
Overview of Clean Sport Activities and Education - 2020/2021

The Covid-19 pandemic continued to disrupt all squash activity including (but not limited to) competitions and events and talent pathway squads until September 2021 when we were able to introduce a phased return to squash.

A significant amount of 'behind the scenes' work has continued to ensure England Squash meets the requirements of UKAD's Anti-Doping Assurance Framework in April 2022. Work focused on reviewing our existing information and subsequently updating (and publishing) to assure our adherence. Whilst a useful, educating, and necessary process, it has proved very resource intensive during a period when the organisation was seeking to develop and implement a safe return to squash activity.

Anti-Doping education continues to be delivered by our Talent Pathway Lead, Josh Taylor (a UKAD Coach Educator). The restrictions of the pandemic forced education to be delivered remotely via Zoom which has worked favourably in terms of dedicating time specifically to Anti-Doping education as opposed to delivery during a squad which is often tricky - numerous distractions, athletes often physically tired etc. Whilst face-to-face education is preferable, we will certainly consider remote based education/learning for appropriate subject areas. Josh delivered an introduction to Global DRO & Informed Sport session to our England Potential squad in March 2021 and sessions to our Academy players and England Development squad during 2020 lockdowns.

Our regular email comms continue to our funded players and relevant support personnel. Emails include (but are not limited to) reminders regarding the new prohibited list and subsequent updates plus opportunities to join external ITA (International Testing Agency) Educational Webinars. The England Squash website and various social media platforms continue to be used for broader Anti-Doping messaging to the wider squash community, for example Clean Sport week.