# Pre-Games Testing Instructions and Guidelines

The ITA Pre-Games Team is responsible for reviewing available anti-doping information related to the Olympic Games testing programmes of anti-doping organisations (ADOs) all over the world and is sharing testing recommendations with ADOs to ensure that effective testing programs are implemented during the Pre-Games period. The goal is to provide evidence-based recommendations and to proactively clear the path for doping-free Games. The ITA Pre-Games Team does not have authority to conduct testing nor the intention to replace test distribution plans already in place.

The success of the work undertaken by the ITA Pre-Games Team requires a strong collaborative effort between all stakeholders. This will ensure that athletes participating in the Games are subject to a proportionate and well-designed anti-doping testing program to maximize both detection and deterrence in the lead up to the Games.

Thank you for all your support in implementing the recommendations. Your feedback is welcome and encouraged.

## I. Testing[1] Recommendations

a. ***Time frame.*** The ITA Pre-Games considers the time frame between 1 January 2024 and 18 July 2024.

Ideally, the ITA Pre-Games Team recommends that at least one test be done after 18 May 2024. The reason for this is to ensure at least one test is completed in the high-risk period right before the Games.
The ITA Pre-Games Team may issue a complementary set of recommendations during the season, as the status of qualification is evolving.

b. ***Testing Authority.*** As a general principle, it is recommended that at least one test should have the relevant International Federation (IF) as Testing Authority (TA) and at least one test should have the National/Regional Anti-Doping Organisation (NADO/RADO) as TA in order to share testing responsibility. Specific agreements can also be reached to split the testing, for example a NADO could do all the OOC testing, and the IF all the IC testing. Most importantly the ITA Pre-Games Expert Group encourages collaboration between the responsible ADOs to determine what is best manageable based on resources and athletes' whereabouts. In this regard, if an athlete changes his country of residence (for example for studying abroad), it is essential that

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testing continues, and an agreement for testing must be sought between NADOs and/or the respective IF or other testing possibilities must be identified.

c. ***Athlete Biological Passport***. In accordance with the TDSSA, the implementation of the haematological module of the Athlete Biological Passport (ABP) for sports or disciplines with an ESAs[2] minimum level of analysis (MLA) of 30% or greater is mandatory. At a minimum, an average of three blood ABP Tests shall be planned annually across all athletes from those sports or disciplines with an ESAs MLA of 30% or greater, who are part of the Registered Testing Pool (RTP) of an ADO and therefore part of the ADO's ABP haematological module program. At minimum, and depending on previous years' ABP testing, two ABP tests should take place between 1 January 2024 and 18 July 2024. As such, the passport custodian should be responsible for monitoring the ABP testing in 2024. Additional testing and/or special analyses on any atypical athlete biological passports (haematological and steroidal modules) should be conducted accordingly as per Athlete Passport Management Units (APMUs) recommendations.

d. ***Sports and Disciplines.*** The recommendations are focused on high and medium risk sports and countries according to the risk assessment produced by the Pre-Games Expert Group (see distribution in Appendix).

## II. General Comments on the Recommendations

a. ***Process.*** The optimal number of tests is based on the ADO's risk assessment considering parameters such as sport, discipline, country, performance at previous Olympic Games, medal contention, etc…
b. ***Number of tests.*** Please refer to the distribution in Appendix. Notwithstanding the numbers indicated in the appendix, it is understood that for specific athletes (for example athletes with suspicious passports), the number of tests can and should be increased, and also diversified in type and testing authority.
c. ***Team Sports.*** Please refer to the distribution in Appendix. The recommendations correspond to a global number of tests per team. ADOs are encouraged to focus their resources on high-risk players, based on available intelligence or playing positions for example.
d. ***Tests distribution.*** The distribution of in-competition and out-of-competition tests should be planned in accordance with the principles detailed in the ISTI[3] (Article 4.6).

   In implementing the recommendations, ESAs and GHRF[4]/blood-GH analysis distribution across the tests must be in line with the TDSSA[1].
e. ***Tests scheduling.*** In order to avoid any overlap and to facilitate the test scheduling, the Mission Order status should be entered and updated accordingly in ADAMS.

[2] Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents (ESAs)
[3] International Standard for Testing and Investigations
[4] Growth Hormone Releasing Factor (GHRF)

f. ***Doping Control Form (DCFs).*** DCFs must be entered in ADAMS as soon as possible and within 21 days of the date of sample collection and before the sample is analysed by the WADA-accredited Laboratory. For any tests that takes place after the 1st July 2024, it is recommended that the DCF is entered on the same day, or within 2 working days and have a fast turnaround time for analysis. The International Olympic Committee will have results management authority over any sample collected during the Period of the Games.

g. ***Reporting Timelines.*** Laboratory results reporting for tests conducted on potential participants to the Games should be monitored. Specifically, any issue related to the matching between the ADAMS DCF and the Laboratory results should be addressed as soon as possible to ensure a proper management of the results before the Games.

h. ***RTP inclusion.*** If 3 or more tests are recommended for a specific athlete, the athlete should be included in a RTP if not already included. It is recommended that IFs and NADOs liaise on the inclusion of the athlete in their respective RTP. Participation in the Olympic Games, should be an important factor when considering testing pool inclusions.

i. ***Subsequent recommendations.*** Further specific recommendations may be provided in the lead-up to the event as more information becomes available (e.g., long list, short list, qualifications, and other intelligence).

j. ***Sample storage.*** It is further recommended that ADOs consider the storage of some of their samples identified by the ADO's risk assessment or collected in the high-risk period before the Games, to support potential reanalysis in the future.

k. ***Further analysis.*** ADOs should consider strategic further analysis on select samples stored in the past years in high-risk sports. It is suggested to contact the WADA-accredited laboratories where the samples are stored to evaluate the effectiveness of such additional analyses.

l. ***Communication.*** ADOs should consider publishing test numbers of athletes tested during the Pre-Games period for full transparency and program effectiveness.

m. ***Sanctions.*** In order to measure the effectiveness of the Pre-Games Program, all ADOs are encouraged to communicate confidentially with the International Testing Agency (ITA) regarding any resulting Anti-Doping Rule Violations (ADRVs)[5] or reporting the ADRVs in ADAMS along the process.

[5] Please use exclusively the dedicated e-mail address: paris2024_pregames@ita.sport

## Appendix

*Sport risk distribution*

| Risk | Sport | Discipline | Recommended tests |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***High*** | Aquatics | Marathon Swimming | *Individual sports*<br>Minimum of 3 tests per athlete (see II-b above)<br><br>*Team sports*<br>An average number of tests per athlete higher than two |
| | | Swimming | |
| | Athletics | All disciplines | |
| | Boxing | Boxing | |
| | Canoe | Canoe Slalom | |
| | | Canoe Sprint | |
| | Cycling | Mountain Bike | |
| | | Road | |
| | | Track | |
| | Rowing | Rowing | |
| | Rugby | Rugby Sevens | |
| | Triathlon | Triathlon | |
| | Weightlifting | Weightlifting | |
| | Wrestling | Wrestling | |
| ***Medium*** | Aquatics | Water Polo | *Individual sports*<br>Minimum of 2 tests per athlete (see II-b above)<br><br>*Team sports*<br>An average number of tests per athlete higher than one |
| | Badminton | Badminton | |
| | Basketball | 3x3 Basketball | |
| | | Basketball | |
| | Cycling | BMX Freestyle | |
| | | BMX Racing | |
| | Football | Football | |
| | Gymnastics | Artistic Gymnastics | |
| | Handball | Handball | |
| | Hockey | Hockey | |
| | Judo | Judo | |
| | DanceSport | Breaking | |
| | Modern Pentathlon | Modern Pentathlon | |
| | Sport Climbing | Sport Climbing | |
| | Taekwondo | Taekwondo | |
| | Tennis | Tennis | |
| | Volleyball | Beach Volleyball | |
| | | Volleyball | |
| ***Low*** | Aquatics | Artistic Swimming | Minimum of one test per athlete (see II-b above) |
| | | Diving | |
| | Archery | Archery | |
| | Equestrian | Equestrian | |
| | Fencing | Fencing | |
| | Golf | Golf | |
| | Gymnastics | Rhythmic Gymnastics | |
| | | Trampoline | |
| | Sailing | Sailing | |
| | Shooting | Shooting | |
| | Skateboarding | Skateboarding | |
| | Surfing | Surfing | |
| | Table Tennis | Table Tennis | |

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