



ICF Congress, Pattaya, Thailand

3-5 November 2022

< **Medical and Anti-Doping committee** >

Chair: Tim Brabants

Members: Jane Gibson, Dóra Molnár, Chris Norbury,

Advisor: Ahmed Gamal

The medical and anti-doping team has been engaged over the past twelve months primarily with managing the ever-changing challenges that Covid-19 has had on ICF competitions. Across all disciplines we aimed to work with organising committees to help minimise the risks of spread of the virus, whilst still being able to host world class events. We feel that we managed to achieve this goal and whilst there were several cases of covid, there were no major outbreaks leading to cancellation of events. We would like to thank all of the organising committees and national federations for their help in keeping us all safe. Over the next few months we will revise the covid protocol in line with the current burden of disease worldwide. With new variants of the disease, we aim to keep up to date with the latest public health advice.

The International Testing Agency has been appointed to take over the majority of our antidoping program, together with nearly all other Olympic sports. It is anticipated that we shall continue to oversee antidoping management within the Masters category of the ICF.

The Medical and Antidoping Committee continue to encourage national federations to look at their processes in place to support athlete health and wellbeing. We endeavour to assist where possible, in guiding national federations to available resources to achieve this. We have been working with several working groups within the ICF across a number of areas related to supporting athletes off water too. The Committee has been approached by a European University department regarding the possibility of pursuing research on injuries affecting elite performance. We will be investigating the possibility of commencing this research for Slalom and Extreme Slalom during the 2023 competitive season.

A major piece of work that is currently under way is developing an ICF transgender policy. We have been consulting with several different agencies and attempting to gather some research into female elite athlete's perspective. Whilst we had hoped to have a draft of the policy to present at congress, it is not yet ready to be proposed.

