

MEDIA RELEASE – 1 September 2026

Recreational cricketer suspended for four years for Anti-Doping Rule Violations

Recreational cricketer Tayden Smit has been suspended by the Sports Tribunal for four years after the Tribunal found that he committed Anti-Doping Rule Violations involving the prohibited substance Methandienone (commonly known as Dianabol), an anabolic agent prohibited at all times under the Sports Anti-Doping Rules.

On 31 December 2025, the New Zealand Customs Service intercepted a parcel addressed to Mr Smit that contained Methandienone. The Sport Integrity Commission alleged that Mr Smit had committed Anti-Doping Rule Violations for possession of a prohibited substance and attempted use of a prohibited substance.

Mr Smit participated in an earlier provisional suspension hearing and was provisionally suspended by the Sports Tribunal on 26 May 2026. Following that provisional suspension hearing, Mr Smit did not file a notice of defence or otherwise meaningfully engage in the substantive Anti-Doping Rule Violation proceedings, despite being granted extensions and further opportunities to do so. The Sports Tribunal therefore determined the matter on the papers.

Mr Smit's position was that he had originally ordered Dianabol from China in 2022 and that the parcel intercepted in 2025 arrived unexpectedly following a lengthy delay by the supplier. The Tribunal did not accept that explanation. It found that the 2025 parcel was a new purchase or new order and that the evidence established that Mr Smit was subject to the Sports Anti-Doping Rules at the time it was made.

The Tribunal was comfortably satisfied that Mr Smit possessed the prohibited substance and intended to use it. It therefore found that both Anti-Doping Rule Violations had been established.

The Sports Tribunal imposed a four-year period of ineligibility on Mr Smit, backdated to 26 May 2026 (being the date he was provisionally suspended) and is therefore ineligible to participate in competitive sport until 26 May 2030.

The decision in this case can be found at www.sportstribunal.org.nz – see *Sport Integrity Commission v Tayden Smit* (ST06/26).

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) and the Sports Anti-Doping Rules (www.sportintegrity.nz).