USADA-INITIATED

U.S. ATHLETE INTERVIEW RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Effective January 1, 2024



USADA-Initiated U.S. Athlete Interview Rights & Responsibilities

U.S. *Athletes* shall have the following rights and obligations in connection with all USADA matters which are subject to the USADA Protocol for Olympic and Paralympic Movement Testing.

- 1. An Athlete may consult with the Team USA Athlete Ombuds, counsel and/or other representatives before participating in an interview with USADA. The Team USA Athlete Ombuds, currently Kacie Wallace, is completely independent of USADA and available to offer cost-free, confidential, and independent advice regarding anti-doping policies and procedures. The Office of Team USA Athlete Ombuds may be reached by telephone at 719-866-5000, by email at ombudsman@usathlete.org or through the website www.usathlete.org.
- 2. An *Athlete* may have counsel or another *Person* who is not an *Athlete Support Person* (or an *Athlete Support Person* reasonably acceptable to USADA) present during the USADA interview.
- 3. An *Athlete* may request that the interview be recorded or transcribed at the *Athlete's* expense. USADA also has the right to record or transcribe the interview at its expense.
- 4. An *Athlete* is not required to travel to meet USADA for an interview. Should an *Athlete* choose not to travel to the interview, it may be conducted by telephone, video conference, or, at USADA's option, USADA will travel to the location of the *Athlete* for an in-person interview.
- 5. Any *Athlete* who USADA seeks to interview is required to cooperate and be truthful with USADA. (*Code* Art. 21.1.6; *ISTI* 12.2.4)
- 6. An *Athlete's* failure to cooperate or participate in a requested interview may result in disciplinary action under the rules of an International Federation, *Major Event Organization*, or other *Anti-Doping Organization*. A failure to be truthful may result in a *Tampering* or *Attempted Tampering* anti-doping rule violation. (*Code* Arts. 2.5 and 21.1.6; *ISTI* 12.2.4)
- 7. Failure to cooperate in a USADA investigation or failure to appear if requested to give hearing testimony may be used against an *Athlete* in an anti-doping rule violation hearing. (*Code* Art. 3.2.5)
- 8. Where an *Athlete* has committed an anti-doping rule violation, the period of ineligibility otherwise applicable for that violation may be reduced if the *Athlete*: comes forward and admits the violation to USADA before receiving notice of a *Sample* collection which could establish an anti-doping rule violation or other notice (*Code* Art. 10.7.2), promptly admits the violation after being notified of the violation by USADA (*Code* Arts. 10.8.1 and 10.8.2), or provides substantial assistance to USADA as recognized in *Code* Article 10.7.1.

