



# Fédération Suisse de Rugby

## **Antidoping – Assignment to testing pool “Team Sports III” for NLA-Clubs**

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## Antidoping – Assignment to testing pool « Team Sports III » for NLA-Clubs

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## 1. Introduction

With effect **31<sup>st</sup> March 2016** Swiss Antidoping assigned, the **NLA clubs** and the **Swiss National Team XV** men to the testing pool **Team Sports III**.

With this, the NLA clubs have **Whereabouts** obligations and the athletes of NLA clubs must respect the **Therapeutic Use Exemption enquiry (TUE)**.



## 2. Some Basics

### Assignment to testing pool « Team Sports III »

Athletes engaged in team sports at national or international performance level can be assigned to a testing pool either by Antidoping Switzerland or their corresponding International Federation.

In the system of Swiss Antidoping exists three testing pools: Team Sports I, Team Sports II, Team Sports III. In Rugby, Teams competing in NLA (“**NLA Clubs**”) are assigned to the testing pool **Team Sports III**.

(Note: all other Clubs/ teams (NLB, NLC, Ladies, U18, U16 and Rugby Schools) are not assigned to any of the three testing pools and are not subject to any particular requirements concerning whereabouts filing. A TUE has to be submitted retrospectively, only).

As consequence, the NLA teams and their athletes are subject to different **whereabouts requirements** (“Meldepflichten”/ “obligations de renseigner”/ “obbligo di notifica”) as well as the procedure of a potential **Therapeutic Use Exemption enquiry (TUE)** (“Anträge zu therapeutischen Zwecken”, ATZ/ “Autorisation d’usage à des fins thérapeutiques”, AUT/ “Esenzione a fini terapeutici”, EFT).



## 2. Some Basics

### Whereabouts

To allow Antidoping Switzerland to plan and execute doping controls, the concerned NLA Clubs must provide information about

- practice location(s) (with exact addresses) and
- practice days and time.

Required information can either be made available via **Website** (club website) or sent by **email** to [simon@antidoping.ch](mailto:simon@antidoping.ch).



## 2. Some Basics

### Therapeutic Use Exemption enquiry (TUE)

Athletes must apply for Therapeutic use exemption (TUE) when they have to take a prohibited substance or use a prohibited method for reasons of health.

If the application for a TUE is approved by the independent TUE Committee of Antidoping Switzerland, the athlete is allowed to use prohibited substances or methods on the List of Prohibited Substances and Methods ([Prohibited List](#)).

All testing pool athletes have to apply for TUE **in advance**, before using the prohibited substance or method.

**National competitions, trainings and off-season periods:** TUE applications has to be submitted to Antidoping Switzerland (for details see [www.antidoping.ch](http://www.antidoping.ch)).



### 3. Implementation in the clubs - Responsibilities

#### Whereabouts

The **club president** is responsible that the said information (see above) is available and kept up-to-date on the website of his Club or sent to [simon@antidoping.ch](mailto:simon@antidoping.ch).

(Note: it is recommended that every NLA club nominate an **Antidoping Responsible** to fulfil the obligations of the club and support the athletes in fulfilling their obligations).



### 3. Implementation in the clubs - Responsibilities

#### Therapeutic Use Exemption enquiry (TUE)

Every **athlete** is responsible for the respect of his obligations regarding TUE.

The presidents of the concerned clubs inform the athletes accordingly.





## 4. Miscellaneous

### Clubs promoted to NLA

Clubs promoted to NLA and their athletes must have in place the full structures to fulfil the requirements mentioned above from the beginning of the NLA season (including test matches).

A barrage-match to promote to NLA is not considered a NLA – match for the participating NLB-Team.



## 4. Miscellaneous

### Data protection

Information about TUE is **sensitive information** in the light of data protection (information about the health).

The NLA-Clubs are recommended to not keep a database on athlete's TUE.



## 5. Questions & Answers – TUE for athletes in NLA club

**Must a player print the TUE from Antidoping Switzerland and carry it with him in case of doping controls?**

No. He is compliant as soon he gets the affirmative answer from Antidoping Switzerland.

With the affirmative answer, the TUE is tracked in the files of Antidoping Switzerland and in case of a doping control, the player can inform the controller about the existing TUE.



## 5. Questions & Answers – TUE for athletes in NLA club

### How must a player of a second team of an NLA club handle the TUE?

A player of a second or third team (as well as a junior player with authorization to play with the adult/ NLA team, “Surclassement”) is considered an NLA-Player and then be subject to the TUE ruling as soon as he plays a match for the first (NLA-) Team (Match Sheet). As long as he only plays for the second or third team and don’t have any ambition to play for the NLA team of his Club he must not mandatory ask a TUE.

Considering, that it needs ca. 3 weeks to get the TUE, the Clubs must plan very carefully the players for all the season. The FSR strongly recommends to treat all players of an NLA Club who could eventually play with the first (NLA-) Team, as players subject to the TUE ruling.



## 5. Questions & Answers – TUE for athletes in NLA clubs

**If a player comes from abroad and, in his country of former residence, he was a licensed player with TUE, must he apply for a new TUE with Swiss Antidoping?**

First, the player is responsible to ensure that the TUE he has with the foreign federation doesn't lose validity when leaving his former national rugby federation he was licensed with.

Generally, Antidoping Switzerland accepts, on a unilateral basis, TUE's from official national antidoping organizations from other nations as well as TUE's delivered from WORLD RUGBY and from RUGBY EUROPE. However, if a player starts to play in an NLA-Team in Switzerland, it is expected that he will be, within a reasonable timeline, fully compliant to the rules in Switzerland.



## 6. Further Information

For further information, please see the website of

- Swiss Antidoping ([www.antidoping.ch](http://www.antidoping.ch)) or
- WORLD RUGBY Antidoping  
<http://www.keeprugbyclean.worldrugby.org>

or contact

[antidoping@suisserugby.com](mailto:antidoping@suisserugby.com).

**Thank you very much for your support to keep Rugby clean!**

**I wish you a successful season**