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**Squash Player Suspended for 1 month for Anti-Doping Rule Violations**

Squash player, Anthony Lepper, has been suspended by the Sports Tribunal for one month for the presence and use of the prohibited substance cocaine, and its metabolite Benzoylecgonine (BZE).

Mr Lepper was provisionally suspended by the Sports Tribunal without opposition on 28 April 2025 following an Adverse Analytical Finding from an in-competition test at the New Zealand Squash Open in Christchurch on 4 March 2025. Mr Lepper requested that his B Sample be analysed which subsequently confirmed the result of the A Sample. Accordingly, the Sport Integrity Commission filed anti-doping rule violations (ADRVs) against Mr Lepper.

Mr Lepper admitted the violations but sought to be heard on sanction on the basis that his use of cocaine occurred out-of-competition and was unrelated to sport performance.

On 25 June 2025, the parties filed a joint memorandum of counsel in which the Commission, after considering both Mr Lepper's evidence and the concentrations in the A Sample, accepted Mr Lepper's position. The parties also confirmed that Mr Lepper had satisfactorily completed a substance of abuse treatment programme approved by the Commission.

The Tribunal accepted the joint proposal from counsel and imposed an ineligibility period of one month on Mr Lepper, which was backdated to commence on 28 April 2025 (date of the provisional suspension order) and end on 28 May 2025.

**The decision in this case can be found at [www.sportstribunal.org.nz](http://www.sportstribunal.org.nz) – see *Sport Integrity Commission v Lepper (ST04/25)***

**Additional information about prohibited substances, anti-doping rule violations (ADRVs), and sanctions can be found in the WADA Prohibited List ([www.wada-ama.org/en/prohibited-list](http://www.wada-ama.org/en/prohibited-list)) and the Sports Anti-Doping Rules ([www.sportintegrity.nz](http://www.sportintegrity.nz)).**