

AFC THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTION (TUE) POLICY

This document outlines the procedures governing the application, approval, mutual recognition and administrative management of therapeutic use exemptions (TUEs) within AFC's jurisdiction and in accordance with International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemption issued by WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency).

The AFC TUE Policy is based on the following documents currently in force:

- AFC Anti-Doping Regulations (AFC ADR);
- World-Anti Doping Code (WADC) issued by WADA;
- International standard for Therapeutic Use Exemption (ISTUE).

I. Scope

The purpose of the AFC TUE Policy (“the Policy”) is to ensure that the process of granting TUEs is the same for all players participating in AFC competitions and is harmonised across football.

This Policy defines the criteria for granting a TUE, the confidentiality and protection of TUE-related data, the TUE application and approval process, and the mutual recognition of TUE approvals.

This AFC TUE Policy applies to all players participating in AFC competitions for which AFC has indicated that a TUE from AFC is required as well as those in the AFC Registered Testing Pool (AFC Individual Athlete Testing Pool, the Elite Testing Pool and the AFC Pre-Competition Testing Pool) (RTP). To facilitate participation in international competitions, the AFC agreed in a declaration to adopt this AFC TUE policy and ensure that it is consistent with the FIFA TUE policy.

II. Granting body

The AFC Medical Committee has overall responsibility for approving applications for TUEs. It delegates the evaluation and the approval of TUEs to the AFC TUE Advisory Group. The AFC TUE Advisory Group includes three (3) doctors with experience in the care and treatment of players and a sound knowledge of clinical, sports and exercise medicine. The members are free of conflicts of interest. The AFC TUE Advisory Group may seek whatever medical or scientific expertise it deems appropriate to review the circumstances of any application for a TUE. The AFC TUE Advisory Group aims to render their decision within twenty-one (21) days of receipt of all requested information.

In compliance with art. 18 par. 6 of the AFC ADR and art. 4.4.3 of the WADC, the AFC TUE Advisory Group recognizes or grants TUE approvals for:

- Players registered to participate in all AFC Competitions and/or competitions under the jurisdiction of AFC (for a list of AFC's competition, see Annexe 1); or
- Players designated by AFC or a confederation as being within FIFA's RTP.

Accordingly, TUE applications for the recognition or grant of a TUE for international-level players must be sent to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit for the attention of the AFC TUE Advisory group unless there is an agreement of mutual recognition with other granting bodies (see Table 1 and section IV) in accordance with Article 7 of the ISTUE.

Level of Play	TUE application to be sent to	Application to be submitted by
National players participating in domestic competitions only	National Anti-Doping organisation (NADO) or other authorised national body (e.g. National Olympic Committee)	Player
International players called up to compete in international team competitions and friendly matches at AFC level; or who are part of an AFC RTP; or who are part of the FIFA Elite Testing Pool	AFC	Player
International players participating in AFC club competitions; or who are part of an AFC Elite Testing Pool;	AFC	Player
International players participating in FIFA competitions (incl. FIFA World Cup™ qualifying matches) or who are part of FIFA Pre-Competition Testing Pool	FIFA TUEs granted by the AFC are automatically recognised by FIFA	Player
Players in FIFA International Registered Testing Pool	FIFA TUEs granted by the AFC are automatically recognised by FIFA	Player

Table 1: Granting bodies for TUEs in football

II. Criteria for granting TUEs

TUE applications submitted to the AFC shall be evaluated according to the criteria for granting a TUE defined in Annexe B of the AFC ADR and Article 4 of the ISTUE.

IV. Data protection

The collection, storage, processing, disclosure and retention of personal information by the AFC in the TUE process shall comply with the International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information.

Player's acknowledgement

A player filing a TUE application acknowledges that:

- His or her TUE-related data as further specified in this Policy will be used in the context of anti-doping programmes as indicated in the AFC ADR and the WADC. AFC may also use the player's TUE-related data for research purposes, in which case any personal information that could identify the player will be removed or charged before data is shared with other researchers or results are made public;
- AFC shall be principally responsible for ensuring the protection of the player's TUE-related data and is committed to complying with the International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and personal information issued by WADA.
- Pursuant to the above-mentioned International Standard and under the applicable law, a player has certain rights in relation to TUE-related data, including rights to access and/or correct any inaccurate data and remedies with respect to any unlawful processing of data as further specified below;
- AFC will use, process and store his or her TUE-related data via the WADA Anti-Doping Administration and Management System ("ADAMS") and/or other reliable AFC-internal means (the "AFC System"). AFC will disclose and transfer TUE-related data solely via ADAMS to recipients authorised to receive the information in accordance with the AFC ADR and the WADC, such as to designated anti-doping organisations ("ADOs") and WADA;
- Persons or parties receiving TUE-related data may be located outside the country of the player's residence, including Switzerland and Canada. In some countries, data protection and privacy laws may not be equivalent to those in a player's own country;
- Subject to local mandatory data protection laws, any dispute arising from this Policy or a decision made pursuant to the AFC ADR may be appealed exclusively before the bodies stipulated in the AFC ADR, including the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

The player further acknowledges the following:

Purpose of ADAMS

ADAMS enables ADOs, such as AFC and WADA, to conduct harmonised, coordinated and effective anti-doping programmes and to fulfil their respective responsibilities arising under the WADC. WADA and AFC rely upon ADAMS to fulfil their responsibilities under the WADC and in particular for the review of TUEs and its implications for anti-doping rule violation procedures.

Lawfulness of processing

The fight against doping in sport is supported by the international community, and more than 180 countries have ratified the 2005 UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport (“the Convention”), which endorses the work of WADA and aims at ensuring the effectiveness of the implementation of the WADC. The worldwide anti-doping system pursuant to the WADC, as further reflected in the AFC ADR, is necessary for the protection of health, for moral, cultural and physical education and for the principle of fair play, as well as to eliminate cheating in sport and to protect its future. The anti-doping measures undertaken by AFC and the processing of the players’ data form part of the worldwide fight against doping in sport in furtherance of the aforementioned goals and are justified not only to guarantee the principle of fairness, but also to carry out an important task in the public interest and to pursue legitimate interests as set out in the Convention, the WADC, national laws combating doping and the AFC ADR.

Categories of data concerned

In respect of TUEs, ADAMS and the AFC System contain data as specified in this Policy and in the TUE application form. This data may constitute sensitive personal data under national data protection or privacy laws in the country where the applying player resides and under WADA’s international standards.

Disclosures

A player applying for a TUE acknowledges that all information pertaining to the application will be transmitted for review of all Therapeutic Use Exemption Committees (TUECs) or TUE Advisory Groups with authority under the WADC and WADA’s international standards and, as required, other independent medical or scientific experts, and to all necessary staff involved in the management, review or appeal of TUEs and WADA. The player also acknowledges that the decision of the AFC TUE Advisory Group will be distributed to other relevant anti-doping organisations with testing and/or results management authority over the player and AFC Member Associations under the provisions of the WADC.

Should the assistance of external, independent experts be required, all details of the application shall be circulated without identifying the player concerned.

In Addition, AFC and WADA, where appropriate, may enable other ADOs and service providers to access players' TUE-related data appearing in ADAMS to enable them to administer anti-doping programmes. Furthermore, WADA will access and process TUE-related data to fulfil its responsibilities under the WADC. The AFC and WADA and the other persons listed above will not disclose any of the TUE-related data other than to authorised persons within their organisations on a "need-to-know" basis.

TUE-related data may be made available through ADAMS to persons or parties located outside the country where a player resides. For example, players' information is shared with WADA, established in Switzerland and Canada, and may be shared with the ADOs in the country where a player's national association is registered and with the relevant confederation in order to allow them to perform their anti-doping programmes and comply with their obligations under WADC. The data protection and privacy laws of these countries may not always be equivalent to those in the player's own country. In any case, ADOs must comply with WADA's International Standards for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information.

The AFC Advisory Group

The members of the AFC TUE Advisory Group, all independent experts and the staff of the AFC Anti-Doping Unit shall conduct all their activities in strict confidence and shall sign appropriate confidentiality agreements. In particular, they shall keep the following information confidential:

- I. all medical information and data provided by the player and doctor(s) involved in the player's care.
- II. All details of the application including the name of the doctor(s) involved in the process.

If the player does not wish the AFC TUE Advisory Group or any TUEC to obtain any health information on his or her behalf, the player must notify his or her doctor in writing of the fact. As a consequence of such a decision, the player will not receive approval for a TUE or renewal of an existing TUE.

The Players' rights

The player has certain rights under the applicable laws and under WADA's International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information. Subject to the relevant legal conditions being fulfilled, these rights include:

- a) the right to be informed about the processing of his or her personal data;
- b) the right of access to and receipt of a copy of his or her personal data processed in ADAMS;
- c) the right to rectification if any personal data that is processed in ADAMS is inaccurate or incomplete;

- d) the right to erasure- i.e. the right to request deletion of any of his or her personal data that is processed in ADAMS and is no longer required for the relevant purposes;
- e) the right to restrict or prevent the processing of his or her personal data if, for example, he or she wants to contest the accuracy of the personal data or the personal data is no longer needed;
- f) the right to obtain a copy of the personal data processed in ADAMS;
- g) the right to object to AFC processing the personal data for particular purposes if AFC cannot provide compelling legitimate grounds for its processing. Players further acknowledge that the personal data processed by AFC is not subject to automated decision making, including profiling.

A player filing a TUE application acknowledges that according to the WADC, AFC has limited competence to erase or amend players' personal data. Should AFC, despite using its reasonable efforts, fail to comply with a players' request to erase or amend his or her data, the player will have to exercise his rights before WADA and/or the ADO of the country where his or her national association is domiciled.

Contact

In the event of any cause for complaint about the use of the player's TUE-related data or if the player has any questions relating to the processing of such data, the player may contact AFC (s.medicine@the-afc.com). In the event of any such complaint or question, AFC shall use its reasonable efforts best to resolve the matter. If the player is not satisfied with AFC's response, the player may contact WADA and/or the ADO of the country of his or her national association. For further details, the player may also consult the athlete information notice, which is subject to change without notice, as found on the WADA website.

Complaint to data protection supervisory authority

If the inquiry cannot be solved, the player has the right to lodge a complaint with the competent data protection supervisory authority in accordance with data protection laws applicable to the player.

Security

The player notes that ADAMS is securely maintained in Switzerland and Canada. Stringent technological, organisational and other security measures have been applied to ADAMS to maintain the security of the data entered in it. In addition, AFC, WADA and ADOs have put in place internal and contractual guarantees to ensure that the player's data remains confidential and secure.

Data Retention

The player understands that it may be necessary to retain his or her TUE-related data in ADAMS for a minimum period of ten years. The period of ten years represents the period during which

action may be commenced for an anti-doping violation under the WADC. Where the relevant anti-doping rules do not require the player's data to be retained for ten years, the data will be deleted after an appropriately shorter period. For more information on data retention, the player may consult the Annexe to WADA's International Standard for the protection of Privacy and Personal Information.

Release

The player hereby releases AFC from all claims, demands, liabilities, damages, costs and expenses that may arise in connection with the processing of his or her TUE-related data through ADAMS and other reliable means.

V. TUE Application process

It is player's responsibility to ensure that all information that he or she submits with his or her TUE application (or which submitted on his or her behalf) is accurate and up to date.

A TUE shall only be considered on receipt of a completed application form that must include all relevant documents (see Annexe 2- TUE application form) and follow the principles laid out in Annexe B of the AFC ADR.

- Players included either in the AFC RTP and players participating in any AFC competition must obtain a TUE from AFC. Players already in possession of a valid TUE must adhere to the following procedure:
 - If the TUE was granted by FIFA or confederation, it will be automatically be recognised by AFC.
 - If the TUE was granted by a NADO or other relevant national body with the competence to grant a TUE, the player shall provide AFC with the granted TUE and the supporting documents at the latest 21 days before the beginning of the respective AFC competition (see also Annexe B of the AFC ADR and section 7 of the ISTUE)
- The player should submit an application for a TUE no less than thirty (30) days before he or she needs the approval (e.g. for an AFC competition), unless it is an emergency or exceptional situation (see possibility of an application for a retroactive TUE of the Annexe B of the AFC ADR).
- The TUE application form which appears as an annex to the ISTUE has been modified by the AFC to include additional requests for information, as set out in Annexe 2.
- The TUE application form is provided by AFC in English and has to be completed in fully legible writing. The medical file, including all documents and reports, must also be provided in English.
- The application must identify the player's affiliation, and the specific competition, if applicable, for which the application is being made.

- The application must list any previous and/or current TUE requests, the body to whom that request was made, and the decision of any other body on review or appeal.
- The application must include a comprehensive medical history and the results of all examinations, laboratory investigations and imaging studies relevant to the application. The medical information provided to support the diagnosis and treatment, as well as the duration of validity, should follow WADA’s “*Medical Information to Support the Decisions of TUECs*”.
- On its website, WADA publicizes “medical information to support the decisions of TUECs” to guide and assist AFC TUE Advisory Group or other TUECs in the decision-making process for TUE applications. These documents contain helpful information for practitioners when dealing with players who need specific treatment, such as:
 - ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) in Children and Adult
 - Adrenal insufficiency
 - Anaphylaxis
 - Asthma
 - Cardiovascular condition: the
 - Musculoskeletal conditions
 - Therapeutic use of Beta-blockers in athletes
 - Diabetes mellitus
 - Growth hormone deficiency in Adults
 - Growth hormone deficiency in children and adolescents
 - Infertility/Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome
 - Inflammatory bowel disease
 - Intravenous infusion
 - Intrinsic sleep disorders
 - Male hypogonadism
 - Neuropathic pain
 - Post-infectious cough
 - Renal transplantation
 - Sinusitis/Rhinosinusitis
 - Transgender Athletes

These documents are available at: <https://www.wada-ama.org/en/what-we-do/science-medical/therapeutic-use-exemptions>

- Any additional relevant investigations, examinations or imaging studies requested by the AFC TUE Advisory Group before approval shall be undertaken at the expense of the applicant or his or her national governing body/club.
- The application must include a statement by an appropriately qualified doctor attesting to the necessity of the otherwise prohibited substance or prohibited method in the treatment of the player and describing why an alternative, permitted medication cannot, or could not, be used in the treatment of this condition.
- The substance in question must be given its generic name. Brand names will not be accepted and will lead to the application being returned. The dose, frequency, route and duration of administration of the otherwise prohibited substance or prohibited

method in question must be specified. If any of this change, a new application should be submitted.

- In normal circumstances, the decisions of the AFC TUE Advisory Group should be completed within twenty-one (21) days of receipt of all relevant documentation and shall be conveyed in writing by the AFC Anti-Doping Unit using the contact details indicated by the player on the TUE application. In the case of TUE applications not made within the required time limit but made within a reasonable time limit prior to a competition, the AFC TUE Advisory Group shall make every effort to complete the TUE process before the start of the competition. Where a TUE has been granted to a player in AFC RTP or to a player participating in an AFC competition, the player and WADA shall promptly be provided with an approval that includes information pertaining to the duration of the TUE and any conditions associated with it.
- A player may request a review by the WADA TUEC in accordance with Article 4.4.6 of the WADC. The player must provide the WADA TUEC with all of the information on the TUE that was initially submitted to the AFC TUE Advisory Group, accompanied by an application fee. Until the review process has been completed, the original decision of the AFC TUE Advisory Group shall remain in effect.
- If a decision regarding the granting of a TUE is reversed by WADA upon review, the reversal shall not apply retroactively and shall not disqualify the player's results during the period that the TUE had been granted.
- WADA, at the request of a player or on its own initiative, may review the granting or denial of any TUE by the AFC. Decisions by WADA reversing the granting or denial of a TUE may be appealed exclusively to Court of Arbitration for Sport by the player, the player's NADO or AFC.

VI. Mutual recognition of TUE approvals

- The AFC TUE Advisory Group recognises TUE approvals granted by FIFA and other Confederations for players within AFC's RTP and players participating in AFC competitions.
- National Anti-Doping Organisation (NADOs) do not have authority to grant TUEs for players in an AFC RTP or players participating in AFC competitions, provided that such players are international-level players according to the AFC ADRs. A TUE granted by a NADO is not automatically valid at international level.
- However, in the case of players joining an AFC RTP or participating in an AFC competition at short notice, the AFC TUE Advisory Group recognises a TUEs granted by a NADOs in accordance with Article 4.4.3 of the WADC. When considering such applications, the AFC TUE Advisory Group shall ensure, that:
 - the respective NADO follows the AFC's criteria (in accordance with Annexe B of the AFC ADR and the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions) for granting a TUE;

- the original application form, including all medical information submitted to the granting body, is provided to the AFC TUE Advisory Group (if the original application is not in English, it must be translated); and
- the AFC TUE Advisory Group establishes the conformity of the application with the AFC TUE Policy.

VII. TUE approvals

The AFC is required to provide WADA with all TUEs approved for players who form part of an AFC RTP or who participate in AFC competitions, as well as all supporting documentation.

Important note:

For more detailed information on the TUE application and granting process, please refer to the WADA International Standard TUEs at:

<http://www.wada-ama.org/en/what-we-do/Science-Medical/therapeutic-use-exemptions>

For more detailed information on the requirements for TUE applications in relation to particular diseases, please refer to the WADA Medical Information to Support the Decisions of TUECs at:

<http://www.wada-ama.org/en/what-we-do/Science-Medical/therapeutic-use-exemptions>

ANNEXE 1

The following AFC competitions require a TUE granted by the AFC or a TUE issued by another anti-doping organization that is recognised by the AFC:

National team competitions

- 1.1. AFC Asian Cup;
- 1.2. AFC Solidarity Cup;
- 1.3. AFC U-23 Championship;
- 1.4. AFC U-19 Championship;
- 1.5. AFC U-16 Championship;
- 1.6. AFC Women's Asian Cup;
- 1.7. AFC U-19 Women's Championship;
- 1.8. AFC U-16 Women's Championship;

Club team competitions

- 1.9. AFC Champions League;
- 1.10. AFC Cup;

Futsal & Beach Soccer competitions

- 1.11. AFC Futsal Championship;
- 1.12. AFC Futsal Club Championship;
- 1.13. AFC U-20 Futsal Championship;
- 1.14. AFC Women's Futsal Championship;
- 1.15. AFC Beach Soccer Championship.

The above list of Competitions for which it is required to request an AFC TUE is not exhaustive and is subject to change. AFC may amend list from time. The prevailing competitions are those listed on AFC.com. As a result, it is recommended to always verify the latest information available on AFC.com

THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTION (TUE) APPLICATION FORM

*PLEASE COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS (IN BLOCK CAPITALS).
NOTE THAT THIS TUE APPLICATION FORM AS WELL AS THE ENTIRE MEDICAL FILE (INCL. ALL REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS) MUST BE IN ENGLISH.*

1. PLAYER INFORMATION

SURNAME: _____	FIRST NAMES: _____
FEMALE <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/>	DATE OF BIRTH (DAY/MONTH/YEAR) _____
ADDRESS: _____	
CITY: _____	COUNTRY: _____
TEL. #: _____	E-MAIL: _____
NATIONALITY: _____	

Please mark the appropriate box:

- I AM PART OF THE FIFA INTERNATIONAL REGISTERED TESTING POOL (IRTP)
- I AM PART OF THE AFC INDIVIDUAL ATHLETE REGISTERED TESTING POOL (AITP)
- I AM PART OF THE AFC ELITE TESTING POOL (ETP)
- I AM PART OF THE AFC PRE-COMPETITION TESTING POOL (PCTP)
- I AM PARTICIPATING IN AN AFC COMPETITION: _____
(NAME OF AFC COMPETITION)
- I AM PART OF A NATIONAL ANTI-DOPING ORGANISATION (NADO)
TESTING POOL: _____
(NAME OF NADO)
- REQUEST FOR RECOGNITION OF TUE ISSUED BY NADO
- NONE OF THE ABOVE

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Reply to be sent:

by fax Number: _____
 (Please include country and area code)

by e-mail Address: _____

by post Address: _____

2. MEDICAL INFORMATION

DIAGNOSIS WITH SUFFICIENT MEDICAL INFORMATION (SEE NOTE 1):

IF A PERMITTED MEDICATION CAN BE USED TO TREAT THE MEDICAL CONDITION, PROVIDE CLINICAL JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REQUESTED USE OF THE PROHIBITED MEDICATION:

3. MEDICAL DETAILS

PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE(S) – GENERIC NAME	DOSE	ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION	FREQUENCY OF ADMINISTRATION
1.			
2.			
3.			

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Intended duration of treatment: <i>(Please tick appropriate box)</i>	Once only <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency date: _____ or duration (weeks/months) _____
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In the case of emergency treatment, treatment of an acute medical condition or in exceptional circumstances, please provide all relevant information regarding the emergency or why there was not sufficient time to submit a TUE application.

Have you submitted any previous TUE Applications: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> For which substance? _____ To whom? _____ Decision: Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Not approved <input type="checkbox"/>
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4. MEDICAL PRACTITIONER'S DECLARATION

I certify that the above-mentioned treatment is medically appropriate and that the use of alternative medication not on the Prohibited List would be unsatisfactory for this condition.	
NAME: _____	
MEDICAL SPECIALITY: _____	ADDRESS: _____
TEL.: _____	E-MAIL: _____
MOBILE: _____	FAX: _____
SIGNATURE OF MEDICAL DOCTOR: _____	DATE: _____

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5. PLAYER'S DECLARATION

I, _____, certify that the information given under point 1 is accurate and that I am requesting approval to use a substance or method on the WADA Prohibited List. I authorise the release of personal medical information to the AFC Anti-Doping Unit and relevant AFC bodies, the WADA TUEC (Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee) as well as WADA authorised staff, and other ADO TUEC and authorised staff under the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Code. I understand that if I ever wish to revoke the right of these organisations to obtain information regarding my health on my behalf, I must notify my medical practitioner and AFC in writing to this effect.

PLAYER'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

(If the player is a minor or has a disability preventing him/her from signing this form, a parent or guardian must sign with or on behalf of the player.)

6. NOTE

NOTE 1	<p>DIAGNOSIS</p> <p>Evidence confirming the diagnosis must be attached and forwarded with this application. Medical evidence should include a comprehensive medical history and the results of all relevant examinations, laboratory investigations and imaging studies according to the AFC TUE policy.</p> <p>Copies of the original reports or letters should be included when possible. Evidence should be as objective as possible in the clinical circumstances and in the case of non-demonstrable conditions independent medical opinion will be used to support this application.</p>
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INCOMPLETE OR ILLEGIBLE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED AND WILL NEED TO BE RESUBMITTED

PLEASE SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE CONFIDENTIAL FAX NUMBER AT:
+603 8994 2689

E-MAIL TO:
s.medicine@the-afc.com

TREATMENT MAY BE ADMINISTERED ONLY ONCE AFC HAS APPROVED THE TUE REQUEST!

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