TAEKWONDO COUNCIL UNITED KINGDOM

CLEAN SPORT & ANTI-DOPING POLICY

Policy Version	1.0
Status	Board Approved
Policy Owner	Taekwondo Council United Kingdom
Responsible Lead	TCUK Anti-Doping Lead (to be designated)
Approval Date	27 October 2026
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Board approved 27 October 2026; to be ratified at the next Board meeting

1. Policy Statement

Taekwondo Council United Kingdom (TCUK) believes that all athletes and participants have the right to participate in Taekwondo knowing that they, and those against whom they compete, are clean.

TCUK is committed to protecting the integrity of Taekwondo and promoting a culture of Clean Sport throughout the United Kingdom. The use of prohibited performance-enhancing substances, prohibited methods and other doping behaviour can damage the integrity of sport, undermine fair competition and place participant welfare at risk.

TCUK will promote Clean Sport through education, appropriate governance, clear anti-doping requirements, responsible event management, effective reporting routes and cooperation with relevant anti-doping authorities.

2. Purpose and Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to:

- demonstrate TCUK's commitment to Clean Sport and anti-doping;
- promote fair, safe and ethical participation in Taekwondo;
- ensure athletes, coaches, instructors, officials, parents/guardians and Athlete Support Personnel understand their responsibilities;
- reduce the risk of deliberate and inadvertent doping;
- provide clear information, signposting and reporting routes;
- support compliance with applicable UK and international anti-doping requirements; and
- monitor and improve TCUK's Clean Sport arrangements on an ongoing basis.

3. Scope

This policy applies, where relevant, to:

- athletes and competitors;
- coaches and instructors;
- Athlete Support Personnel (ASP);
- parents and guardians acting as Athlete Support Personnel;
- officials;
- TCUK member instructors;
- affiliated organisations and clubs;
- Directors, officers, employees and volunteers;
- participants in TCUK-sanctioned competitions, events or performance opportunities; and
- any person acting on behalf of TCUK.

For this policy, Athlete Support Personnel may include coaches, instructors, managers, medical personnel, parents, guardians or others who work with or support an athlete.

4. Anti-Doping Framework and Rules

TCUK is committed to operating in accordance with the UK anti-doping framework and the UK Anti-Doping Rules applicable to Taekwondo, as amended from time to time.

TCUK recognises UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) as the United Kingdom's national anti-doping organisation and recognises the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and the World Anti-Doping Code as the international framework for harmonised anti-doping rules.

Where TCUK, its athletes or its members participate in a pathway, competition or activity governed by another recognised NGB, international federation or Code-signatory body, any additional anti-doping rules of that body may also apply.

TCUK will liaise with UKAD and other relevant authorities as necessary regarding its anti-doping responsibilities as an organisation seeking recognition as a National Governing Body.

5. Anti-Doping Rule Violations (ADRVs)

Anti-doping is not limited to a positive drug test. The World Anti-Doping Code identifies eleven Anti-Doping Rule Violations. In summary, these are:

1. Presence of a prohibited substance, its metabolites or markers in an athlete's sample.
2. Use or attempted use by an athlete of a prohibited substance or prohibited method.
3. Evading, refusing or failing to submit to sample collection.
4. Whereabouts failures, where the applicable testing-pool requirements apply.
5. Tampering or attempted tampering with any part of doping control.
6. Possession of a prohibited substance or prohibited method.
7. Trafficking or attempted trafficking of a prohibited substance or prohibited method.
8. Administration or attempted administration of a prohibited substance or prohibited method to an athlete.
9. Complicity or attempted complicity in an ADRV.
10. Prohibited association with a person who is subject to relevant doping-related sanctions.
11. Acts by an athlete or other person to discourage reporting to authorities or retaliate against a person for reporting anti-doping concerns.

ADRVs can apply not only to athletes but, depending on the violation, also to coaches and other Athlete Support Personnel. Sanctions will be determined under the applicable anti-doping rules and procedures rather than independently by TCUK.

6. Strict Liability

Athletes are responsible for substances found in their body. Under the principle of strict liability, an athlete may commit an Anti-Doping Rule Violation where a prohibited substance is present in their system regardless of whether there was an intention to cheat.

Athletes should therefore take particular care with prescription and non-prescription medicines, supplements, sports nutrition products, products purchased online and substances recommended by another person.

The fact that a product was supplied by a coach, friend or other person, or that a prohibited substance was not clearly shown on a product label, does not necessarily prevent an Anti-Doping Rule Violation.

7. The Prohibited List

WADA publishes the Prohibited List identifying substances and methods prohibited in sport. The List is updated at the beginning of each calendar year and may also be amended during the year.

Athletes, coaches and Athlete Support Personnel are responsible for keeping themselves informed of current requirements. TCUK will promote relevant updates and will signpost participants to the current WADA and UKAD resources rather than maintaining its own list of prohibited substances.

8. Medicines and Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs)

Athletes should check medicines before use where anti-doping rules apply and should tell relevant medical professionals that they may be subject to anti-doping requirements.

TCUK will encourage participants to use Global DRO, or another medication-checking resource recommended by UKAD, to check the status of medicines.

Where an athlete has a genuine medical need to use a prohibited substance or method, a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) may be required in accordance with the applicable UKAD, international federation or other governing-body rules.

TCUK will not determine TUE applications itself. Athletes will be directed to the relevant authority and current guidance.

9. Nutritional Supplements

TCUK recognises that supplements present a particular inadvertent-doping risk because there is no absolute guarantee that every product contains only the ingredients shown on its label.

Before using a supplement, athletes should consider:

- whether a supplement is genuinely necessary;
- obtaining appropriate medical or nutritional advice;
- researching the product and manufacturer;
- understanding the consequences of contamination; and
- where supplements are used, considering independently batch-tested products and recognised risk-reduction programmes such as Informed Sport.

Use of a batch-tested product may reduce risk but does not remove an athlete's personal responsibility under applicable anti-doping rules.

10. Minors

Anti-doping requirements may apply to minors as well as adult participants.

Where the UK Anti-Doping Rules or another applicable anti-doping framework applies, minors participating in Taekwondo may be subject to anti-doping testing in accordance with those rules and the relevant safeguards.

Parents and guardians of junior participants should be made aware that participation in relevant competition or performance pathways may bring anti-doping responsibilities. TCUK will communicate current guidance on testing and consent arrangements where relevant.

11. Responsibilities of Athletes and Participants

Athletes and participants are expected to:

- understand and comply with the anti-doping requirements relevant to their participation;
- take responsibility for what they consume and use;
- check medicines and treatments before use;
- take appropriate care with supplements;
- attend Clean Sport education where required;
- cooperate with authorised doping-control procedures;
- provide accurate information where required; and

- report genuine anti-doping concerns through an appropriate route.

12. Responsibilities of Coaches, Instructors and Athlete Support Personnel

Coaches, instructors and Athlete Support Personnel must support a culture of Clean Sport. They must not:

- encourage the use of prohibited substances or prohibited methods;
- knowingly assist, facilitate or conceal doping;
- provide medical or pharmaceutical advice outside their professional competence; or
- discourage or retaliate against a person making a genuine anti-doping report.

They should encourage athletes to check medicines and supplements, support relevant education and report genuine concerns appropriately.

13. Education and Awareness

TCUK will promote Clean Sport education and awareness across its membership and affiliated organisations. This may include:

- information on the TCUK website;
- annual communications on the WADA Prohibited List and relevant UKAD updates;
- communications to affiliated organisations, clubs, instructors and coaches;
- Clean Sport information within coach, instructor or official development;
- competition and event communications;
- education for athletes and Athlete Support Personnel;
- promotion of UKAD's 100% me and Clean Sport education resources;
- signposting to Global DRO, Informed Sport and current UKAD guidance; and
- targeted education for athletes entering performance or talent pathways.

Where TCUK identifies roles or groups for which formal Clean Sport learning is appropriate, it may introduce mandatory or role-specific education through a Board-approved Clean Sport Education Strategy and Implementation Plan.

14. Competitions, Events and Performance Pathways

Participants entering TCUK-sanctioned competition may be required to confirm their acceptance of applicable anti-doping requirements as part of the competition entry or competitor declaration.

TCUK event information may include a Clean Sport and anti-doping statement and appropriate information for athletes, coaches and parents/guardians.

Participants selected for or entering pathways governed by another NGB, international federation or performance body must comply with any additional anti-doping requirements applicable to that pathway.

15. Testing and Doping Control

Athletes who are subject to applicable anti-doping rules may be tested in competition or out of competition in accordance with UKAD/WADA procedures. Testing may take place without advance notice.

Athletes selected for testing must cooperate with authorised Doping Control Personnel and comply with the requirements of the applicable testing procedure.

TCUK will provide or signpost current information about notification, athlete rights and responsibilities, sample provision, medicines and supplements declarations, sample sealing, documentation and the testing process generally.

TCUK will not conduct technical anti-doping testing independently where testing should properly be undertaken by UKAD or another recognised anti-doping authority.

16. Reporting and Intelligence

Everyone involved in Taekwondo has a role in protecting Clean Sport.

Individuals who have information or genuine concerns regarding possible doping, trafficking, prohibited administration, tampering or another potential Anti-Doping Rule Violation should report those concerns.

Concerns may be raised with the TCUK Anti-Doping Lead or directly through the confidential reporting mechanisms provided by UK Anti-Doping. TCUK will handle information responsibly and will preserve and share information with UKAD or another competent authority where appropriate and lawful.

No person should be disadvantaged, threatened or retaliated against for making a genuine anti-doping report.

17. Anti-Doping Rule Violations, Referrals and Sanctions

Where information indicates a potential Anti-Doping Rule Violation, TCUK will refer the matter to, or cooperate with, the appropriate anti-doping authority and will not seek to determine technical anti-doping matters outside its jurisdiction.

Where the same conduct may also breach TCUK Codes of Conduct, disciplinary rules, safeguarding requirements or other governance provisions, TCUK may take action under its own procedures where appropriate, provided this does not prejudice an external anti-doping process.

Any period of ineligibility or other anti-doping sanction will be determined under the applicable anti-doping rules. TCUK will recognise and give effect to sanctions where required by the applicable framework.

18. Affiliated Organisations and Clubs

TCUK expects affiliated organisations and clubs to support the principles of this policy. They should:

- promote Clean Sport and anti-doping information to relevant members;
- support education requirements introduced by TCUK;
- cooperate with authorised anti-doping processes;
- refer suspected anti-doping matters appropriately; and
- avoid creating local rules or advice that conflict with current UKAD/WADA requirements.

19. TCUK Anti-Doping Lead

The Board shall appoint or designate an appropriate individual to act as the TCUK Anti-Doping Lead. The Lead will:

- oversee implementation of this policy;
- monitor relevant UKAD and WADA updates;
- coordinate Clean Sport communications and education;
- provide appropriate signposting and support;
- maintain liaison with relevant external organisations where necessary;

- report material issues to the Board; and
- coordinate the annual review of TCUK's anti-doping arrangements.

TCUK Anti-Doping Lead	[To be appointed/designated by the Board]
Email	[Insert TCUK anti-doping email]
External advice/reporting	UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) - use current UKAD contact and Protect Your Sport routes

20. Monitoring, Evaluation and Annual Review

TCUK will monitor its Clean Sport activity and review its anti-doping arrangements at least annually. The review may consider:

- education delivered and completed;
- communications issued;
- engagement from athletes, coaches, clubs and organisations;
- anti-doping concerns, referrals or incidents;
- changes to UKAD/WADA requirements;
- competition and performance-pathway requirements;
- feedback from relevant stakeholders; and
- actions required for the following year.

A summary of the annual review and any implementation actions should be reported to the TCUK Board and retained as evidence of policy monitoring and continuous improvement.

21. Records and Data Protection

TCUK will handle anti-doping information in accordance with applicable data protection law and TCUK data-protection procedures.

Information relating to suspected violations, testing or referrals may be sensitive and will only be accessed, retained or shared where there is an appropriate purpose and lawful basis.

22. Related TCUK Policies and Arrangements

- Safeguarding Policies;
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy;
- Complaints Policy;
- Disciplinary and Appeals procedures;
- Conflict of Interest Policy;
- Data Protection Policy;
- Safety Management / Health and Safety arrangements;
- Codes of Conduct; and
- Competition Rules and Regulations.

23. Useful Clean Sport Resources

Resource	Website
UK Anti-Doping (UKAD)	www.ukad.org.uk
UK Anti-Doping Rules	www.ukad.org.uk/anti-doping-rules

Resource	Website
Prohibited List / What is banned	www.ukad.org.uk/athletes/whats-banned-sport-prohibited-list
Global DRO - medication checking	www.globaldro.com
UKAD Clean Sport Hub / e-learning	www.ukad.org.uk/cleansporthub
100% me athlete education	www.ukad.org.uk/100-me
Informed Sport - supplement risk reduction	www.informed-sport.com
Protect Your Sport - confidential reporting	www.ukad.org.uk/protect-your-sport
WADA	www.wada-ama.org

24. Review and Approval

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner where the UK Anti-Doping Rules, World Anti-Doping Code or relevant guidance changes; TCUK's activities materially change; a significant anti-doping issue arises; or the Board determines an earlier review is appropriate.

Material amendments require approval by the TCUK Board.

Approved by	TCUK Board
Approval date	_____
Chair	_____
Chief Executive Officer	_____

Document control note: *This policy should be read with current UKAD/WADA guidance. Where external anti-doping rules or procedures change, the current external rules take precedence over any summary contained in this policy.*