

**The IRB is committed to a zero tolerance policy towards drugs cheats and the use of prohibited substances and methods in the Game.**

Rugby has been at the forefront of the movement against drugs in sport and has undertaken substantial In Competition and Out of Competition testing programmes all over the world. This includes a record level of testing for both Rugby World Cup 2007 and the IRB's family of global Tournaments.

The IRB operates an 'anywhere, anytime, anyplace' testing policy and players have been tested at their homes, training venues, gyms and while in camp with their national teams. The breakdown of tests is highlighted in the table opposite.

**RWC 2007 – Groundbreaking Programme Returns a Clean Sheet**

Rugby World Cup 2007 saw the IRB run the most extensive anti-doping programme in the history of Rugby World Cup. In total 212 tests were run

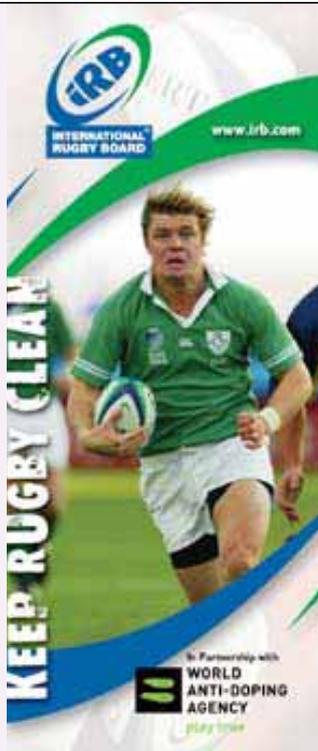
across the 48 Tournament matches with two players from each team tested after every match. No positive tests were returned.

Additionally, a groundbreaking blood testing programme was implemented at a Rugby World Cup for the first time. The process involved the collection of blood serum from five members of each of the semi-finalists semi-finalists.

In 2006 the IRB established a Blood Test Working Group to run a thorough investigation into blood testing, including methods and prohibited

substances that can be detected in blood, and its relation to Rugby. The decision to test at RWC 2007 was driven by the research of the working group in consultation with relevant experts in the field and WADA (the World Anti Doping Agency) over the past 12 months. The IRB will consider the further implementation of blood testing across its family of Tournaments when the working group meets to evaluate the process implemented during the Tournament.

In a further groundbreaking move, blood samples collected



**WADA Praises the IRB**

In 2004 the IRB signed up to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code and has a close working relationship with the agency. WADA currently contributes to the IRB's testing programme conducting an additional 40-50 tests annually on players in the IRB's registered testing pool. Earlier this year WADA President Dick Pound singled out the IRB for its comprehensive testing

programme and firm stance in the fight against doping in sport. "The IRB has demonstrated a keen awareness of the problem of doping in sport and has worked on addressing the issue on a number of fronts in its own sport," said WADA President Richard W. Pound. "Not only are they taking measures to detect doping through testing, but they have also dedicated resources to deterrence through outreach

and education. In addition, their contribution to the development of regional anti-doping programs is helping to build a lasting legacy for the fight against doping in regions previously lacking in anti-doping testing and education. "The IRB, who are fully code compliant and have been long-standing partners of WADA, have set a positive example in the fight to keep drugs cheats out of sport that other sports

federations would do well to follow. "Their in and out of competition testing programs are comprehensive, as shown by their anti-doping program for this year's Rugby World Cup which began just after the previous Rugby World Cup in 2003 with regular out of competition testing on players from the top 20 Rugby nations around the world."

at the Tournament were tested for Haemoglobin Based Oxygen Carriers (HBOCs) and while no analysis procedure for Human Growth Hormone currently exists, samples will be stored at the WADA accredited laboratory in Paris until such a test is available. WADA predicts this will be within the next 12 months.

The comprehensive testing process for Rugby World Cup 2007 started after Rugby World Cup 2003 with players from the world's top 20 ranked teams being tested out of competition on a regular basis. During 2006/2007 over 30 RWC

qualification matches were also subject to doping controls while the IRB also conducted 444 no notice out of competition controls on players in RWC squads from 1 January to 1 September 2007.

#### Keep Rugby Clean

The IRB's anti-doping awareness campaign Keep Rugby Clean is supported by a number of high profile ambassadors. The campaign is designed to raise awareness and spread the drug free message throughout the Game through a variety of eye-catching initiatives.

The Keep Rugby Clean message that was delivered at a number of IRB Tournaments during 2007. A Keep Rugby Clean day was organised at the IRB Under 19 World Championship in Northern Ireland, where players showed their support by wearing specially branded t-shirts on a designated match day.

In addition match and training balls were branded with the "in partnership with WADA" and "Play True" slogans, raising awareness and sending out a clear message to current and future players of the Game that doping in Rugby will

not be tolerated.

In addition match day programmes at the Under 19s, Sevens World Series and Rugby World Cup Tournaments all carried the Keep Rugby Clean message.

However, raising awareness is not just limited to passive audiences. All 750 players at the IRB Under 19 World Championship participated in the IRB's Outreach programme which was run in partnership with WADA. Players were educated using an interactive presentation and tested on the various areas of anti-doping.

#### Record Testing Programme

In 2007 the IRB conducted approximately 1300 Tests worldwide. The testing programme was expanded to cover the new Strategic Initiative Tournaments as well as incorporating the Regional Championships of Europe, Africa and Asia.

Discipline	In Competition	Out of Competition	Total	Anti-Doping Rule Violations	Outcome
RWC 2007 *	204	556	760	Nil	-
Under 19s	80	92	172	1 (Diuretic)	2 year sanction
Sevens World Series	96	150	246	2 (Cannabis)	3 month sanction
Strategic Initiative Tournaments**	52	-	52	Nil	-
Regional Championships ***	48	-	48	1 (Cannabis) 1 (Anabolic Agent)	3 month sanction Ongoing
<b>Total</b>	<b>480 (38%)</b>	<b>798 (62%)</b>	<b>1278</b>		

\* Includes RWC 2007 Qualification match testing

\*\* Includes – IRB Nations Cup, North America 4, Nations Cup

\*\*\* Includes – FIRA European Nations Cup, CAR Cup, ASIAD Rugby Championships  
Correct as of 5 February 2008

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## Keep Rugby Clean



#### Anti-doping Rule Violations

In 2007 under the IRB's testing programme a total of 5 players (as at 10 December 2007) have returned adverse analytical findings that have resulted in anti-doping rule violations.

3 players returned findings for Cannabis while 1 player tested positive for a diuretic and another for an anabolic agent.

In the period 2004-2007 the IRB handed down suspensions

to 19 players for returning positive tests for a variety of prohibited substances including performance enhancing and recreational drugs. These sanctions are in addition to the cases handled by Member Unions. The IRB adopts a supervisory role over the disciplinary process of Member Unions and since 2005 has successfully referred a number of cases to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).