



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**7 October 2005**

The following is a summary of the decision of the Sports Disputes Tribunal of New Zealand in the case of **New Zealand Federation of Body Builders Inc v Steven Ward** (SDT/09/05), an anti-doping violation application. This is not the written decision of the Tribunal for the purposes of its rules.

The Sports Disputes Tribunal has suspended body builder Steven Ward for two years for committing an anti-doping violation.

Mr Ward tested positive for the substances Stanozolol, Nandrolone and Furosemide while competing in the Capital Body Building Championships at Wellington on 7 May 2005. These substances are banned by the World Anti-Doping Code 2005 Prohibited List International Standard under S 1 (Anabolic Agents) and S 5 (Diuretics and Other Masking Agents).

Mr Ward accepted that he committed an anti-doping violation. He admitted to the Tribunal that he had made a conscious decision to take the drugs and that the decision had now backfired on him. He had been advised that the drugs would assist his performance and he took them knowing of the consequences if he got caught.

The World Anti-Doping Code (WADA Code) provides for a mandatory two year suspension for a first violation involving these substances unless the athlete can show "no fault or negligence" or "no significant fault or negligence". Mr Ward accepted that these exceptions did not apply to him.

Therefore, the Tribunal suspended Mr Ward for two years and noted that under the WADA Code Mr Ward is ineligible to participate in any capacity in a competition or activity (other than authorised anti-doping education rehabilitation programmes), authorised or organised by the New Zealand Federation of Body Builders or any other signatory to the WADA Code.

For further information, contact Brent Ellis, Registrar, Sports Disputes Tribunal of New Zealand (telephone: 0800 55 66 80; e-mail: [info@sportstribunal.org.nz](mailto:info@sportstribunal.org.nz)).