

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



IRONMAN PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE GERDES ACCEPTS SANCTION FOR ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATION

TAMPA, Fla. (February 3, 2017) – Today, the IRONMAN® Anti-Doping Program announced that American professional athlete Beth Gerdes tested positive for a prohibited substance and has accepted a two-year suspension for that anti-doping rule violation. Ms. Gerdes' positive sample was collected at the 2016 IRONMAN® Australia and she will receive credit for the period of her Provisional Suspension which began on June 8, 2016.

Gerdes' sample tested positive for the presence of ostarine, a prohibited substance in the class of anabolic agents. The use of any ostarine is prohibited at all times under IRONMAN Anti-Doping Rules consistent with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) prohibited list.

IRONMAN applies sanctions in accordance with the WADA Code and the IRONMAN Anti-Doping Rules. In accordance with the rules, a two-year period of ineligibility is the standard and appropriate sanction for a case not involving a finding of intentional doping.

As a result of this sanction, Ms. Gerdes was and is ineligible to participate in any IRONMAN-affiliated competition or any events organized by any other WADA Code Signatory for a period of two years beginning June 8, 2016, the date of her provisional suspension. All of Ms. Gerdes' results from May 1, 2016 onward are disqualified. Ms. Gerdes did not accept her qualifying slot to the 2016 IRONMAN® World Championship given the pending nature of her results-management proceedings, thus allowing that slot to roll down to the next-qualifying female athlete in accordance with IRONMAN procedures.

"It is important to take notice that, while ostarine has been found in several contaminated products related to other positive test results, athletes are first and foremost responsible for ensuring that no prohibited substance enters their bodies," said Kate Mittelstadt, Director of the IRONMAN Anti-Doping Program. "An anti-doping rule violation occurs regardless of intent, fault, negligence or knowing use on an athlete's part. Ms. Gerdes was not able to establish how the ostarine entered her body and, therefore, IRONMAN proceeded in accordance with the Rules and had no basis to reduce the period of ineligibility."

To learn more about the IRONMAN Anti-Doping program, visit www.ironman.com/triathlon/organizations/anti-doping.aspx. For more information on the IRONMAN brand and global event series, visit www.ironman.com. Media-related inquiries may contact press@ironman.com.

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About IRONMAN Anti-Doping Program

As a private corporation conducting triathlon events, IRONMAN is the first private, non-federation sports company to formally adhere to the World Anti-Doping Code. The IRONMAN Anti-Doping Rules are adopted and implemented in conformance with the responsibilities of IRONMAN under the Code, and are in furtherance of IRONMAN's continuing its efforts to protect and promote clean sport and the integrity of IRONMAN racing. As part of the www.ironman.com website, IRONMAN has included an Anti-Doping section. Downloads of rules, policies and forms, sanctions, as well as educational resources and links are available to all participants and the public through this site. Anti-Doping is key component of IRONMAN's IAMTrue™ outreach initiative focused on ensuring that athletes know and understand their rights and responsibilities and the IRONMAN Competition Rules. The WADA List of Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods is available at www.wada-ama.org/en/prohibited-list.

About IRONMAN

A Wanda Sports Holdings company, IRONMAN operates a global portfolio of events that includes the IRONMAN® Triathlon Series, the IRONMAN® 70.3® Triathlon Series, 5150™ Triathlon Series, Iron Girl®, IRONKIDS®, six of nine International Triathlon Union World Triathlon Series races, road cycling events including the UCI Velothon Majors Series, mountain bike races, premier marathons and other multisport races. IRONMAN's events, together with all other Wanda Sports Holdings events, provide more than 680,000 participants annually the benefits of endurance sports through the company's vast offerings. The iconic IRONMAN® Series of events is the largest participation sports platform in the world. Since the inception of the IRONMAN® brand in 1978, athletes have proven that ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE® by crossing finish lines at the world's most challenging endurance races. Beginning as a single race, IRONMAN has grown to become a global sensation with more than 260 events across 44 countries. For more information, visit www.ironman.com.

About Wanda Sports Holding

Wanda Sports Holding is the world's leading sports business entity, founded to capture the opportunities in the global sports industry and to contribute to the prosperous international sports landscape – in three key areas: 1) Spectator Sports (media & marketing business), 2) Participation Sports (active lifestyle business), 3) Services (digital, production and service business). Wanda Sports Holding incorporates the international sports marketing company Infront Sports & Media, the iconic endurance brand IRONMAN, and Wanda Sports China. The headquarters are in Guangzhou, China.