

USADA-Initiated U.S. Athlete Interview 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. The athlete may consult with the USOC athlete ombudsman, counsel and/or other representatives before participating in an interview with USADA. The USOC Athlete Ombudsman, 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 Athlete Ombudsman may be reached by telephone at 719-866-5000, by email at athlete.ombudsman@usoc.org, or through the website www.athleteombudsman.org.
2. The athlete may have counsel, a counselor, or other person who is not an athlete support person (or an athlete support person reasonably acceptable to USADA) present during the USADA interview.
3. The 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 the athlete choose not to travel to the interview, it may be conducted electronically or, at USADA's option, USADA will travel to the location of the athlete.
5. Any athlete who USADA seeks to interview is required to cooperate truthfully with USADA. (Code Art. 21.1.6)
6. An athlete's failure to cooperate or participate in a requested interview may result in disciplinary action under the rules of an applicable International Federation, Major Event Organization, or other Anti-Doping Organization.
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 spontaneously admits the violation to USADA (Code Art. 10.6.2), promptly admits the violation after being notified of the violation by USADA (Code Art. 10.6.3), or provides substantial assistance to USADA as recognized in Code Art. 10.6.1.

Effective 1/1/2017