

## **KEEP RUGBY CLEAN**

2021 saw World Rugby continue to break new ground with its anti-doping programme, despite a challenging year for international sport in the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic.

gainst the backdrop of fluctuating access restrictions and competition schedule changes that COVID brought to sport and anti-doping worldwide in 2021, World Rugby continually adapted its testing and education operations to deliver an agile, scientific and targeted programme.

2021 also saw World Rugby cement its reputation as a leader in anti-doping programme management, by commencing a partnership with the Six Nations and European Professional Club Rugby (EPRC) to deliver contracted test services within both competitions.

Anti-doping education took on a new focus as well for 2021 and saw the implementation of the World Rugby anti-doping education programme for member unions in line with the World Anti-Doping Agency International Standard for Education. The programme's goal is to raise the standard of anti-doping education provided to international-level players and support staff working in unison with national-level programmes delivered by National Anti-Doping Organisations.

Other milestones through the year include:

- A new e-learning programme created with the support of the European Union's Erasmus+ programme, and the national member unions of Portugal, Czechia, Poland, the Netherlands and Denmark. The programme is available in 14 languages (English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Danish, Germany, Romanian, Czech, Polish, Dutch, Georgian, Russian and Japanese) and is aimed at players and team support staff.
- A new 'Keep Rugby Clean' website which provides a central hub for anti-doping news and information in rugby, featuring all of World Rugby's education

- and information materials as well as all historical statistical reports. The website is available in four languages with many of the materials contained on the site translated into additional languages.
- Promotion of Keep Rugby Clean in partnership with Six Nations Rugby in round four of the U20 Six Nations. All players from the six participating squads took to the pitch for their warm-up wearing 'Keep Rugby Clean' T-shirts designed to highlight the message of clean sport and a fair, level playing field for all.

The testing programme delivered more than 1,550 samples (including 147 Athlete Biological Passport [ABP] blood samples) collected from players across 52 nationalities with around 60 per cent of samples collected out of competition.

Under the in-competition testing partnership with Six Nations and EPCR, 189 samples were collected across both competitions. The programmes demonstrate the commitment of both organisations to invest in the integrity of their competitions.

Five anti-doping rule violations were reported from the 2021 World Rugby programme, with one pending.

## **WORLD RUGBY ANTI-DOPING CASES IN 2021**

Member union	Substance/violation	Sanction
Colombia	5-methylhexan-2-amine (1,4-dimethylpentylamine)	2 years
Argentina	19-Norandrosterone	3 years
Colombia	19-Norandrosterone and Boldenone	3 years
Russia	Clomifene	3 years
Namibia	Metandienone and Tamoxifen	3 years

## Global number of rugby tests and anti-doping rule violations





TOTAL SAMPLES 1.559

## 2021 World Rugby testing figures







