

SUPPORTING ATHLETES WITH IMPAIRMENTS DURING DOPING CONTROL

A GUIDE FOR ATHLETE SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Athletes with impairments may require modifications during doping control to ensure their needs are met and they can complete the process. Understanding these modifications is essential for Athlete Support Personnel, who can act as an athlete representative and play an important role in supporting, guiding and assisting athletes during testing.

AS AN ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE YOU SHOULD:

Support the athlete in understanding their rights and responsibilities throughout the process.

Observe the process to ensure it is being followed correctly.

Remember that the athlete will make all decisions regarding your involvement.

Follow the DCOs guidance and instructions when assisting an athlete.

Examples of Modifications ➞

KEY MODIFICATIONS

- The Doping Control Officer (DCO) will ask the athlete if any modifications are needed and what specific assistance they require.
- Modifications will be agreed with the DCO and if the athlete needs assistance, this can be provided by their representative.
- If assistance is needed with handing sample collection equipment, the representative must wear gloves.
- Any assistance provided by the representative must be recorded on the Doping Control Form.

01 PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENT

If an athlete with a hand injury cannot seal bottles, the DCO will ask the athlete who they would like to close the bottles. If the athlete asks the representative to do it the DCO will ask the representative to wear gloves and seal the bottles on the athlete's behalf.

If an athlete needs help providing a urine sample, the representative can assist as requested.

02 VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

An athlete may request their representative acts as a second observer during sample provision to ensure there is no tampering with the sample.

If an athlete requires assistance to pour their urine sample into the A and B bottles, the DCO will ask the athlete who they would like to help with this. If the athlete asks the representative to do it the DCO will ask the representative to wear gloves and pour the urine on the athlete's behalf.

An athlete may need assistance to read the Doping Control Form to confirm its accuracy before signing.

03 INTELLECTUAL IMPAIRMENT

An athlete may require their representative to explain the steps of the doping control process to ensure full understanding before proceeding.

If an athlete has difficulty completing the Doping Control Form, the DCO will allow the representative to assist in filling it out accurately.

It is strongly recommended that an athlete has a representative with them for the entire process.