ANTI-DOPING POLICY | NOVEMBER 2026

Clean sport: commitment & responsibilities

Policy owner: General Manager | Approval authority: Board of Directors | Review: annually and when governing requirements change. This policy supersedes the May 2020 policy upon Board approval.

1. Purpose and scope

Waterloo United is committed to clean, fair soccer and to protecting player health. This policy applies to players, coaches, team officials, staff, volunteers, directors, contractors and athlete support personnel involved in club programs. Parents and guardians are expected to support its implementation with minor players.

2. Governing framework

The club supports and complies with the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP) as adopted by Canada Soccer, applicable Ontario Soccer requirements, and applicable FIFA anti-doping rules. The World Anti-Doping Code, International Standards and WADA Prohibited List apply through the relevant governing rules. This club policy does not replace those rules or create a separate testing or results-management authority.

Use the version legally in force for the relevant conduct or proceeding, including applicable transition provisions. The 2027 CADP takes effect January 1, 2027. The General Manager will check Canada Soccer implementation guidance before that date and update club communications accordingly.

3. Prohibited conduct

Persons subject to the applicable rules must not commit anti-doping rule violations. These include prohibited presence, use or attempted use; evasion, refusal or failure to submit to sample collection; applicable whereabouts failures; tampering; prohibited possession; trafficking; administration; complicity; prohibited association; and discouraging reports or retaliation. Definitions, exceptions and consequences are those of the governing rules.

4. Accountability

The General Manager administers this policy, coordinates referrals and maintains education records. The Technical Director and sports science lead support education and safe training practices. Coaches must promote clean sport, cooperate with authorized processes and never pressure athletes to use substances or conceal concerns. Players must understand their obligations; parents should help minors check products and seek qualified advice.

Prevention, medications & education

5. Athlete responsibility

Under applicable anti-doping rules, athletes are responsible for prohibited substances found in their samples, even where use was unintentional (strict liability). A prescription, legal purchase or staff recommendation does not itself establish permission to use a substance in sport.

6. Medications and medical exemptions

Before using prescription or over-the-counter medication, check its status through Global DRO using the correct country, sport and product details; retain the search reference. Recheck when the product, dose or route changes and when the Prohibited List changes. If a result is unclear or a product is absent, seek guidance from Sport Integrity Canada and a qualified healthcare professional. Global DRO does not assess supplements.

Where medication is prohibited or conditional, use Sport Integrity Canada's Medical Exemption Wizard to determine the applicable process and timing. Requirements vary with competition level and testing status; do not assume every club player needs an advance Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE). A healthcare professional supports the application, but the competent anti-doping authority determines approval. The club cannot grant an exemption. Do not delay urgent treatment; obtain medical care and seek prompt guidance about any retroactive exemption requirements.

7. Supplements

The club discourages supplement use and promotes food-first nutrition with qualified advice. Supplements can contain undeclared or contaminated prohibited substances. No supplement can be guaranteed free of doping risk. Independent batch testing may reduce risk but does not remove athlete responsibility. Club personnel must not describe any supplement as doping-safe or require players to take performance supplements. Medically indicated supplementation should be discussed with a qualified healthcare professional and, for minors, a parent or guardian.

8. Education and communication

This policy will be shared at registration and team orientation. Each competitive and performance team will designate at least one staff member to complete recognized anti-doping education annually. Players and families will receive age-appropriate information on medication checks, supplements, reporting and testing rights. The club will retain completion records and circulate significant rule updates.

Before entering a championship, the Program Manager will verify and document the organizer's current education requirements for staff, captains and players. Competition-specific requirements apply in addition to the club standard; older course names or completion rules must not be assumed current.

Reporting, fair process & review

9. Testing and athlete rights

Players selected by an authorized anti-doping organization must comply with the applicable sample-collection process. Club personnel will cooperate and help players access information about their rights, responsibilities and available representation. For minors, request the protections and representative arrangements provided by the applicable rules. Coaches must not obstruct testing or promise that a player is exempt from testing.

10. Raising a concern

Anyone may report suspected doping directly to Sport Integrity Canada through its REPORT Doping service: sportintegrity.ca/report-doping. The current telephone and text reporting number is 1-888-441-2237. Anonymous reporting options are available. A report to the club is not a prerequisite for using this service.

Club concerns may also be raised with the General Manager; if the concern involves the General Manager, contact the Board Chair through the club office. The recipient will preserve relevant information, limit disclosure to those who need it, and promptly refer matters to the competent anti-doping or soccer authority. Retaliation, intimidation and interference with a report are prohibited. Do not conduct informal testing, confront witnesses or circulate allegations.

11. Response and procedural fairness

The competent authority determines alleged anti-doping rule violations and any anti-doping sanctions or appeals under its rules. The club will respect binding provisional suspensions and sanctions and confirm their participation restrictions with the issuing authority. Any separate club conduct matter will follow the applicable discipline process, including notice, an opportunity to respond, impartial decision-making and available appeal rights. An allegation alone is not a finding of guilt.

Medical information and reports will be handled confidentially, subject to applicable disclosure and safeguarding obligations. Club administration will collect only information necessary for its role; detailed medical exemption records should go to the competent medical or anti-doping authority. Support the athlete’s wellbeing throughout the process.

12. Policy review

The General Manager will review this policy annually, verify links and education requirements, and recommend substantive revisions to the Board. Governing anti-doping rules control where this policy conflicts with them.