for participating athletes. The IOC will not take over any pending TUEs – meaning that in this case the athlete will not have a valid TUE for the Games of the XXX Olympiad and must submit a new application to the IOC.

2. During the Games of the XXX Olympiad

The IOC will act as an anti-doping organisation with the responsibility for the issue, or refusal, of TUEs – this strictly limited to the period of the Games of the XXX Olympiad from 16 July to 12 August 2012.

Please note that this period is considered “in-competition” and that substances prohibited “in-competition” will thus be prohibited throughout the period of the Games of the XXX Olympiad.
During this period, a team or an OCOG physician submitting a TUE application should leave this at the front desk of the Polyclinic and also sign a special log book. Urgent TUEs from team, an OCOG or hospital physicians should be faxed or e-mailed to the dedicated number.

Please note that each TUE application will be entered and managed by the Anti-doping Administration & Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS facilitates online management of TUE requests, as well as online notification to those involved in the process. TUE information is shared with all and only relevant parties, thus for the athlete one submission is all that is necessary. Upon approval of the TUE, ADAMS also provides the athletes the option to print their Certificate of Approval for their records.

TUE application Forms can be downloaded in French and in English from the IOC website www.olympic.org/medical and printed copies will be made available at the Polyclinic and in designated hospitals.

Prior to submitting your TUE application, please ensure that all fields are properly filled in and that all necessary medical documentation to support the decision of the TUEC is enclosed.

Upon receipt, TUE applications will be promptly reviewed by the IOC TUEC. Your NOC, the athlete (and the relevant IF) will be notified of the decision taken by receiving the TUE certificate or a letter explaining the refusal in your pigeon hole at the NOC Services Department.

Please be reminded that your athlete should not start using the prohibited substance or prohibited method before the granting of a TUE. Use without a valid TUE would constitute an Anti-Doping Rule Violation (ADRV).

A retroactive approval may only be considered in the following exceptional cases: (1) emergency treatment or treatment of an acute medical condition was necessary, and (2) due to exceptional circumstances, there was insufficient time or opportunity for an applicant to submit, or a TUEC to consider, an application prior to Doping Control.

3. After the Games of the XXX Olympiad

As of 13 August 2012 onwards, TUEC of the relevant anti-doping organisation could recognise TUE certificates granted by the IOC at the occasion of the Games of the XXX Olympiad in London, if relevant.

Appendix: IOC TUE application form