This note is to describe more in detail the process of applying for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) in the context of the Youth Olympic Games in Singapore from 14 to 26 August 2010.

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 enter in their body.

1. Prior to the YOG

Up until 10 August 2010, 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).

Please note that ADAMS will not be used for the period of the YOG. As such, the IOC kindly asks your NOC to liaise directly with all summer relevant IF(s) and your NADO to ensure that all pre-approved TUEs are forwarded to the IOC by 10 July 2010 at the latest.

Any TUEs approved between 10 July and 9 August 2010 should be forwarded to the IOC immediately approval is granted.

All applications will be reviewed and granted appropriately. All will be recognized. However, the IOC has the option to appeal to WADA 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 Youth Olympic Games have obtained a TUE should this be necessary (e.g. injections of insulin for diabetes mellitus, inhaled prohibited beta-2 agonists for asthma, etc).

Should there still be any pending TUEs on 10 August 2010, i.e. at the time the IOC becomes the anti-doping organization for participating athletes, the IOC will not take over pending TUEs – meaning that the athlete will not have a valid TUE for the Youth Olympic Games and must submit an application to the IOC.
2. During the YOG

The IOC will act as an anti-doping organization with the responsibility for the issue, or refusal, of TUEs – this strictly limited to the period of the Youth Olympic Games from 10 to 26 August 2010. That means that from 10 August 2010, only the IOC TUEC can approve a TUE.

Please note that this period is considered “in-competition” and that substances prohibited “in-competition” only will thus be prohibited throughout.

During this period, a team or 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, OCOG or hospital physicians should be faxed to a dedicated number (which will be communicated in due time) and the Head of the Polyclinic shall be informed.

TUE applications can be downloaded from the IOC website (http://www.olympic.org/en/content/Footer-Pages/Documents/Youth-Olympic-Games/) 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.

It should be noted that, during the period of the Youth Olympic Games, the intent is not to deny the use of alternate beta-2 agonists because there is now a permitted substitute (salbutamol/salmeterol), particularly where a treatment regimen has already been established. For athletes newly diagnosed with asthma, permitted beta-2 agonists should be considered as primary treatments unless otherwise justified.

Upon receipt, TUE applications will be promptly reviewed by the IOC TUEC and 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 substance before the approval date indicated on the TUE certificate. He/she would then be using a prohibited substance or prohibited method without authorization and this 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 YOG

As of 27 August 2010 onwards, each TUEC of the relevant anti-doping organization will start to be operational again and will need to recognize each TUE certificate granted by the IOC at the occasion of the Youth Olympic Games in Singapore, if relevant.

Appendix:

1. IOC TUE application form