

Medical Committee Annual Report 2023

WADA's concentration on high-funded high-performance sport systems has been expanded to connect with grassroots organisations like ours.

British Powerlifting is the very essence of what sport and powerlifting is about and relishes the challenges of the highest standards.

Those expanded standards from WADA and UK Anti-doping (UKAD), facilitate a steady throughput of elite athletes, but come with more responsibility, more intelligence and more scrutiny.

We have to protect our sport by working as a team within British Powerlifting, and with UKAD and WADA.

Under the principle of 'strict liability', individual athletes and support personnel are entirely responsible for themselves. British Powerlifting also has strict liability to members, and to UKAD/WADA/IPF

An inadvertent anti-doping rule violation by an athlete or their support personnel is not only a disaster for that individual, but also an embarrassment for British Powerlifting, which has a proud record of WADA compliance. A mistake by British Powerlifting would be the same.

British Powerlifting offers a confidential email "drop-in" ** for athletes or support personnel who have checked with Global DRO, WADA etc, but remain uncertain about a medication.

Higher and broader standards mean that more medical input is inevitable, and we are seeking a specialist Sports Pharmacist. (Spread the word.)

This year the Medical Committee has mainly advised on TUEs, and we do have some mighty resilient members.

For certain medications, WADA guidelines and checklists can seem oppressive, but in fact they are very good because they represent excellent clinical practice.

Do tell us what you need; any comment or suggestion is very much appreciated.

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