

Provincial Women's Softball Association Therapeutic Testosterone Policy

1. Purpose

This policy provides clear guidance regarding the therapeutic use of testosterone by athletes under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Women's Softball Association (P.W.S.A.).

The policy ensures compliance with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) 2026 Prohibited List and the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP), safeguarding athlete health and preserving the integrity and fairness of amateur sport.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all athletes, coaches, trainers, medical professionals, and personnel affiliated with P.W.S.A. who may seek or support testosterone therapy for legitimate medical reasons.

3. Definitions

1. **Prohibited Substance:** Testosterone and its analogues, as listed under the WADA 2026 Prohibited List.
2. **Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE):** Authorization granted to an athlete to use a prohibited substance to treat a legitimate medical condition.
3. **Normal Physiological Range:** Clinically accepted testosterone range for healthy adult women, as determined by recognized medical standards.
4. **Performance Enhancement:** Any benefit that exceeds the restoration of normal health and confers a competitive advantage.

4. Policy Statement

1. Testosterone is prohibited for all athletes unless authorized through a valid Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE).
2. TUE approval will only be considered where:

- A clear and documented medical condition exists;
 - No reasonable alternative treatment is available; and
 - The treatment restores, but does not exceed, normal physiological hormone levels.
3. Unauthorized use or possession of testosterone constitutes a violation under the CADP and this policy, subject to sanctions.
 4. Medical supervision must be conducted by a licensed physician (e.g., endocrinologist or gynecologist) with experience in hormonal therapy.

5. Authorized Criteria for Therapeutic Use

To be eligible for a TUE involving testosterone therapy, the athlete must meet all the following criteria:

5.1 Medical Necessity

- Diagnosis of a legitimate medical condition requiring testosterone treatment, confirmed by medical records and laboratory tests.

5.2 Lack of Alternatives

- Evidence that non-prohibited treatments were ineffective, unsuitable, or contraindicated.

5.3 No Competitive Advantage

- Treatment plan and dosage must not elevate testosterone levels beyond normal female physiological ranges.
- Regular monitoring and reporting are required to maintain compliance.

5.4 Pre-Approval

- The TUE must be approved before initiating therapy. Retrospective TUEs will only be granted under exceptional, justified circumstances.

6. Monitoring and Compliance

1. Athletes with a valid TUE must submit to ongoing medical monitoring, including laboratory testing and periodic review.
2. All documentation must be securely maintained by the treating physician and provided to P.W.S.A. or CADP upon request.
3. P.W.S.A. reserves the right to review, audit, or revoke TUE authorization in cases of non-compliance.

7. Violations and Sanctions

1. Unauthorized use, possession, or administration of testosterone is a breach of this policy and the CADP.
2. Sanctions may include suspension, disqualification, or ineligibility, depending on severity and intent.
3. Any athlete found to be in violation forfeits all competitive results obtained during the period of infraction.

8. Education and Support

1. P.W.S.A. will provide education and awareness materials to athletes, coaches, and officials about therapeutic testosterone use, TUE processes, and anti-doping responsibilities.
2. A designated Anti-Doping Liaison will support athletes in understanding procedures and preparing TUE applications.

9. Review and Amendments

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or sooner if required by changes to the WADA Prohibited List, CADP Standards or emerging medical evidence.

Policy Name: Therapeutic Testosterone Policy

Ratification Date: October 25, 2025

Review Date: October 2028

Appendix A – References and Supporting Documents

#	Title / Description	Link	Purpose / Relevance
1.	WADA 2026 Prohibited List	WORLD ANTI-DOPING CODE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD PROHIBITED LIST 2026	Official annual list of banned substances and methods (including testosterone). Serves as the legal and operational basis for anti-doping compliance.
2.	Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP)	https://cces.ca/cadp	Canada's national anti-doping framework aligned with WADA, covering testing, TUE applications, education, and results management.
3.	WADA Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) Resources	Therapeutic Use Exemptions	Comprehensive educational materials explaining athlete rights and responsibilities under the TUE system. Useful for athlete and coach education.