



Ethics and Education Committee Meeting Conference Call - June 7, 2004

MINUTES

MEMBERS

Scott BURNS (Chair)
Lamartine DA COSTA
Chiharu IGAYA
Matthias KAMBER
Pirjo KROUVILA
Elizabeth POTT

WADA STAFF

Casey WADE Jennifer EBERMANN Marie-Claude ASSELIN

REGRETS

Vadim BALSEVICH
Zakia BARTAGI
Charmaine CROOKS
Robert DONOVAN
Yong-Seung KIM
Christina TSITSIMPIKOU

1. Welcome

MR. WADE welcomed the Members to the meeting and introduced the new committee Chair MR. SCOTT BURNS.

MR. WADE briefly explained the recent change of focus in WADA Education strategy to place more emphasis on basic messages to athletes and support staff, so that education on anti-doping in sport, including information on the new World Doping Control Program, for stakeholders and signatories will likely commence after Athens 2004.

2. Committee Update

2.1. Ethics and Education Working Group

MR. WADE reviewed with the members that the role of the Ethics and Education committee is that of an umbrella group to the Education Department, to provide general direction and act in an advisory capacity for its staff. In the Education Department, the amount of work that can be produced with current human resources and strict budgetary constraints is limited. Therefore an Ad Hoc Ethics and Education Working Group will be established to maximize the use of expert resources among WADA's key stakeholders. For members of the working group, their responsibility would be an extension of their daily professional functions in the development and management of the anti-doping educational programs.

MR. BURNS invited comments on the creation of the working group.

DR. KAMBER and MS. KROUVILA both expressed their support for this initiative.

MS. POTT stated that it is important for the Ethics and Education Committee to remain involved in the overall approval of the work of the smaller working group to ensure that a global perspective is kept and that the programs address the needs of all countries. MR. BURNS agreed.

MR. WADE indicated that the establishment of the working group will also allow for more frequent communication between the members and the staff. This group would be comprised of 3 of the current Ethics and Education Committee plus a few other individuals. Other members will be invited to participate on specific projects with expertise relevant to a particular project.

Dr. KAMBER inquired about how the working group will proceed and suggested that in-person meetings over a few days be preferable and more productive. He also asked whether work would be driven by WADA staff or by the working group members.

MR. WADE explained that the projects would be initiated by WADA staff based on the direction provided by the Committee. The working group would then be involved to provide expertise and input to the staff in further developing the project.

MR. BURNS invited members to communicate directly with him to express their interest in being part of the working group and he will then make recommendations to WADA.

2.2. Athlete Advisory Group

MR. WADE introduced the project of establishing an informal athlete advisory group to engage the athletes in WADA's planning and mentioned a few athletes which had been approached to be invited as members.

MR. BURNS emphasized the importance of getting good geographical representation and balance to ensure that all athletes' views are heard.

MR. IGAYA asked whether there was information on which countries or sports had more problems with doping or showed more doping offenses. MR. WADE explained that although there are statistics that may appear to show this, the fact that a country or a sport reports higher rate of positive findings could also be attributable to a more efficient testing program. Current evidence do point to certain sports and certain countries, however once the World Anti-Doping Code is widely implemented and the clearinghouse is established, we will have a much clearer picture of the situation.

The education questionnaire sent to all stakeholders gave also a clearer picture of which stakeholders have dedicated resources to quality doping prevention programs.

MR. IGAYA mentioned that the sport administrators need to be educated as well to be able to educate the coaches and support personnel so that the message reaches the athletes from many directions. MR. WADE reassured him that WADA approach was comprehensive and, although some target groups were prioritized, that research, building testing expertise and capacity around the world and hosting regional education symposia will enable WADA to involve as many people as possible in education and dissemination of the doping-free sport messages and programs.

3. General Education Update

MR. WADE provided a verbal overview of the Education Department report to the Foundation Board, including the following items.

3.1. Ethics Review Panel

The committee is being finalized. Its final composition will be completed and submitted to the Board for approval.

3.2. Education Questionnaire

A questionnaire was circulated to all stakeholders in November 2003 and responses were compiled and analyzed. The full report is on the WADA website and a summary report will be submitted to the Board.

MS. POTT asked what was going to be done with this information and also requested that attention be paid to potential differences of interpretation of the term "education" (e.g. vs. "prevention") in various countries.

DR. KAMBER recommended that the committee come up with a definition so that a consistent vocabulary be used that is understood the same way by all.

Mr. WADE mentioned that the questionnaire has confirmed the importance of partnerships in anti-doping education and has also highlighted the necessity to tailor programs to the different needs of various regions of the world, target groups, and partners.

Mr. IGAYA recommended that the next questionnaire be sent to committee members for feedback before it is sent out. MR. WADE agreed.

3.3. Athlete Guide and Prohibited List

Printed versions of the 2004 Athlete's Guide and of the Prohibited List booklet were produced and are being distributed through the Outreach Program. There is a need to expand on the therapeutic use exemption process. Anti-doping organizations will be invited to partner with WADA to translate and reprint these documents when and where appropriate. All information is contained on our website.

3.4. Poster Series

A poster/banner series has been designed to support awareness programs. These would also be made available to partners wishing to translate and reprint through the certification program to be addressed later in the agenda.

MR. BURNS asked in what languages these posters will be produced by WADA and MR. WADE indicated that for now the plan was to have them in English, French and Spanish.

DR. KAMBER expressed wishes to see the posters. The current draft will be circulated to committee members after the meeting.

3.5. YEAH Project

MS. EBERMANN updated the committee on the status of the YEAH project. She indicated that minor changes were made to the project and that a working group was established to help drive it. Potential partners have already been approached but the start of the project will be delayed until after Athens.

3.6. Partnership Certification Program

The program's objective is to take advantage of what good work is already done and recognizing the educational materials that are Code compliant. Those aimed at the target audiences identified in the Code will be considered as priorities and model guidelines will help determine criteria. There will be some certification happening on an ad hoc basis before the guidelines are finalized. The Working Group will be involved in reviewing and approving the documents.

DR. KAMBER expressed his satisfaction towards such initiative and offered his help.

MR. BURNS took the opportunity to invite committee members to put forth nominations for both the working group and the athletes' council.

MS. KROUVILA asked how the language issue would be dealt with in the certification program.

MR. WADE stressed that the certification was not to be done on education programs but rather on materials. There will be a need to work closely with partners and with multilingual staff, or look into the possibility of translation where the cost is not prohibitive.

DR. KAMBER indicated that such a program had been done by the Council of Europe and that it was possible.

MS. KROUVILA suggested that maybe "certification" is not the best word to describe the program, but that she was very supportive of the concept.

3.7. Supplement Symposium

The symposium on supplements held in May was the first time that all 5 sectors (sport, industry, government, sciences, and anti-doping) were involved together at the same time. A follow up symposium is planned, possibly in Europe, later this year. The list of short term recommendations from the symposium has been circulated to the committee members for their information.

It will be important to keep the momentum and WADA is expected to play a leadership role in coordinating the follow up. An information leaflet on prohibited substances will be prepared, printed and distributed to athletes prior to and in Athens.

Both MR. BRUNS and MS. KROUVILA reported positive feedback on the event.

3.8. Model Guidelines

An overview of the plan to develop the Model Guidelines was presented and there was no question from the participants.

4. Next Meeting

MR. WADE suggested that the next in-person meeting be held in October and that a short conference call be planned before that to do a progress report and plan the meeting. The Committee will be updated after the Board meeting if there is any progress to be reported.

Minutes prepared by: Marie-Claude ASSELIN

Date: June 17, 2004

Minutes approved by: Casey WADE

Date: August 03, 2004

