

Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs)

What is a Therapeutic Use Exemption ?

Athletes, like all people, may have **illnesses or conditions** that require them to take **particular medications** or undergo procedures. If the medication or method an athlete is required to take/use to treat an illness or condition is on the Prohibited List, a **Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE)** may give that athlete the **authorisation to take a substance** or use a method that is prohibited in the context of sport.

A **TUE** is a **certificate granted** for a set prohibited substance, in certain dosages, with a **limited period** of validity. An application for a TUE must be based on a **documented medical condition and diagnosis**, and the TUE will only be granted under strict criteria as outlined in the **International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions (ISTUE)**.

Athletes must absolutely avoid taking a medication containing a prohibited substance without a **valid TUE**.

Criteria for the granting of a TUE

The process of granting a TUE is outlined clearly in the International Table Soccer Federation Anti-Doping Rules and the **International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions (ISTUE)**.

There are **strict criteria** for obtaining a TUE:

- The athlete would experience **significant health problems** without taking the prohibited substance or method
- The therapeutic use of the substance would **not produce any enhancement of performance** beyond returning to a normal state of health;
- There is **no reasonable therapeutic alternative** to the use of the otherwise prohibited substance or method
- The requirement to use that substance or method is not due to the prior use of the substance or method without a TUE which was prohibited at the time of use.

For a TUE to be granted, **all 4 of the above criteria** must be met. All TUE applications are reviewed by a panel of experts called the **TUE Committee (TUEC)**.

How to apply for a TUE

A Therapeutic Use Exemption must always **be approved prior** to the start of the treatment. In emergency or exceptional cases, a **retroactive TUE** may be granted.

National-level athletes should apply for a TUE through their **National Anti-Doping Agency (NADO)**.

A TUE granted by a NADO may be recognised by an International Federation for purposes of **international-level competition** either automatically (without the need to re-apply for a TUE) or by means of the submission by the athlete of an application for the recognition of the TUE. The athlete shall consult their **International Federation Anti-Doping Rules** to determine whether an application for the recognition of a national TUE is required for their sport.

International-Level athletes should apply to the **International Federation** of their sport.

An athlete requiring a TUE while competing at a Major Event must apply directly to the **Major Event Organiser (MEO)**. However, if an athlete **already has a TUE** granted by their NADO or International Federation, such TUE **may be recognised** by the MEO, either **automatically** OR **upon the submission** by the athlete of an application to the MEO for the recognition of the TUE. TUEs recognised or granted by MEOs are only valid for the **duration of the event**. Athletes competing at a Major Event should ensure they are familiar with the **MEO Anti-Doping Rules** well in advance of the event, to understand the TUE recognition system in place (i.e. automatic or upon a new application) as well as the **TUE application process** during the event.

If an athlete is not sure of where they should apply for a TUE, they should contact info@tablesoccer.org.

Confidentiality

All the information contained in a TUE application, including the supporting medical information and any other information related to the evaluation of a TUE request is **kept strictly confidential** and treated in accordance with the **Athlete's Declaration** contained in the TUE process. All members of the TUE Committee and any other authorised recipients of the TUE request and related information are subject to a **professional or contractual confidentiality obligation**.