



## **VADA WHEREABOUTS POLICY**

**All Athletes registered under the VADA program are required to comply with the terms of this Whereabouts policy. VADA and the Athletes recognize that effective Out-of-Competition Testing programs are essential to the fight against doping in sport and an effective Out-of-Competition Testing program depends upon accurate and complete Athlete Whereabouts information.**

- 1. Athlete Responsibilities:**
  - a. Up-to-date whereabouts information must be provided by the Athlete upon acceptance of his/her application by VADA.**
  - b. The Athlete must provide the date and location of any scheduled fights / competitions.**
  - c. The Athlete must provide a complete mailing address where correspondence and notices involving anti-doping matters can be forwarded to the Athlete.**
  - d. The Athlete must provide an email address checked regularly by the Athlete where notices and other information can be sent to the Athlete. Notice to an Athlete shall be considered properly effected if mailed to the mailing address and/or email address provided by the Athlete.**
  - e. The Athlete must provide his/her primary phone number.**
  - f. The Athlete must provide any specific details regarding any disability that may affect the procedures to be followed during the sample collection process.**
  - g. The Athlete understands and consents that his/her whereabouts information may be shared with any persons/companies acting as a Doping Control Officer (DCO) to collect the specimens (e.g. Clearidium).**
  - h. For each day leading up to the Athlete's competition, he/she must provide VADA with his/her full residence and training addresses, any temporary addresses, and a detailed schedule including any regular activities (e.g. work, school, etc.).**
  - i. Although the Athlete understands that he/she is eligible to be tested and submit samples at any time while he/she is registered in the VADA program, the Athlete may also specify on the VADA**

**Whereabouts Form a specific 60-minute time slot between 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. each day where the Athlete will be available for testing. The Athlete must be at the precise location specified on the Whereabouts Form for the entire 60-minute period; and at the regular locations reported on the Athlete's Whereabouts Form at the times specified.**

- **The Athlete must provide sufficient information to enable a DCO to find the location, to gain access to the location, and to find the Athlete at the location. Vague or non-specific locations are not acceptable. For example, declarations such as “jogging around my neighborhood” are insufficient. Similarly, specifying a location that the DCO cannot access (e.g. a “restricted-access” building or area) is likely to result in an unsuccessful attempt to test the Athlete and therefore a Whereabouts Failure.**
- j. Immediately upon learning that any information in a previously provided VADA Whereabouts Form is incomplete, inaccurate, or has changed in any manner, the Athlete must communicate such changed information to VADA by completing and filing a new Whereabouts Form—either a hard copy or an electronic submission. Failure to do so is a violation of VADA's Whereabouts Policy.**
  - k. It is the Athlete's responsibility to ensure (including by updates, where necessary) that the whereabouts information provided in his/her Whereabouts Form is sufficient to enable the DCO to locate him/her for testing on any given day, including but not limited to during the 60-minute time slot specified for that day in his/her Whereabouts Form.**
  - l. The Athlete must continue to provide and update whereabouts information at all times while he/she is registered in the VADA program.**
- 2. Whereabouts Failures: A failure on the part of the Athlete to comply with the whereabouts policies may result in dismissal from the program at VADA's discretion.**
- A whereabouts failure will be defined as an athlete failing to timely, accurately or completely provide or update VADA required whereabouts information and/or for being unavailable for testing due to inaccurate, incomplete, or vague information provided on the Whereabouts Form or daily schedule.***

- 3. Missed Tests: An Athlete may receive a *missed test* violation if he/she is unavailable at the time and locations specified in the Athlete's Whereabouts Form and the collection officer is unable to obtain current whereabouts information for the Athlete. Missed tests will be handled as follows:**
- a. The Doping Control Officer (DCO) conducting the test attempt will make a reasonable effort to locate the athlete at the specified location in the Athlete's Whereabouts filing. If they are unable to locate the athlete, they will file an unsuccessful attempt report with VADA.**
  - b. VADA will review the DCO's Unsuccessful Attempt Report and determine if there is a reasonable basis to call the athlete's unavailability a *missed test*.**
  - c. If there is a reasonable basis to consider the athlete's unavailability a *missed test*, the athlete will be sent notification and be invited to provide a written explanation to VADA within forty-eight (48) hours as to why they were not able to be located.**
  - d. VADA advises all Athletes to keep a copy of all correspondence regarding their whereabouts in the event there is an alleged *missed test* or other Whereabouts Failure as these records may be required to assist the Athlete's case. Keeping adequate records is the responsibility of the Athlete.**
  - e. VADA will review any written responses timely received from the Athlete and, conduct a further investigation, if necessary, to determine whether it is appropriate to declare a *missed test*.**
  - f. VADA's decision will be based on written submittals and not be considered a hearing.**
  - g. VADA will notify the athlete of the decision within ten (10) days.**
  - h. If the athlete has two or more *missed tests* during their period of registration with VADA, they will be removed from the program at VADA's discretion.**
- 4. Confidential Management of Whereabouts Information: Except as provided herein and as necessary to further the goals of the VADA program, VADA shall strictly maintain the confidence of the whereabouts information provided by the Athlete.**