

REMARKS

MR. CAREY BROWN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - JAMAICA ANTI-DOPING COMMISSION

LAUNCH OF MILO WESTERN RELAYS

JANUARY 28, 2015

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, GOOD MORNING,

LET ME THANK THE MEET ORGANISERS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN TODAY'S LAUNCH.

THE MILO WESTERN RELAYS HAS BEEN A STAPLE ON THE TRACK AND FIELD CALENDAR FOR THIRTY SEVEN YEARS AND I WISH TO CONGRATULATE ALL THE PERSONS INVOLVED IN MAKING IT A SUCCESS OVER THE YEARS. ALL OF US AS STAKEHOLDERS IN SPORT LOOK FORWARD TO EVENTS LIKE THIS WHICH GIVES OUR ATHLETES AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE THEIR TALENT.

LET US REMEMBER HOWEVER THAT IT IS NOT JUST ABOUT THE GRIT OF COMPETITION, THE THRILL OF VICTORY OR THE AGONY OF DEFEAT. BEYOND THAT, WE HAVE TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPANTS TO RESPECT EACH OTHER AND TO EMBRACE FAIR PLAY.

OUR MAIN GOAL AT JADCO IS TO REINFORCE A COMMITMENT TO THE ETHICS AND SPIRIT OF SPORT AND TO PROTECT THE REPUTATION AS WELL AS THE HEALTH OF OUR ATHLETES THROUGH THE COORDINATION OF THE COUNTRY'S ANTI-DOPING PROGRAMME.

THESE ARE VALUES THAT ARE IMPORTANT FOR ALL STAKEHOLDERS TO LEARN. ATHLETES ARE CONSTANTLY UNDER THE MICROSCOPE AS THE PUBLIC BECOMES MORE KNOWLEDGABLE ABOUT ANTI-DOPING AND THEREFORE A MISSTEP CAN SERIOUSLY AFFECT THEIR CAREER. WE HAVE TO ENSURE THAT, WHILE WE ENCOURAGE OUR ATHLETES TO TRAIN HARD AND COMPETE AT THEIR BEST, WE PROVIDE THEM WITH ALL THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO MAKE THE CORRECT DECISIONS THUS AVOIDING A DOPING VIOLATION.

ATHLETES, IN DEVELOPING YOUR TALENT, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO PLAY FAIR AND PERFORM TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY WITHOUT THE USE OF BANNED SUBSTANCES AND METHODS. IT IS NOT ONLY HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH, BUT IT CAN HAVE IMPLICATIONS FOR YOUR CAREER AND YOUR REPUTATION. RECORDS AND OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS CAN BE LOST OVERNIGHT WITH THE IMPOSITION OF A DOPING BAN. IT IS GOOD TO START CULTIVATING THE HABIT OF BEING VIGILANT RIGHT NOW. THIS WILL MAKE IT EASIER OVER TIME.

COACHES, THE ATHLETES IN YOUR CARE DEPEND ON YOU TO MENTOR THEM AND POINT THEM IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. YOU TOO NEED TO LEARN ABOUT THESE RULES AND ASSIST THEM TO NAVIGATE THE WORLD OF ANTI-DOPING SUCCESSFULLY. ALSO, YOU WILL BE MORE CULPABLE, BASED ON THE REVISED WORLD ANTI-DOPING CODE WHICH TOOK EFFECT ON JANUARY 1, 2015.

JADCO HAS SUCCESSFULLY AMENDED OUR RULES TO ENSURE WE ARE COMPLIANT WITH THE REVISED CODE AND THE MANDATORY INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS. THE PASSING OF THE ANTI-DOPING IN SPORT ACT OF 2014 ALSO STENGTHENS THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK IN JAMAICA. PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.JADCO.GOV.JM TO DOWNLOAD THE CURRENT LEGISLATION AND RULES.

THE 2015 CODE REVISION HAS IMPLICATIONS FOR ATHLETES AND ATHLETE SUPPORT PERSONNEL. INTENTIONALLY USING PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES AND METHODS WILL ATTRACT A FOUR-YEAR BAN.

EVEN THOUGH THE STRICT LIABLITY RULE IS STILL IN PLACE AND ATHLETES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE FOUND IN THEIR SYSTEM, ATHLETE SUPPORT PERSONNEL CAN NOW BE SANCTIONED IF IT IS REVEALED THAT THEY ARE ASSISTING ATHLETES TO USE PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES.

ALSO, INVOLVEMENT IN AN ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATION COMMITTED BY ANOTHER PERSON, SUCH AS HELPING TO COVER UP THAT VIOLATION WILL BE SANCTIONED WITH A BAN OF UP TO FOUR YEARS.

WHEREABOUTS VIOLATIONS WILL NOW BE ADMINISTERED IF THREE MISSED TESTS AND/OR FILING FAILURES, SUCH AS SUPPLYING INCORRECT WHEREABOUTS INFORMATION, TAKES PLACE WITHIN A 12 MONTH PERIOD, INSTEAD OF 18 MONTHS.

THE TUE APPLICATION PROCEDURES HAVE ALSO BEEN REVISED.

THERE ARE NOW REQUIREMENTS FOR MANDATORY INVESTIGATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE GATHERING IN A VARIETY OF SITUATIONS AND CHANGES WILL ALSO BE MADE REGARDING THE BENEFITS FROM A PROMPT ADMISSION OR SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE. THAT IS, THE NEW CODE INCENTIVISES EARLY COOPERATION AND INFORMATION SHARING BY PERSONS

TODAY SOME OF YOU MAY BE HEARING ABOUT THE REVISIONS TO THE WORLD ANTI-DOPING CODE FOR THE FIRST TIME AND I WOULD URGE YOU TO PUBLICISE THESE CHANGES TO ENSURE NO ONE HAS TO FACE A PENALTY BECAUSE THEY WERE UNAWARE.

IN CLOSING, ORGANISERS AND SPONSORS, JADCO SUPPORTS WHOLEHEARTEDLY YOUR COMMITMENT TO DEVELOPING SPORT IN ALL ITS FORMS. WE WANT OUR ATHLETES TO CONTINUE TO BE TRAILBLAZERS ON THE TRACK AND ELSEWHERE AND IT CANNOT BE DONE WITHOUT YOUR EFFORT.

WE KNOW THAT INVESTING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR SPORTSMEN AND WOMEN IS A JOINT EFFORT AND, AT JADCO, WE STAND READY TO WORK WITH YOU. I KNOW THE MILO WESTERN RELAYS WILL BE SUCCESSFUL AND THAT THE LEGACY OF THE EVENT WILL CONTINUE TO LIVE ON FOR YEARS TO COME.

THANK YOU.