

Press Release

Wednesday 9 September 2009

Players meet with WADA

The members of the Professional Players Federation today met with David Howman, the Director General of the World Anti-Doping Agency, in London.

In helpful discussions with WADA the member associations expressed their support for the campaign for drug-free sport. Furthermore WADA's commitment to ongoing consultation with the player associations was welcomed.

The meeting focused on the debate about the treatment of recreational drugs within the WADA Code and the need for a fair and effective system for whereabouts reporting for professional team sports.

Brendon Batson MBE, speaking at the press launch of the first PPF Conference on player issues, said

“Recreational drugs have no place in professional sport but the time has come to recognise that they are not performance enhancing. The PPF believes that recreational drug abuse is best dealt with through treatment and rehabilitation rather than a blanket ban from training and playing.

The member player associations also reiterated their call for a revised WADA whereabouts system that balances players' right to a private home life with the need for an effective club based testing system.”

Notes for Editors

1. Brendon Batson is the chairman of the Professional Players Federation, the umbrella body for professional player associations in the United Kingdom.
2. The first PPF national conference will take place on 27 October 2009 at the St Pancras Novotel in London. www.ppfevents.org.uk
3. For more information please contact
 - Simon Taylor, PPF general secretary, on 07726 627422
 - Jonathan Wilson the conference organiser on 07980 826781