

## Issued Decision

# UK Anti-Doping and Francisco Rodriguez Jr

### Disciplinary Proceedings under the Anti-Doping Rules of the British Boxing Board of Control

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This is an Issued Decision made by UK Anti-Doping Limited ('UKAD') pursuant to the Anti-Doping Rules (the 'ADR') of the British Boxing Board of Control (the 'BBBoC'). It concerns Anti-Doping Rule Violations ('ADRVs') committed by Mr Francisco Rodriguez Jr ('Mr Rodriguez Jr') and records the applicable Consequences.

Capitalised terms used in this Decision shall have the meaning given to them in the ADR unless otherwise indicated.

### Background and Facts

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1. The BBBoC is the national governing body for the sport of professional boxing in the United Kingdom ('UK'). It provides licences to domestic and international boxers, which permits them to participate in bouts held under the jurisdiction of the BBBoC, both in the UK and abroad. UKAD is the National Anti-Doping Organisation in the UK. The BBBoC has adopted, as its own ADR, the UK Anti-Doping Rules<sup>1</sup>, which are issued by UKAD and subject to updates made by UKAD, as necessary and in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code.
2. Mr Rodriguez Jr is a 32-year-old Mexican professional boxer. On 11 June 2025, the BBBoC granted Mr Rodriguez Jr a Foreign Boxer Licence to compete in a bout on 21 June 2025 against Mr Galal Yafai ('Mr Yafai'). In granting Mr Rodriguez Jr a Foreign Boxer Licence, the BBBoC was provided with confirmation that he was a licensed boxer of the Boxing and Professional Wrestling Commission of Guadalupe City, N.L. Mexico.
3. As a boxer licensed with the BBBoC and a participant in Competitions and other activities organised, authorised or recognised by the BBBoC, at all relevant times, Mr Rodriguez Jr was subject to the jurisdiction of the BBBoC and bound to comply with the ADR. Pursuant to ADR Article 7.2, UKAD has Results Management responsibility

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<sup>1</sup> Version 1.0, in effect as from 1 January 2021.

for anti-doping matters in respect of all Athletes that are subject to the jurisdiction of the BBBoC.

4. On 21 June 2025, a UKAD Doping Control Officer ('DCO') collected a urine Sample from Mr Rodriguez Jr, In-Competition, after his bout against Mr Yafai at the bp pulse LIVE arena, Birmingham.
5. Assisted by the DCO, Mr Rodriguez Jr split the urine Sample into two separate bottles, which were given reference numbers A8143798 (the 'A Sample') and B8143798 (the 'B Sample').
6. Both Samples were transported to the World Anti-Doping Agency ('WADA') accredited laboratory in London, the Drug Control Centre, King's College London (the 'Laboratory'). The Laboratory analysed the A Sample in accordance with the procedures set out in WADA's International Standard for Laboratories and Technical Document TD2022MRPL and Technical Letter TL05.
7. Analysis of the A Sample returned an Adverse Analytical Finding ('AAF') for octodrine (1,5-dimethylhexylamine) and its Metabolite, heptaminol, both of which were confirmed at an estimated concentration of greater than 50 ng/mL as per Technical Document TD2022MRPL. Analysis of the A Sample also returned an AAF for oxilofrine (methysynephrine), which was confirmed at an estimated concentration greater than 50 ng/mL, as per Technical Document TD2022MPRL and Technical Letter TL05.
8. Octodrine, (1,5-dimethylhexylamine), heptaminol and oxilofrine (methysynephrine) are listed under S6.B of the 2025 WADA Prohibited List as Specified Stimulants. They are prohibited In-Competition only<sup>2</sup>.
9. On 30 July 2025, UKAD sent Mr Rodriguez Jr a letter (the 'Notice Letter'), confirming the imposition of a Provisional Suspension and formally notifying him, in accordance with ADR Article 7.8, that he may have committed ADRVs pursuant to ADR Article 2.1 (Presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites in an Athlete's Sample), and/or ADR Article 2.2 (Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance).
10. The Notice Letter invited Mr Rodriguez Jr to provide an explanation for the alleged ADRVs and provided Mr Rodriguez Jr with a deadline by which to respond. UKAD did not receive a response to the Notice Letter by the expiry of that deadline.
11. On 3 October 2025, having received no response from Mr Rodriguez Jr, despite issuing several reminders to do so, UKAD proceeded to issue Mr Rodriguez Jr with a Charge Letter in accordance with ADR Article 7.11.2. The Charge Letter asserted the commission of ADRVs pursuant to ADR Article 2.1 (Presence of a Prohibited

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<sup>2</sup> In-Competition is defined in the ADR as the "period commencing at 11:59 p.m. on the day before a Competition in which the Athlete is scheduled to participate through the end of such Competition and the Sample collection process related to such Competition [...]"

Substance or its Metabolites in an Athlete's Sample) in respect of octodrine, (1,5-dimethylhexylamine) and its Metabolite, heptaminol, and oxilofrine and ADR Article 2.2 (Use of a Prohibited Substance) in respect of octodrine (1,5-dimethylhexylamine) and oxilofrine.

12. UKAD provided Mr Rodriguez Jr with a deadline by which to respond to the Charge Letter. Despite numerous attempts to contact Mr Rodriguez Jr through various channels, UKAD did not receive any response to the Charge letter.

## **Consequences**

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13. ADR Article 2.1 provides that the following is an ADRV:

**2.1 Presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in an Athlete's Sample, unless the Athlete establishes that the presence is consistent with a TUE granted in accordance with Article 4.**

14. ADR Article 2.2 provides that the following is also an ADRV:

**2.2 Use or Attempted Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance or a Prohibited Method, unless the Athlete establishes that the Use or Attempted Use is consistent with a TUE granted in accordance with Article 4.**

15. ADR Article 10.2 provides as follows:

**10.2 Imposition of a Period of Ineligibility for the Presence, Use or Attempted Use, or Possession of a Prohibited Substance and/or a Prohibited Method.**

*The period of Ineligibility for an Anti-Doping Rule Violation under Article 2.1, 2.2 or 2.6 that is the Athlete's or other Person's first anti-doping offence shall be as follows, subject to potential elimination, reduction or suspension pursuant to Article 10.5, 10.6 or 10.7:*

*10.2.1 Save where Article 10.2.4(a) applies, the period of Ineligibility shall be four (4) years where:*

*(a) [...]*

*(b) The Anti-Doping Rule Violation involves a Specified Substance or a Specified Method and UKAD can establish that the Anti-Doping Rule Violation was intentional.*

*10.2.2 If Article 10.2.1 does not apply, then (subject to Article 10.2.4(a)) the period of Ineligibility shall be two (2) years.*

*10.2.3 As used in Article 10.2, the term "intentional" is meant to identify those Athletes or other Persons who engage in conduct which they know constitutes an Anti-Doping Rule Violation or they know that there is a significant risk that the conduct might constitute or result in*

*an Anti-Doping Rule Violation and they manifestly disregard that risk.*

16. This matter concerns substances prohibited In-Competition only. In the absence of any evidence to the contrary, and pursuant to ADR Article 7.11.4, Mr Rodriguez Jr is deemed to have used octodrine (1,5-dimethylhexylamine) and oxilofrine (methylnephrine) In-Competition.
17. In accordance with ADR Article 10.2.2, since this matter concerns Specified Substances only, the period of Ineligibility to be imposed shall be two (2) years, unless UKAD can demonstrate to the comfortable satisfaction of a Panel that the ADRVs were 'intentional' (within the meaning of ADR Article 10.2.3). If UKAD is able to prove that the ADRVs were intentional, the period of Ineligibility to be imposed shall be four (4) years in accordance with ADR Article 10.2.1(b).
18. Having considered the evidence in the case, UKAD does not assert that the ADRVs were 'intentional' (within the meaning of ADR Article 10.2.3).
19. The applicable period of Ineligibility is, therefore, two (2) years.
20. Having received no correspondence from Mr Rodriguez Jr, and therefore no submissions in respect of the application of ADR Articles 10.5 and/or 10.6 in his case, UKAD does not consider there to be any basis for Mr Rodriguez Jr to receive a reduction to the applicable two (2) year period of Ineligibility under the ADR.
21. For the purposes of imposing a sanction, the ADRVs are considered together as a single first violation, pursuant to ADR Article 10.9.4 which states:

*10.9.4 Additional rules for certain potential multiple offences*

- (a) *For the purposes of imposing sanctions under Article 10.9, except as provided in Articles 10.9.4(b) and 10.9.4(c) an Anti-Doping Rule Violation will only be considered a second (or third, as applicable) Anti-Doping Rule Violation if UKAD can establish that the Athlete or other Person committed the additional Anti-Doping Rule Violation after they received notice, or after UKAD or its designee made a reasonable attempt to give notice, of the first (or the second, as applicable) Anti-Doping Rule Violation. Otherwise, the first and second Anti-Doping Rule Violations (or the second and third Anti-Doping Rule Violations, as applicable) shall be considered as one single first Anti-Doping Rule Violation, and the sanction imposed shall be based on the Anti-Doping Rule Violation that carries the most severe sanction, including the application of Aggravating Circumstances. Results in all Competitions dating back to the earlier Anti-Doping Rule Violation will be Disqualified as provided in Article 10.10.*

22. The applicable period of Ineligibility in this case is, therefore, two (2) years.

## **Disqualification**

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23. ADR Article 9.1 provides as follows:

**9.1 Disqualification of Competition results as a consequence of an Anti-Doping Rule Violation committed in connection with or arising out of an In-Competition test**

*An Anti-Doping Rule Violation in Individual Sports in connection with or arising out of an In-Competition test automatically leads to Disqualification of the results obtained in the Competition in question, with all resulting consequences, including forfeiture of any medals, titles, points and prizes.*

24. Pursuant to the above, Mr Rodriguez Jr's result in his bout against Mr Yafai on 21 June 2025 is automatically disqualified.

## **Commencement of period of Ineligibility**

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25. ADR Article 10.13 requires that the period of Ineligibility starts on the date Ineligibility is accepted or otherwise imposed where there is no hearing.

26. However, ADR Article 10.13.2 allows credit to be given against the total period of Ineligibility to be served, where an Athlete has been provisionally suspended and has respected the terms of that Provisional Suspension.

27. Mr Rodriguez Jr has been subject to a Provisional Suspension from the date of the Notice Letter, 30 July 2025. As far as UKAD is aware, Mr Rodriguez Jr respected the terms of that Provisional Suspension (insofar as he has not participated in any World Anti-Doping Code-compliant sport). Therefore, affording Mr Rodriguez Jr credit for the time he has spent provisionally suspended, his period of Ineligibility is deemed to have commenced on 30 July 2025 and will end at 11:59pm on 29 July 2027.

## **Status during Ineligibility**

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28. During the period of Ineligibility, in accordance with ADR Article 10.14.1, Mr Rodriguez Jr is not permitted to participate in any capacity (or assist any Athlete participating in any capacity) in a Competition, Event or other activity (other than authorised anti-doping education or rehabilitation programmes) organised, convened, authorised or recognised by:

- a) the BBBoC or by any body that is a member of, or affiliated to, or licensed by the BBBoC;
- b) any Signatory;
- c) any club or other body that is a member of, or affiliated to, or licensed by, a Signatory or a Signatory's member organisation;

- d) any professional league or any international- or national-level Event organisation; or
- e) any elite or national-level sporting activity funded by a governmental agency.

29. Mr Rodriguez Jr may return to train with a team or to use the facilities of a Signatory's club or member organisation during the last two months of his period of Ineligibility (i.e., from 11:59pm on 29 May 2027) pursuant to ADR Article 10.14.4.(b).

## Summary

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30. For the reasons given above, UKAD has issued this Decision in accordance with ADR Article 7.12.2, and records that:

- a) Mr Rodriguez Jr committed ADRVs pursuant to ADR Articles 2.1 and 2.2;
- b) In accordance with ADR Article 10.9.4(a), the ADRVs are considered a single first violation for the purposes of imposing a sanction;
- c) A period of Ineligibility of two (2) years is imposed pursuant to ADR Article 10.2.2;
- d) The result of Mr Rodriguez Jr's bout against Mr Yafai on 21 June 2025 is automatically disqualified;
- e) Mr Rodriguez Jr's status during his period of Ineligibility shall be as detailed in ADR Article 10.14; and
- f) In accordance with ADR Article 10.13.2, affording Mr Rodriguez Jr credit for the time he spent provisionally suspended, his period of Ineligibility is deemed to have commenced on 30 July 2025, and will expire at 11:59pm on 29 July 2027.

31. Mr Rodriguez Jr, the BBBoC and WADA have a right to appeal against this Decision or any part of it in accordance with ADR Article 13.4.

32. This Decision will be publicly announced via UKAD's website in accordance with ADR Article 8.5.3 and ADR Article 10.15.

**2 March 2026**