

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**17 July 2008**

### **Sports Tribunal suspends NBL basketball player for cannabis violation**

The Sports Tribunal has suspended Manawatu Jets basketball player, Stacey Lambert, from participating in sport because of an anti-doping violation relating to cannabis.

Mr Lambert tested positive to cannabis after playing in a national league (NBL) basketball match on 21 May 2008.

Mr Lambert admitted the violation. The Tribunal accepted that the cannabis was taken for recreational purposes and not used for performance enhancing purposes.

Although the NBL basketball season was now over, and Mr Lambert stated he did not intend to play in the NBL season next year, he was participating in basketball in other ways such as coaching.

The Tribunal decided that a suspension of two months beginning from the date of the decision was an effective sanction as it will prevent him participating in sport in any capacity over that time period (including playing, refereeing, coaching or administering).

The Tribunal therefore imposed a period of two month's ineligibility commencing on 16 July 2008.

The decision in this case will be made available for download from the website of the Sports Tribunal ([www.sportstribunal.org.nz](http://www.sportstribunal.org.nz)). See *Drug Free Sport New Zealand v Stacey Lambert* (ST 10/08). Copies can also be obtained directly from Brent Ellis, Registrar, Sports Tribunal of New Zealand (telephone: 0800 55 66 80; e-mail: [info@sportstribunal.org.nz](mailto:info@sportstribunal.org.nz)).