

2027 CODE & IS UPDATE PROCESS

International Standard for Results Management

Concepts for Consideration and Feedback

Executive Summary

The International Standard for the Results Management (ISRM) was first adopted in 2019 and came into effect in 2021 following consultation with Signatories, public authorities, and other relevant stakeholders.

The ISRM's main purpose is to set out the core responsibilities of Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs) with respect to the various phases of results management, from the initial review and notification of potential anti-doping rule violations until the issuance and notification of a final decision and subsequent appeal.

The ISRM Drafting Team has identified six key concepts for the upcoming revision of the ISRM.

Stakeholders are invited to provide their feedback on each of these concepts, as well as identify any other priority topic areas they wish the Drafting Team to consider.

The ISRM Drafting Team will also work closely with the Code Drafting Team on key results management-related topics, in particular on principles applicable to provisional suspensions, right to a fair hearing, sanctions, and appeals.

Concept #1 – Notification Process

The ISRM Drafting Team intends to review the notification process under the current ISRM, in particular in the context of major events or other major competitions.

The interplay between ISRM Articles 5 and 7 in the context of Code Article 10.8.1 (*One-Year Reduction for Certain Anti-Doping Rule Violations Based on Early Admission and Acceptance of Sanction*) will also be considered. The ISRM Drafting Team intends to consider whether the regime of Code Article 10.8.1 should be available to an athlete already at the stage of the initial notification under ISRM Article 5 as currently, Code Article 10.8.1 is only available at the charge stage.

The ISRM Drafting Team will consider providing further guidance to ADOs as it relates to the acceptance of consequences, and more particularly in which circumstances and how consequences should be proposed under ISRM Article 7.

Concept #2 – Provisional Suspension

The ISRM Drafting Team intends to review the provisional suspensions regime in the context of athlete biological passport (ABP) cases as these principles could benefit from further clarification, in particular as it concerns the moment when a provisional suspension is imposed.

Similarly, the grounds on which a provisional suspension may be lifted deserve further consideration, for instance whether they should be expanded to include likely cases of no fault or negligence or potentially others.

The ISRM Drafting Team intends to liaise with the Code Drafting Team in respect of these matters.

Concept #3 – Hearing Process

The ISRM Drafting Team intends to review the Code defined term of “Operational Independence” specifically as this term relates to an ADO’s results management process. Without limitation, the involvement of National Federations in an International Federation (IF) results management process or, where results management is delegated to a third party or persons affiliated to that third party, is currently not covered by the Code definition of “Operational Independence”. Given this fundamental concept is enshrined in the Code, the ISRM Drafting Team will liaise with the Code Drafting Team in this respect.

Moreover, the ISRM Drafting Team intends to review the provisions relating to the timeliness of decisions following a hearing process (including on appeal).

Concept #4 – Appeals/Revision

The Code and ISRM currently do not define in which circumstances a final decision can be reopened or subject to revision. In conjunction with the Code Drafting Team, the ISRM Drafting Team will consider the need to add clarity in this respect, in particular in circumstances where new evidence is discovered after a first instance or appeal decision is rendered.

Concept #5 – Specific Results Management Processes

The ISRM Drafting Team intends to review the notification process for whereabouts failures, which currently involves a notification, an administrative review, and a *de novo* review in the context of an anti-doping rule violation charge under Code Article 2.4. Matters relating to the jurisdiction of ADOs to conduct results management over individual whereabouts failures and/or Code Article 2.4 violations deserve further consideration. Specifically, the discovery of further whereabouts failures in the context of the results management for a Code Article 2.4 anti-doping rule violation is currently not addressed in the ISRM and requires further clarification. To improve monitoring, whereabouts failure decisions may also require reasoning in all cases.

The ISRM Drafting Team also intends to review the results management process for ABP cases under ISRM Annex C, in particular for matters relating to the provisional suspension of athletes (as indicated above).

Concept #6 – New ISRM Annex

The ISRM Drafting Team will consider adding a new annex to the ISRM (Annex D), which compiles all specific results management procedures that are currently described in WADA Stakeholder Notices and WADA Technical Documents. The ISRM Drafting Teams welcomes stakeholder feedback in this respect.