
Decision of the Athletics Integrity Unit in the Case of Ms Yamile Herrera

Introduction

1. World Athletics has established the Athletics Integrity Unit ("**AIU**") whose role is to protect the integrity of the sport of Athletics, including fulfilling World Athletics' obligations as a Signatory to the World Anti-Doping Code (the "**Code**"). World Athletics has delegated implementation of the World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules ("**ADR**") to the AIU, including but not limited to the following activities in relation to International-Level Athletes: Testing, Investigations, Results Management, Hearings, Sanctions and Appeals.

2. Ms Yamile Herrera ("the **Athlete**") is a 26-year-old sprinter from Mexico¹.

3. This decision is issued by the AIU pursuant to Rule 8.5.6 ADR, which provides as follows:

"8.5.6 In the event that the Athlete or other Person either (i) admits the violation and accepts the proposed Consequences or (ii) is deemed to have admitted the violation and accepted the Consequences as per Rule 8.5.2(f), the Integrity Unit will promptly:

(a) issue a decision confirming the commission of the violation(s) and the imposition of the specified Consequences (including, if applicable, a justification for why the maximum potential sanction was not imposed);

(b) Publicly Report that decision in accordance with Rule 14;

(c) send a copy of the decision to the Athlete or other Person and to any other party that has a right, further to Rule 13, to appeal the decision (and any such party may, within 15 days of receipt, request a copy of the full case file pertaining to the decision)."

The Athlete's Commission of Anti-Doping Rule Violations

4. Rule 2 ADR sets out that the following shall constitute the Anti-Doping Rule Violations:

"2.1 Presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in an Athlete's Sample

[...]

¹ <https://worldathletics.org/athletes/mexico/yamile-herrera-14986683>

2.2 Use or Attempted Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method

5. On 2 May 2026, the Athlete provided a urine Sample In-Competition following her participation as a member of the Mexico 4 x 100m Mixed Relay Team at the 2026 World Athletics Relays held in Gaborone, Botswana, pursuant to Testing conducted under the Testing Authority of World Athletics-AIU which was given code 8488618 (the "**Sample**").
6. On 20 May 2026, the World Anti-Doping Agency ("**WADA**") accredited laboratory in Paris, France (the "**Laboratory**") reported an Adverse Analytical Finding in the Sample based on the presence of Oxandrolone and its Metabolites, namely Epioxandrolone, 17 β Hydroxymethyl-17 α methyl-18-nor-2-oxa-5 α androst-13-en-3-one and 17 α Hydroxymethyl-17 β methyl-18-nor-2-oxa-5 α androst-13-en-3-one (the "**Adverse Analytical Finding**")².
7. The AIU reviewed the Adverse Analytical Finding in accordance with Article 5 of the International Standard for Results Management ("**ISRM**") and determined that:
 - 7.1. the Athlete did not have a Therapeutic Use Exemption ("**TUE**") that had been granted for the Oxandrolone and its Metabolites found in the Sample; and
 - 7.2. there was no apparent departure from the International Standard for Testing and Investigations ("**ISTI**") or from the International Standard for Laboratories ("**ISL**") that could reasonably have caused the Adverse Analytical Finding.
8. On 3 June 2026, the AIU notified the Athlete of the Adverse Analytical Finding in accordance with Article 5.1.2.1 of the ISRM, including that the Adverse Analytical Finding may result in Anti-Doping Rule Violations pursuant to Rule 2.1 ADR and/or Rule 2.2 ADR and the imposition of an immediate Provisional Suspension.
9. The Athlete was also informed of her rights, inter alia, to request the analysis of the B Sample, to request copies of the laboratory documentation supporting, and to give a written explanation for, the Adverse Analytical Finding, and to admit the Anti-Doping Rule Violations and potentially benefit from a one-year reduction of the period of Ineligibility pursuant to Rule 10.8.1 ADR, by no later than 10 June 2026.
10. On 10 June 2026, the Athlete wrote to the AIU stating that she formally admitted to violations of the ADR and enclosed a signed Admission of Anti-Doping Rule Violations and Acceptance of Consequences Form confirming that she admitted the Anti-Doping Rule Violations and accepted the Consequences specified in the Notice of Allegation issued on 3 June 2026.

Consequences

11. This is the Athlete's first Anti-Doping Rule Violation.

² The Laboratory also reported an Atypical Finding (ATF) for Clenbuterol in accordance with WADA Technical Letter TL-03. However, in circumstances where the Athlete promptly admitted to Anti-Doping Rule Violations on the basis of the Adverse Analytical Finding (see below), the ATF was not pursued.

12. Rule 10.2 ADR specifies that the period of Ineligibility for an Anti-Doping Rule Violation under Rule 2.1 ADR or Rule 2.2 ADR shall be as follows:

“10.2.1 Save where Rule 10.2.4 applies, the period of Ineligibility will be four years where:

- (a) The anti-doping rule violation does not involve a Specified Substance or a Specified Method, unless the Athlete or other Person can establish that the anti-doping rule violation was not intentional.*
- (b) The anti-doping rule violation involves a Specified Substance or a Specified Method and the Integrity Unit can establish that the anti-doping rule violation was intentional...”*

13. Oxandrolone (and its Metabolites) is a Prohibited Substance under the WADA 2026 Prohibited List under the category *S1.1 Anabolic Androgenic Steroids*. It is a Non-Specified Substance prohibited at all times.

14. The period of Ineligibility to be imposed is therefore a period of four (4) years, unless the Athlete demonstrates that the Anti-Doping Rule Violations were not intentional.

15. The Athlete has not demonstrated that the Anti-Doping Rule Violations were not intentional. Therefore, the mandatory period of Ineligibility to be imposed is a period of four (4) years.

16. However, Rule 10.8.1 ADR provides that an athlete potentially subject to an asserted period of Ineligibility of four (4) years or more may benefit from a one (1)-year reduction in the period of Ineligibility based on an early admission and acceptance of sanction:

“10.8.1 One year reduction for certain anti-doping rule violations based on early admission and acceptance of sanction.

Where the Integrity Unit notifies an Athlete or other Person of an anti-doping rule violation charge that carries an asserted period of Ineligibility of four (4) or more years (including any period of Ineligibility asserted under Rule 10.4), if the Athlete or other Person admits the violation and accepts the asserted period of Ineligibility no later than 20 days after receiving the Notice of Charge, the Athlete or other Person may receive a one (1) year reduction in the period of Ineligibility asserted by the Integrity Unit. Where the Athlete or other Person receives the one (1) year reduction in the asserted period of Ineligibility under this Rule 10.8.1, no further reduction in the asserted period of Ineligibility will be allowed under any other Rule.”

17. A Notice of Allegation was issued to the Athlete on 3 June 2026. On 10 June 2026, the Athlete confirmed that she admitted the Anti-Doping Rule Violations and accepted the asserted period of Ineligibility of four (4) years³.
18. The Athlete shall therefore receive a one (1) year reduction in the asserted period of Ineligibility pursuant to Rule 10.8.1 ADR based on an early admission and acceptance of sanction.
19. On the basis that the Athlete has admitted the Anti-Doping Rule Violations under Rule 2.1 ADR and Rule 2.2 ADR, in accordance with Rule 10.2.1 ADR and the application of Rule 10.8.1 ADR, the AIU confirms by this decision the following Consequences for a first Anti-Doping Rule Violation:
 - 19.1. a period of Ineligibility of three (3) years, starting on 3 June 2026 (the date of Provisional Suspension) and expiring on 2 June 2029;
 - 19.2. disqualification of the Mexico 4x100m Mixed Relay Team's results on and since 2 May 2026⁴, with all resulting Consequences, including the forfeiture of any medals, titles, awards, points, prizes, prize money and appearance money.
20. The Athlete has accepted the above Consequences for her Anti-Doping Rule Violations and has expressly waived her right to have those Consequences determined by the Disciplinary Tribunal at a hearing.

Publication

21. In accordance with Rule 8.5.6(b) ADR, the AIU shall publicly report this decision on the AIU's website.

Rights of Appeal

22. This decision constitutes the final decision of the AIU pursuant to Rule 8.5.6 ADR.
23. Further to Rule 13.2.3 ADR, WADA and the Comité Nacional Antidopaje de México have a right of appeal against this decision to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, in accordance with the procedure set out at Rule 13.6.1 ADR.

³The Notice of Allegation of Anti-Doping Rule Violations was issued to the Athlete by the AIU in accordance with Article 5.1.2 of the ISRM, prior to a Notice of Charge issued in accordance with Article 7 of the ISRM. Considering the Athlete's admission and acceptance of Consequences on 10 June 2026, no Notice of Charge was ever issued.

⁴The Athlete's Anti-Doping Rule Violations were committed as a member of the Mexico 4x100m Mixed Relay Team. The Athlete has failed to establish No Fault or Negligence and that her participation was not likely to have been affected by the Anti-Doping Rule Violations. Therefore, in accordance with Rule 11.1 of the Rules, the Mexico 4x100m Mixed Relay team shall be automatically Disqualified from the 2026 World Athletics Relays with all resulting Consequences, including the forfeiture of all titles, awards, medals, points and prize money.

24. If an appeal is filed against this decision by WADA or the Comité Nacional Antidopaje de México, the Athlete will be entitled to exercise her right of cross-appeal in accordance with Rule 13.2.4 ADR.

Monaco, 19 June 2026