

KEEP RUGBY CLEAN

Risk-based test distribution and intelligent analysis were the focus of World Rugby's anti-doping testing programme.

A total of 2,070 urine and 363 blood samples were collected overall across 62 nationalities in 35 countries from men's and women's sevens and 15s players with 72 per cent of tests collected out of competition. Forty-eight per cent [not including ABP] of samples were subjected to some form of additional analysis for substances such as human growth hormone and erythropoiesis stimulating agents such as EPO. An additional 187 samples were collected to supplement World Rugby's ABP programme.

2017 also saw an increase in collaboration between World Rugby and partner organisations to increase the effectiveness and responsiveness of its testing programme. This saw the establishing of partnerships with new independent test services providers and in-person visits to five of our key partner National Anti-Doping Organisations (UK, France, New Zealand, Australia, Ireland). The annual testing programme now benefits from increased oversight across the world game and closer coordination of national and World Rugby testing programmes.

The British and Irish Lions tour saw a unique collaboration between World Rugby and Drug Free Sport New Zealand to ensure that both teams were subjected to an effective in- and out-of-competition testing programme across the series. Similarly, the World Rugby U20 Championship in Georgia and U20 Trophy in Uruguay saw World Rugby partnering with the Georgian and Uruguayan anti-doping agencies to provide pre-event and event-based testing programmes.

Haematological and steroidal biological profiling continue to be mainstays of the scientific programme along with a risk-focused sample storage and re-analysis programme, which develops year-on-year to maintain strong deterrence, and the long-term capacity for the detection of historical doping.

Proportionally, World Rugby continues to commit at least two thirds of its programme to out-of-competition testing, focusing on the periods of highest risk – those of close-season, injury and recovery periods. In-competition testing remains integral to World Rugby and regional tournaments to protect the integrity of results worldwide.

To date one anti-doping rule violation have been concluded and reported from the overall 2017 programme.

Education and awareness was another key focus of the programme with a new Keep Rugby Clean film for players released in June 2017, which documented the fall from grace of U20 Namibian player Arthur Bouwer following a positive test for anabolic steroids. Participation at World Rugby and regional events

continues to incorporate a mandatory e-learning module to enhance players' awareness of anti-doping issues. World Rugby also undertook its first education outreach partnership, teaming up with Drug Free Sport New Zealand once again, and its ambassador Keven Mealamu to provide education to players at an elite schools tournament in Palmerston North.

The Keep Rugby Clean brand remained an important tool in promoting the anti-doping message across rugby, particularly via social media, and Keep Rugby Clean awareness days were hosted at U20 and sevens events during the year. World Rugby has also commenced the training of specialist union anti-doping educators in its Rugby Americas North, Sudamérica Rugby and Rugby Europe regions, with other regions to follow in 2018.

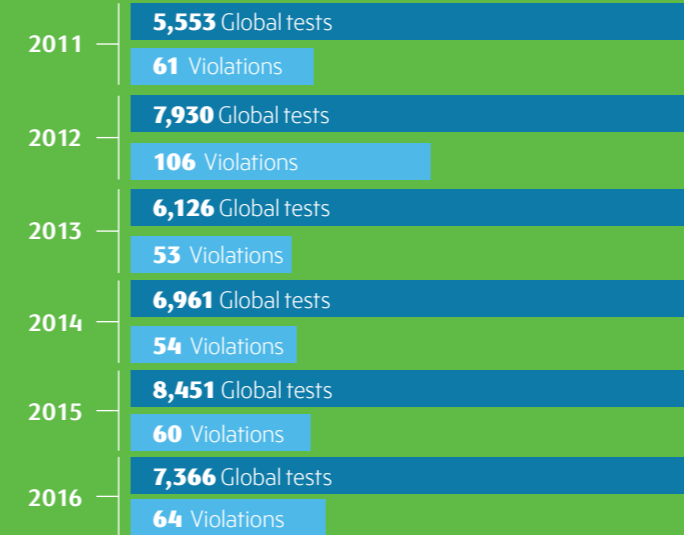
World Rugby anti-doping cases in 2017

Member Union	Substance/Violation	Sanction
Samoa	Salbutamol	3 months

Two other cases pending



Global number of rugby tests and anti-doping rule violations



Total World Rugby conducted tests

OVERALL TEST TOTAL
2,433*



Sevens

OVERALL TEST TOTAL
1,122



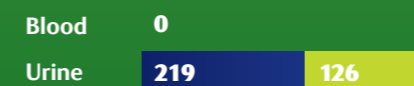
15s

OVERALL TEST TOTAL
1,323



Under-20

OVERALL TEST TOTAL
345



Women's Rugby World Cup

OVERALL TEST TOTAL
131



*Does not include 187 ABP samples collected across 15s and sevens

Out-of-competition ■ In-competition ■