

**MEDITERRANEAN
GAMES TARANTO
2026**



CLEAN SPORT EDUCATION GUIDE

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INTRODUCTION

This Clean Sport Education Guide for the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026 is designed by the International Testing Agency (ITA) in collaboration with the International Committee of the Mediterranean Games (ICMG) to support your pre-Games Education Program.

This Guide contains specific information for these Games that you can use to educate athletes, Entourage/Athlete Support Personnel (ASP), and others in your Education Pool. For general education support and resources, please refer to the [NOC Clean Sport Education Guide](#).

As signatories of the World Anti-Doping Code, all National Olympic Committees (NOCs) must ensure that athletes and Entourage/ASP receive education prior to Major Events (International Standard for Education (ISE), Article 7.5.2). This shall be done in cooperation with the National Anti-Doping Organisation (NADO). If no NADO exists, the NOC will take responsibility for education (ISE, Article 7.5.1).

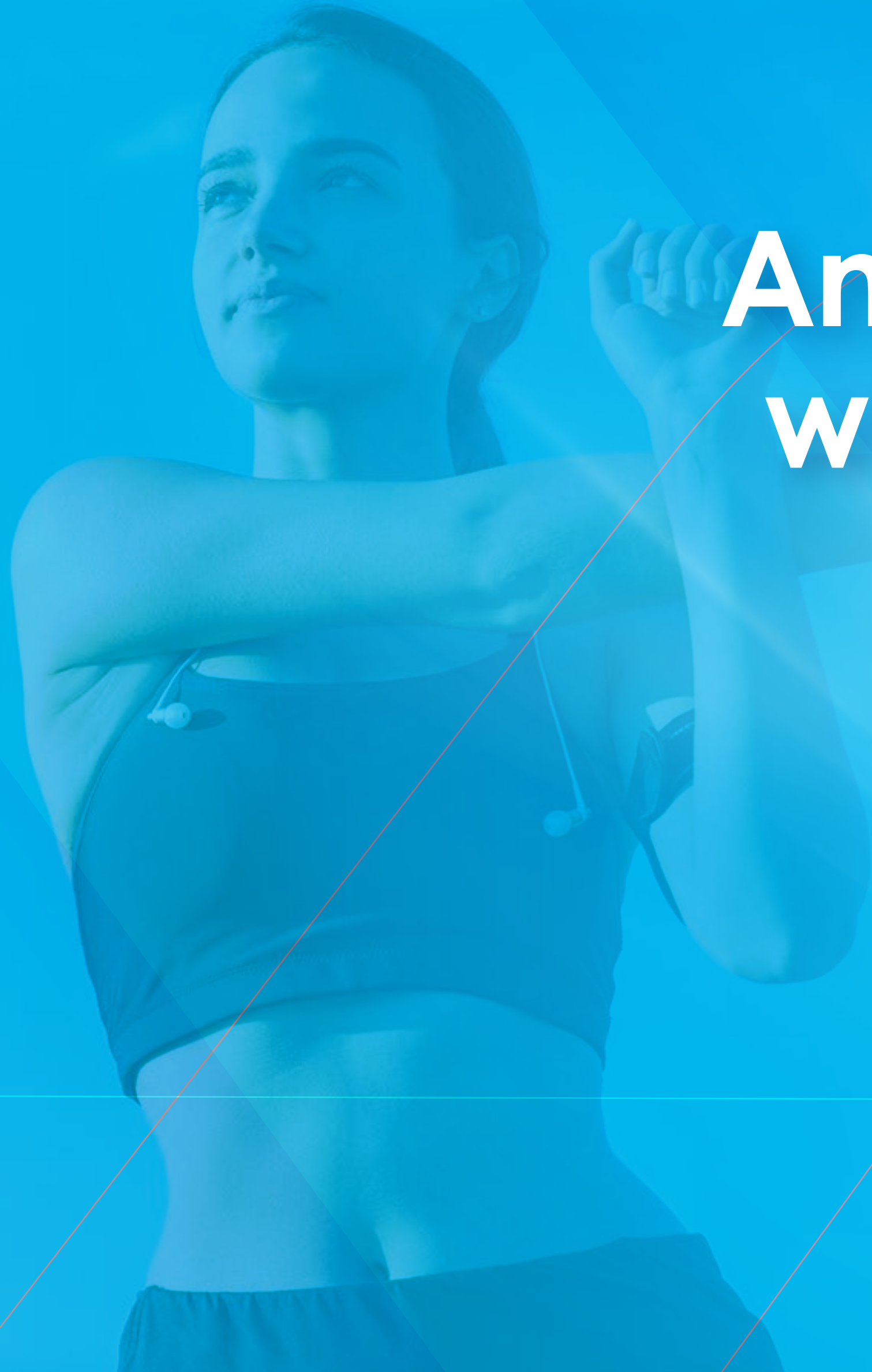
Education is a vital prevention strategy against both intentional and unintentional doping in sport. It is a fundamental component of any anti-doping program. Education supports the preservation of the spirit of sport and helps foster a clean sport environment. Let's all do our part in protecting athletes and Keeping Sport Real!

If you have any questions about this guide or clean sport education, contact us at education@ita.sport.

.....

The ITA is an independent international organisation that manages comprehensive and independent anti-doping programs. It leads its activities in compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code, without any real or perceived conflict of interest, following its main objective to protect the integrity of sport and athletes all over the world. The ICMG has delegated the implementation of its anti-doping program for the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026 to the ITA.

Find out more about the ITA
[What is the ITA?](#)



An athlete's **first experience** with anti-doping should be through Education rather than Doping Control

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD FOR EDUCATION

VALUES

An athlete’s pride in their performance is a key aspect of clean sport. Those who compete fairly can take genuine pride in their accomplishments, knowing that their success is a result of hard work, dedication, and talent. This reinforces the values of integrity and excellence in sport.

Hear from athletes as they share the advice they would give to their younger selves – a lesson that shaped their understanding of clean sport and revealed its true value:

BILLY-SCOTT IRAKOZE, OLY
OLYMPIAN AND FORMER ELITE SWIMMER



RILEY MCGOWN
ELITE MIDDLE-DISTANCE RUNNER

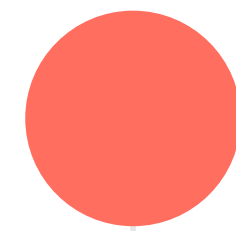


ANITA HARTUNG
FORMER ELITE BASKETBALL PLAYER

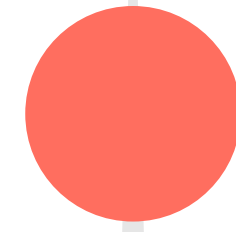




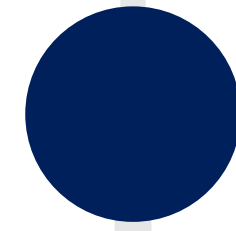
ATHLETE RESPONSIBILITIES



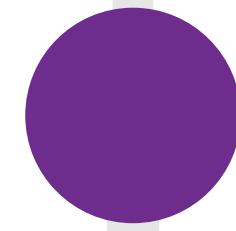
Cooperate with Anti-Doping Organisations and your Sport Federation



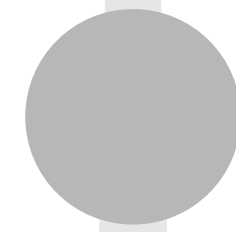
Be available for sample collection at all times



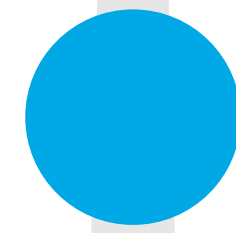
Inform medical personnel of your obligations as an athlete



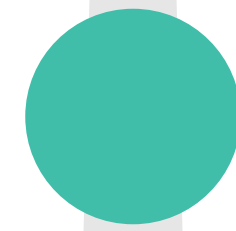
Disclose to your NADO and IF any decision (whether by a Signatory or non-Signatory) that you have committed an ADRV within the previous ten years



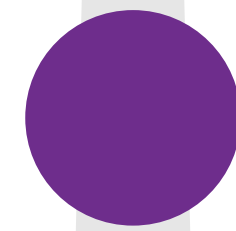
Disclose the identity of your Entourage/ASP upon request



Take the responsibility for what you ingest and use



Not work with coaches, trainers, physicians or other Entourage/ASP who are ineligible on account of an ADRV, or who have been criminally convicted or disciplined in relation to doping



Know and follow the rules

THE RULES

ANTI-DOPING RULES

During the period of the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026, from the opening of the Athlete Village on 18 August 2026 to the Closing Ceremony on 3 September 2026 (inclusive), the ICMG Anti-Doping Rules applicable to the Games (the “ICMG Anti-Doping Rules”) will apply.

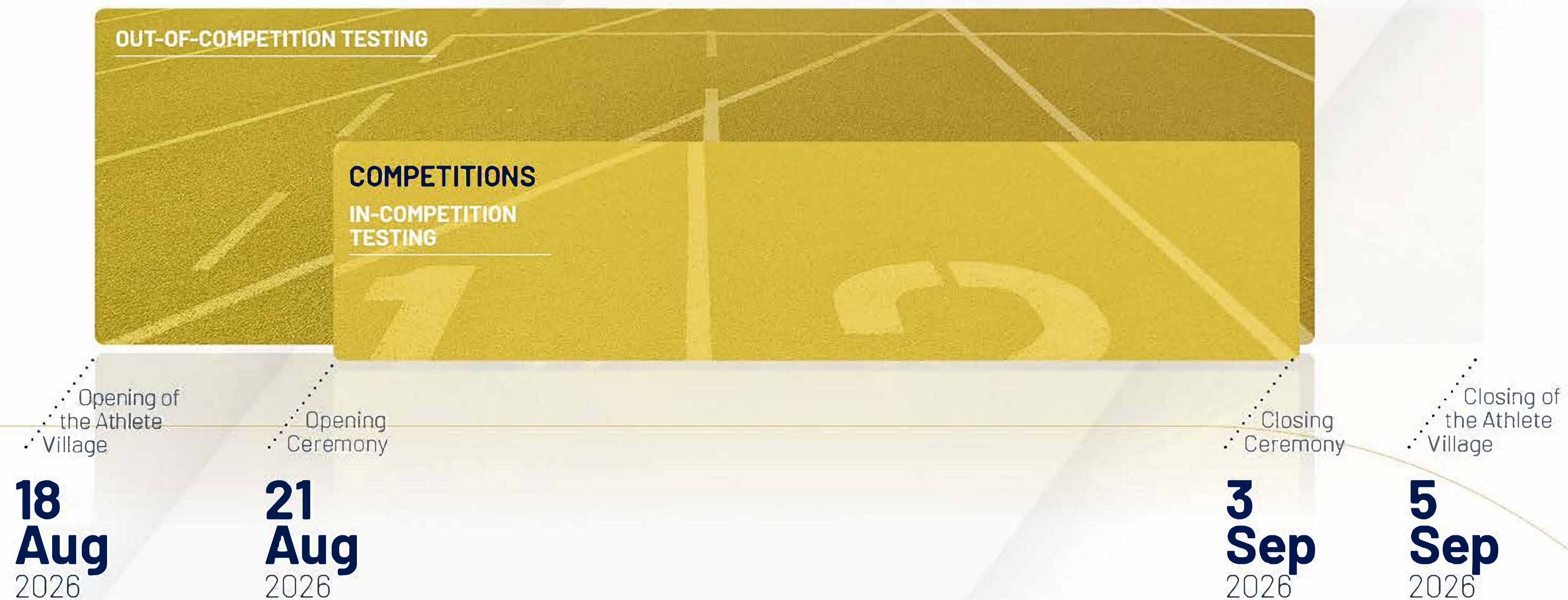
These Rules can be found here:

[International Committee Of The Mediterranean Games \(ICMG\) Anti-Doping Rules](#)

THE PROHIBITED LIST

The [2026 Prohibited List](#) will be in force for the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026.

ANTI-DOPING PROGRAM FOR TARANTO 2026



TESTING

During the period of the Games, all athletes can be subject to Doping Controls, urine and/or blood, initiated by the ITA at any time or place, with no advance notice. All Doping Controls will be carried out in compliance with [WADA's International Standards](#) in addition to the ICMG Anti-Doping Rules.



URINE SAMPLE
COLLECTION KIT



VENOUS BLOOD SAMPLE
COLLECTION KIT

ATHLETES CAN BE TESTED

In-Competition: the period commencing at 11.59 p.m. on the day before a Competition in which the Athlete is scheduled to participate through to the end of such Competition and the Sample collection process related to such Competition*

**The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) may approve, for a particular sport, [an alternative definition for the In-Competition period](#) if an International Federation provides a compelling justification that a different definition is necessary for its sport; and upon such approval by WADA, the ICMG will follow the alternative definition for that particular sport.*

At the date of publication of this resource, alternative In-Competition definitions approved by WADA apply to equestrian and tennis.

Out-of-Competition: any period that is not In-Competition.

TESTING EDUCATION RESOURCES

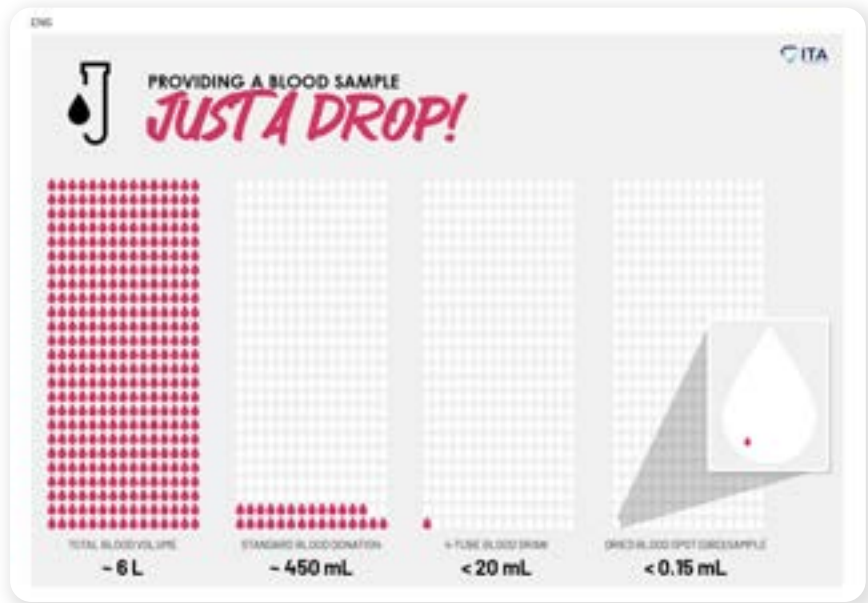


AN ATHLETE'S GUIDE TO TESTING

Key steps of the process, including **athlete's rights and responsibilities**.

(available in 13 languages)

- [Arabic \(العربية\)](#)
- [Chinese \(中文\)](#)
- [English](#)
- [French \(Français\)](#)
- [German \(Deutsch\)](#)
- [Hungarian \(magyar\)](#)
- [Italian \(Italiano\)](#)
- [Japanese \(日本語\)](#)
- [Korean \(한국어\)](#)
- [Portuguese \(Português\)](#)
- [Russian \(русский\)](#)
- [Spanish \(Español\)](#)
- [Vietnamese \(Tiếng Việt\)](#)



JUST A DROP

Infographic of blood volume taken during a test

(available in 14 languages)

- [Arabic \(العربية\)](#)
- [Chinese \(中文\)](#)
- [English](#)
- [French \(Français\)](#)
- [Finnish \(Suomi\)](#)
- [German \(Deutsch\)](#)
- [Hungarian \(magyar\)](#)
- [Italian \(Italiano\)](#)
- [Japanese \(日本語\)](#)
- [Korean \(한국어\)](#)
- [Portuguese \(Português\)](#)
- [Russian \(русский\)](#)
- [Spanish \(Español\)](#)
- [Vietnamese \(Tiếng Việt\)](#)



A GUIDE TO DOPING CONTROL FOR ATHLETES WHO ARE MINORS

(available in 13 languages)

- [Arabic \(العربية\)](#)
- [Chinese \(中文\)](#)
- [English](#)
- [French \(Français\)](#)
- [German \(Deutsch\)](#)
- [Hungarian \(magyar\)](#)
- [Italian \(Italiano\)](#)
- [Japanese \(日本語\)](#)
- [Korean \(한국어\)](#)
- [Portuguese \(Português\)](#)
- [Russian \(русский\)](#)
- [Spanish \(Español\)](#)
- [Vietnamese \(Tiếng Việt\)](#)

WHEREABOUTS

During the period of the Games, athletes included in a Registered Testing Pool (RTP) or other type of Testing Pool, remain responsible for ensuring accurate and detailed whereabouts information. This includes:

- Athlete Village
- Block and room number
- Venue and time of training
- If an athlete is included in an RTP, they must continue to provide a 60-minute time slot

This is so they can be easily located from the date of the opening of the Athlete Village up to and including the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026. The [Anti-Doping Administration & Management System \(ADAMS\)](#) will be used to access whereabouts information. If an athlete is unable to be located, this will be referred to the athlete's whereabouts custodian to assess and decide on any potential whereabouts failure.

WHEREABOUTS SUPPORT RESOURCES

Check out the [ITA Athlete Hub Whereabouts page](#) for key information and answers to FAQs.

For practical tutorials from ITA Experts to support athletes to navigate ADAMS, click these links

- [ADAMS tutorials](#)
- [ADAMS & Whereabouts quick reference card](#)

THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTIONS

There are situations in which athletes need to take a Prohibited Substance or use a Prohibited Method, as specified by the Prohibited List, for health reasons.

A Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) gives the authorisation to use that substance or method while competing, without triggering an anti-doping rule violation (ADRV) or applicable sanctions.

Athletes must establish that the prohibited substance or method is required from a medical standpoint and a TUE will only be granted if the medical file meets the strict requirements.

The ICMG Anti-Doping Rules stipulate a specific process for athletes to request and be authorised to follow the prescribed treatment. Applications for TUEs are evaluated by the Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee (TUEC). The TUEC shall consist of a Chair and at least three (3) other members with experience in the care and treatment of athletes and sound knowledge of clinical, sports and exercise medicine.

More information on the TUE process at the Mediterranean Games can be found here: [ICMG - Therapeutic Use Exemption Process](#)

REPORTING DOPING

All stakeholders are encouraged to share any doping-related intelligence about athletes, Entourage/ASP, or others involved in the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026 at any time before, during, or after the Games.

Athletes, coaches, medical personnel, and others can use a secure confidential reporting platform, [REVEAL](#), to share doping-related concerns. Reports can be submitted in any language and remain completely anonymous, secure, and confidential, while allowing for two-way communication with the ITA I&I Team.

- [Web-based platform](#)
- Anonymous WhatsApp +41 79 807 85 18
- [Anonymous Email](#)

CONSEQUENCES OF AN ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATION (ADRV)

INDIVIDUAL

- Disqualification of Results in the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026
- Ineligibility of the Athlete or other Person for such Competitions at the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026 in which such Athlete or other Person has not yet participated
- Exclusion from the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026
- Loss of accreditation
- Automatic publication of sanction
- Sanctions beyond the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026: completion of the Results Management shall be referred to the applicable International Federation, and a sanction may include a period of ineligibility

TEAMS

- Where more than one member of a team in a Team Sport has been notified of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation (ADRV) in connection with the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026, the ITA shall conduct appropriate Target Testing of the team during the Period of the Games
- If one or more members of a team in a Team Sport are found to have committed an ADRV during the Period of the Games, the rules of the relevant International Federation will apply in imposing a sanction on the team in addition to the consequences imposed on the individual athlete who committed the ADRV
- Sanctions under International Federation rules may include, for example:
 - Loss of points
 - Disqualification from a Competition, Event and the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026
 - Other sanctions

EDUCATION RESOURCES

- **WADA Anti-Doping Education and Learning (ADEL) platform**
Recommended courses, which are available in multiple languages, include:
 - [ADEL for International-Level Athletes](#)
 - [High Performance Coaches](#)
 - [Medical Professionals at Major Games](#)
- **Education Webinars (Athletes & Athlete Support Personnel)**
Two Clean Sport education webinars are offered ahead of the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026 as part of the event's education program. By attending the sessions, athletes and their support personnel will gain a better understanding of anti-doping rules, the testing procedures, and their rights and responsibilities.
 - **Session 1**
Monday, 5 August 2026, 10:00–11:00 CEST (English, with automated captions available)
Clean Sport for Athletes – Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026
Register: [HERE](#)
 - **Session 2**
Monday, 5 August 2026, 14:00–15:00 CEST (English, with automated captions available)
Clean Sport for Athlete Support Personnel – Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026
Register: [HERE](#)
- **NOC Clean Sport Education Guide**
For National Olympic Committees and other organisations to support clean sport education programs.
[Check it out here!](#)

EDUCATION AT THE GAMES

As part of the comprehensive anti-doping program entrusted to the ITA for the Mediterranean Games Taranto 2026, the ITA will deliver clean sport education at the Games for athletes and their support personnel.

Clean sport education activities will be delivered by ITA Education Ambassadors who are former elite level athletes with firsthand experience of anti-doping with the cooperation of education team members from the National Anti-Doping Organisation of Italy (NADO Italia).

All athletes and their support personnel are strongly encouraged to visit and complete fun and interactive clean sport education activities and to ask any anti-doping questions.

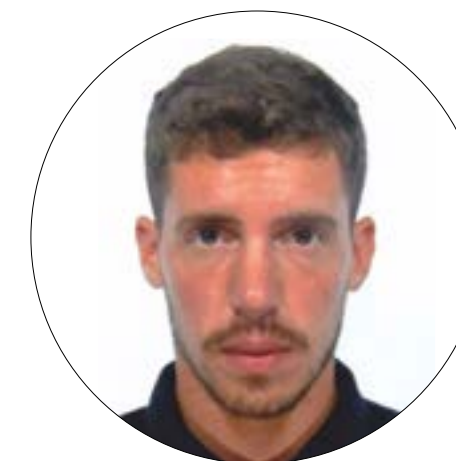
MEET YOUR EDUCATION TEAM



ANITA HARTUNG
ITA EDUCATION OFFICER



BILLY-SCOTT IRAKOZE, OLY
ITA EDUCATION AMBASSADOR



FEDERICO VERDI
NADO ITALIA
EDUCATION TEAM



FRANCESCA BOSCARIOL
NADO ITALIA
EDUCATION TEAM

KEEPING SPORT REAL

If you have any questions, comments or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact the **ITA Education Team** at education@ita.sport



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