

MEDIA RELEASE

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Tribunal suspends body builder

The Sports Disputes Tribunal has suspended body builder Sam Mohamad for 2 years for committing an anti-doping violation.

Mr Mohamad tested positive for three prohibited substances while competing in the 2005 New Zealand Body Building Championships. The substances were hydrochlorothiazide, amiloride and stanozolol.

Principles applied

Unless a defendant can establish the defences of “no fault or negligence” or “no significant fault or negligence” the penalty for a first anti-doping violation involving these substances is a 2 year suspension.

The Tribunal’s conclusions

Despite being given the opportunity to do so, Mr Mohamad failed to participate in the proceedings and raised no defence. Therefore, the Tribunal imposed the mandatory penalty of two years’ suspension.

The Tribunal noted that Mr Mohamad would be ineligible for 2 years to compete or participate in any competition or activity organised by the New Zealand Federation of Body Builders or any other signatory to the World Anti-Doping Code.

The full decision in this case is available for download from the website of the Sports Disputes Tribunal (www.sportstribunal.org.nz). See *New Zealand Federation of Body Builders Inc v Sam Mohamad* (SDT 03/06). Copies of the decision can also be obtained directly from Brent Ellis, Registrar, Sports Disputes Tribunal of New Zealand (telephone: 0800 55 66 80; e-mail: info@sportstribunal.org.nz).