



# NEWS RELEASE

## US CYCLING ATHLETE, SWANGUEN, ACCEPTS SANCTION FOR DOPING VIOLATION

**Colorado Springs, Colo. (October 20, 2009)** -- USADA announced today that J.D. Swanguen of San Diego, CA, an athlete in the sport of cycling, has tested positive for a prohibited substance and accepted a suspension for his doping offense.

Swanguen, 20, tested positive for Carboxy THC, a metabolite of marijuana and/or hashish in the class of Cannabinoids, in a sample collected on July 19, 2009 at the USAC MTB National Championships. Cannabinoids are listed as Specified Substances and are prohibited under the USADA Protocol for Olympic and Paralympic Movement Testing and the Union Cycliste Internationale, both of which have adopted the World Anti-Doping Code and the WADA Prohibited List. Cannabinoids are listed as Specified Substances because they could be susceptible to a credible non-doping explanation, and therefore use of those substances can result in a reduced sanction.

Swanguen accepted a three-month period of ineligibility, which began on October 9, 2009, the day he accepted the sanction. As part of his sanction, the period of ineligibility can be suspended and reduced to time served since he accepted his sanction on October 9, 2009, upon completion of a USADA anti-doping educational program. As a result of the doping violation, Swanguen has been disqualified from all competitive results achieved on July 19, 2009, the date of his positive test, through and including the date the doping education program is completed, including forfeiture of any medals, points, and prizes.

In an effort to aid athletes, as well as all support team members such as parents and coaches, in understanding the rules applicable to them, USADA provides comprehensive instruction on its website on the testing process and prohibited substances, how to obtain permission to use a necessary medication, and the risks and dangers of taking supplements as well as performance-enhancing and recreational drugs. In addition, the agency manages a drug reference hotline, conducts educational sessions with National Governing Bodies and their athletes, and proactively distributes a multitude of educational materials, such as the Guide to Prohibited Substances and Methods, easy-reference wallet cards, periodic newsletters, and protocol and policy reference documentation.

*USADA is responsible for the testing and results management process for athletes in the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movement, and is equally dedicated to preserving the integrity of sport through research initiatives and educational programs.*

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