This note is to describe more in detail the process of applying for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) in the context of the Winter Youth Olympic Games in Innsbruck from 13 to 22 January 2012.

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 Youth Olympic Games (YOG)

Up until 9 January 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).

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 winter relevant IF(s) and your NADO to ensure that all pre-approved TUEs are forwarded to the IOC by 9 January 2012 at the latest.

Any pre-existing TUEs should be forwarded to the IOC to be assessed and recognised.

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 Winter Youth Olympic Games have obtained a TUE should this be necessary (e.g. injections of insulin for diabetes mellitus, etc).
Should there still be any pending TUEs on 9 January 2012, i.e. at the time the IOC becomes the anti-doping organisation for participating athletes, the IOC will not take over pending TUEs – meaning that the athlete will not have a valid TUE for the Winter Youth Olympic Games and must submit an application to the IOC.

2. During the Winter Youth Olympic Games

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 Winter Youth Olympic Games from 9 to 22 January 2012. That means that from 9 January 2012, only the IOC TUEC can approve a TUE.

Please note that this period is considered “in-competition” and that substances prohibited “in-competition” will thus be prohibited throughout the period of the Winter Youth Olympic Games.

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 or e-mailed to the dedicated number (which is mentioned on the first page) and the Head of the Polyclinic shall be informed.

TUE applications 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 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 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 Winter Youth Olympic Games

As of 23 January 2012 onwards, TUEC of the relevant anti-doping organisation will need to recognize each TUE certificate granted by the IOC at the occasion of the Winter Youth Olympic Games in Innsbruck, if relevant.

Appendix:
1. IOC TUE application form