



Drug Free Sport: Anti-Doping

The principle of fair play is a cornerstone of sport. It is therefore appropriate that a testing programme operates, actively supported by BG.

The testing programme affects any elite gymnast performing at a national standard.

All British Gymnastics organised events are notified to UK Anti-Doping, (UKAD). Testing may take place at competitions, ('in competition') or 'out of competition' at National Squads, at home or in clubs.

If selected, a gymnast will be required to provide a urine sample and occasionally, a blood sample.

Gymnasts under 16 years *can* be tested. Gymnasts competing in disciplines with an Age Group Competition may be tested within any of the age group categories.

Consent is linked to all gymnasts with a FIG Licence, or parental consent established at the point of testing.

Gymnasts are advised to take an 'advocate' with them into the testing station. This could be a member of their medical team, a coach or a parent.

In all cases, gymnasts must declare all medications taken within the preceding 7 days.

For a gymnast taking any medication, it is vital that these are checked on a regular basis and, if tested, declared. If you are competing nationally it is advisable that you check before every event.

This can be done via the Globaldro website (www.globaldro.com), the Drug Enquiry Line (+44 (0) 800 528 0004) or by emailing information@ukad.org.uk

If you compete internationally, ensure you do not use alternative medications from abroad as their ingredients can differ to the UK version.

Any gymnast tested will need to know the name of the medication, the dosage and frequency, as well as state the condition it relates to. If a gymnast is currently on any medication(s) which require a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) certificate, it is vital that British Gymnastics is aware of this, and to ensure TUE certification is available at the testing.

Supplements:

Diet, lifestyle and training should all be optimised before considering supplementation.

Coaches and gymnasts should assess the need and consult with an accredited sports nutritionist or a doctor experienced in Sport and Exercise Medicine before using supplements.

Supplements can become contaminated with banned substances during their production, which could lead to a positive finding.



Under the principle of 'strict liability', ***it is the gymnast who is held accountable if a prohibited substance is found in a sample provided***, whether intentional or unintentional.

Informed Sport is an official website that provides some information on supplements that have been batch tested: <http://www.informed-sport.com/about-informed-sport>

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