

**IN THE MATTER OF PROCEEDINGS BROUGHT UNDER THE ANTI-DOPING RULES OF  
WORLD ATHLETICS**

Before:

Mr Alan Galbraith KC  
Dr Tom Murray  
Mr Peter Koh

**BETWEEN:**

**WORLD ATHLETICS**

**Anti-Doping Organisation**

and

**Mr Koki IKEDA**

**Respondent**

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**OPERATIVE AWARD**

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. World Athletics (“**WA**”) is the International Federation governing the sport of Athletics worldwide. It has its registered seat in Monaco.
2. World Athletics is represented in these proceedings by the Athletics Integrity Unit (“**AIU**”), which has delegated authority for Results Management and Hearings on behalf of World Athletics, pursuant to Rule 1.2. of the World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules, effective 1 January 2024 (“**2024 ADR**”).
3. The Respondent, Mr Koki Ikeda (the “**Athlete**”), is a 26-year-old race walker from Japan. The Athlete is an International-Level Athlete for the purposes of the 2024 ADR.

**THE INDEPENDENT EXPERTS**

4. Hereinafter, WA and the Athlete are referred to collectively as the “**Parties**”.
5. By a Notice of Charge dated 1 November 2024, the AIU alleges that the Athlete committed an Anti-Doping Rule Violation (“**ADRV**”) in connection with abnormalities observed in the haematological module of his Athlete Biological Passport (“**ABP**”). Specifically, the matter concerns abnormalities detected in blood Samples collected from the Athlete on 20 June 2023 and during the period between 16 August and 13 September 2023, which are alleged to indicate blood manipulation.
6. Consequently, the AIU charged the Athlete with committing the following ADRV pursuant to Rule 2.2 of the 2024 ADR (the “**Charge**”):
  - a) Use or Attempted Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method.

## **II. PROCEEDINGS**

7. The Athlete denied the Charge and the matter was referred to the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal in accordance with Rule 8.5.5 2024 ADR.
8. In accordance with Rule 8.7.1, the Chairperson of the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal appointed members to constitute a panel (the “**Panel**”) to hear and decide the alleged violation(s) set out in the Notice of Charge.
9. Following an exchange of submissions and evidence, a hearing was conducted on 5, 6 and 7 February 2025 (European dates) or 6, 7 and 8 February 2025 (Japanese dates).
10. It was understood by the Parties and the Panel, that the Japan Race Walking Championships, which the Athlete wished to compete in and are to take place on 16 February 2025, necessitated a decision in advance of the reasons for it.
  - a) It was accepted by the Parties that issuing an Operative Award, with a reasoned decision to follow, was the practical way to achieve that objective.

11. Accordingly, the Panel has determined to issue this Operative Award, with a fully reasoned decision to follow.

### **III. OPERATIVE AWARD**

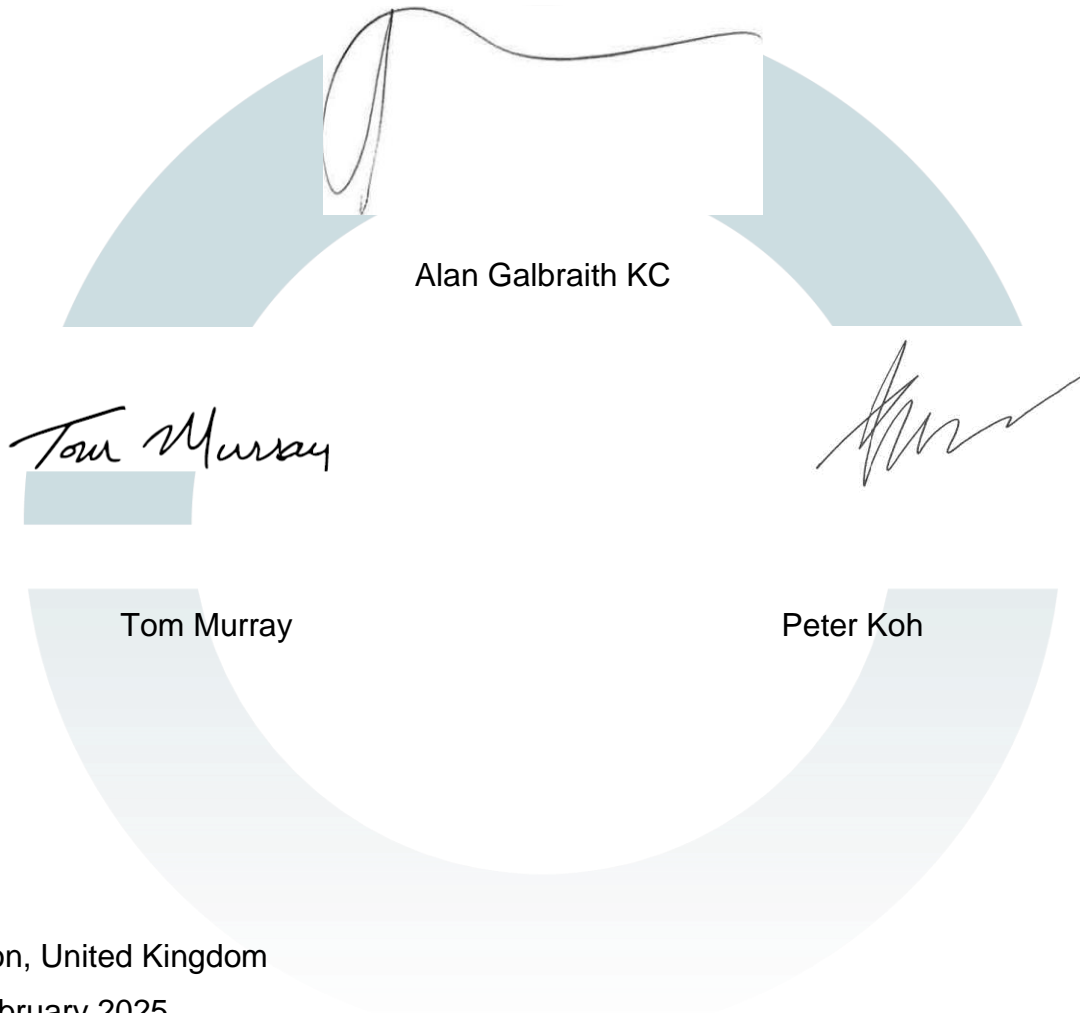
12. The Panel rules as follows:

- (i) That the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal has jurisdiction in the present matter.
- (ii) That the Athlete has committed an ADRV as charged pursuant to Rule 2.2 of the World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules.<sup>1</sup>
- (iii) That the Athlete is therefore sanctioned with a period of Ineligibility of four (4) years commencing on the date of this Operative Award.
- (iv) That credit is given for the period of the Provisional Suspension imposed on the Athlete from 1 November 2024 until the date of this Operative Award against the total period of Ineligibility, provided that the Provisional Suspension has been complied with.
- (v) That all competitive results of the Athlete between 20 June 2023 and 1 November 2024 are disqualified with all resulting Consequences including the forfeiture of any medals, titles, points, prize money, and prizes pursuant to Rule 10.10 of the 2024 ADR.

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to the 2023 Anti-Doping Rules (ADR in force at the material times) and the 2024 Anti-Doping Rules (with respect to procedural matters).

(vi) No order is made as to costs.



London, United Kingdom

13 February 2025

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