



THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTION SYSTEM



November 2021.

What is a Therapeutic Use Exemption?

A Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) is a certificate granted by an anti-doping organization (IMMAF for international-level athletes, National Anti-doping Organisations for national-level athletes and Major Event Organisers for athletes participating in an MEO event, eg. the IOC for the Olympic Games).

The certificate specifies a prohibited substance, in a certain dosage, and has a limited period of validity. An application for a TUE must be based on a documented medical condition and diagnosis and the TUE will only be granted under strict criteria laid out in the International Standard of TUE.

Link to : [International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemption \(ISTUE\)](#)

The presence of a prohibited substance or its metabolites or markers in an athlete's sample without a valid TUE is an Anti-Doping Rule Violation (ADRV), as are the use or attempted use of a prohibited substance or a prohibited method, possession, administration or attempted administration.

Athletes should consult the relevant **Prohibited List** and drug information databases, in conjunction with their prescribing physician, before taking a medication to check that there is no permitted alternative. If the treatment required contains a prohibited substance, then a TUE Application is necessary

Athletes should avoid taking a medication containing a prohibited substance without a valid TUE.

WHO DO I APPLY TO?

International-Level Athletes: if your illness or condition requires treatment with a prohibited substance or method, you must apply to IMMAF for a TUE, following the TUE application process.

Which athletes are considered to be 'International-Level Athletes'?

In the IMMAF Anti-doping Rules, the following athletes are considered to be **International-Level Athletes**:

- a) Athletes included in the IMMAF Registered Testing Pool (and any other Testing Pool established by IMMAF)
- b) *Athletes* who compete in an IMMAF sanctioned World or European Championships (Senior or Junior) *International Event*
- c) *Athletes* who are sanctioned by IMMAF for an Anti-Doping Rule Violation and remain under IMMAF jurisdiction to seek reinstatement at the conclusion of their suspension.
- d) Athletes who are suspended following an ADRV;

TUE Applications should be made to the relevant National Anti-Doping Organisation.

How to apply for a TUE?

1. Download the IMMAF (or relevant NADO) TUE form

2. Complete Section A 1, 2, 3 with your personal details, then and ask your doctor/specialist to complete Section B with the medication and case history details. Please note that the form can be filled in electronically. IMMAF will not accept takes no responsibility for bad handwriting or mistypes.

3. Your doctor/specialist will also need to attach supporting medical evidence to your application. (eg . Test results, extracts from notes, etc.)

4. Submit the completed form to IMMAF via tue@immaf.org, where possible 30 days in advance of treatment use or your next competition.

NB: In emergency situation, it may be possible for a TUE to be granted in less than 30 days.

If the TUE is rejected athletes have right to appeal (within 21 days after the decision to CAS).

When to apply for a TUE?

You have to apply **at least 30 days** before the competition you are about to attend. Otherwise, apply as soon as necessary noting the retroactive TUE Process.

Conditions for approving a TUE are set out in Article 4.2 of the ISTUE.

Retroactive TUE Application Process:

An *Athlete* may apply retroactively for a *TUE* (but must still meet the conditions in ISTUE Article 4.2) if one of any of the following exceptions applies:

- a) Emergency or urgent treatment of a medical condition was necessary;
- b) There was insufficient time, opportunity or other exceptional circumstances that prevented the *Athlete* from submitting (or the TUEC to consider) an application for the *TUE* prior to *Sample* collection;
- c) Due to national level prioritization of certain sports, the *Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organization* did not permit or require the *Athlete* to apply for a prospective *TUE* (see comment to Article 5.1);
- d) If an *Anti-Doping Organization* chooses to collect a *Sample* from an *Athlete* who is not an *International-Level Athlete* or *National-Level Athlete*, and that *Athlete* is *Using a Prohibited Substance* or *Prohibited Method* for Therapeutic reasons, the *Anti-Doping Organization* must permit the *Athlete* to apply for a retroactive *TUE*; or
- e) The *Athlete Used Out-of-Competition*, for Therapeutic reasons, a *Prohibited Substance* that is only prohibited *In-Competition*.

[Comment: Athletes are strongly advised to have a medical file prepared and ready to demonstrate their satisfaction of the TUE conditions set out at Article 4.2, in case an application for a retroactive TUE is necessary following Sample collection.]

[Comment to Article 4.1(e): This seeks to address situations where, for Therapeutic reasons, an Athlete Uses a substance Out-of-Competition that is only prohibited In-Competition, but there is a risk that the substance will remain in their system In-Competition. In such situations, the Anti-Doping Organization must permit the Athlete to apply for a retroactive TUE (where the Athlete has not applied in advance). This also seeks to prevent Anti-Doping Organizations from having to assess advance TUE applications that may not be necessary.]

TUEs approved by National Anti-doping Organisations are valid for IMMAF events.

National TUEs are automatically valid for international events. IMMAF has the right to review and reject any national TUEs if the conditions of the ISTUE requirements.

TUE Application Decision Making Process

Each TUE application will be carefully evaluated by IMMAF's Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee and will only be granted in accordance with the International Standard for TUEs and the criteria laid out in article 4 of the ISTUE.

If the TUE is granted, the athlete will then be permitted to use the medication during the period of validity of the TUE without committing an Anti-Doping Rules Violation (ADRV).

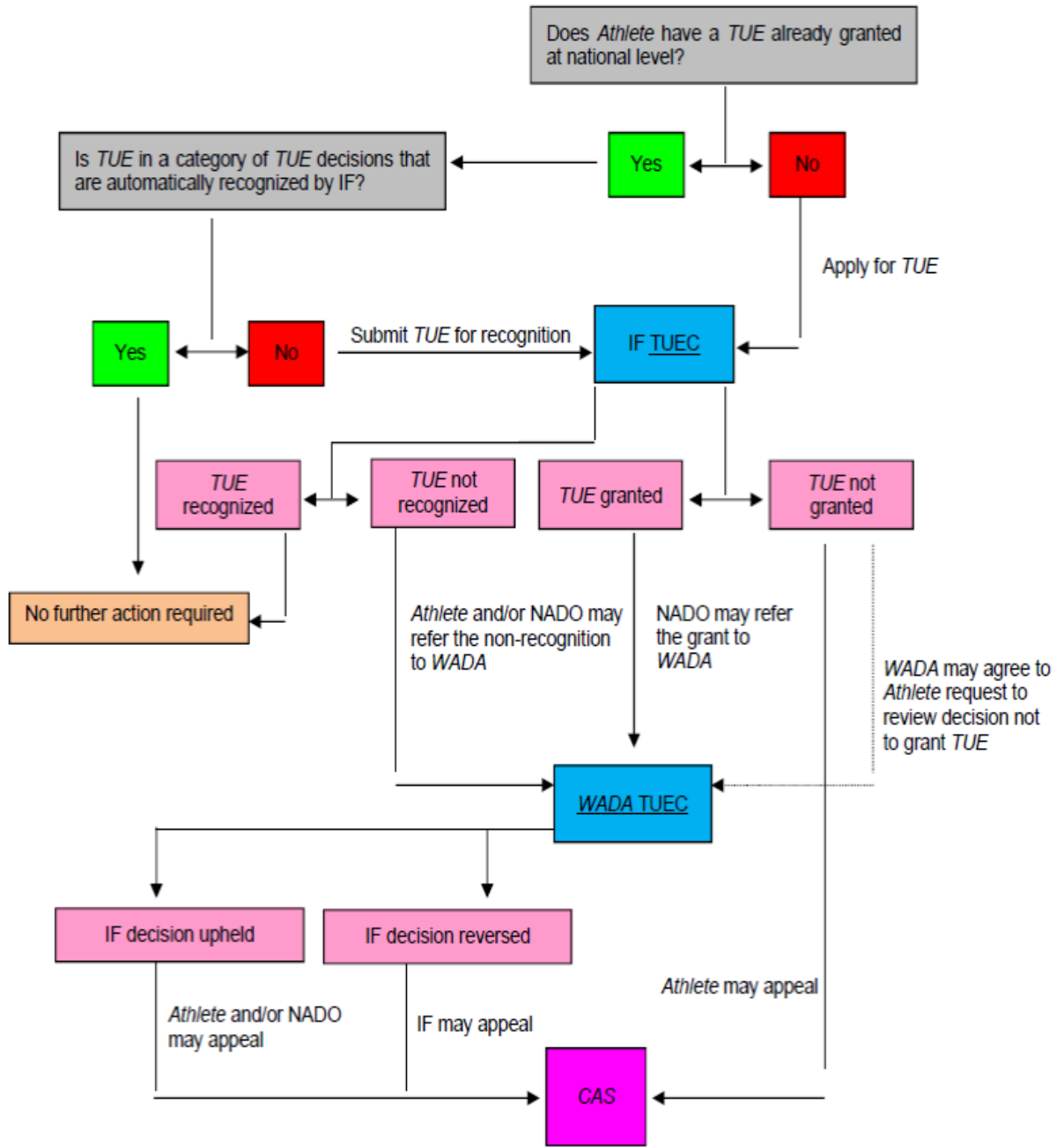
Regardless of whether a TUE has been granted or not, athletes should always declare on the doping control forms, filled out during sample collection, any medications and supplements taken within the seven days prior to sample collection, and any blood transfusions in the three months prior for blood samples.

What if my application is rejected?

If the *National Anti-Doping Organization* considers that the *TUE* granted by IMMAF does not meet the criteria set out in the *International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions*, it has twenty-one

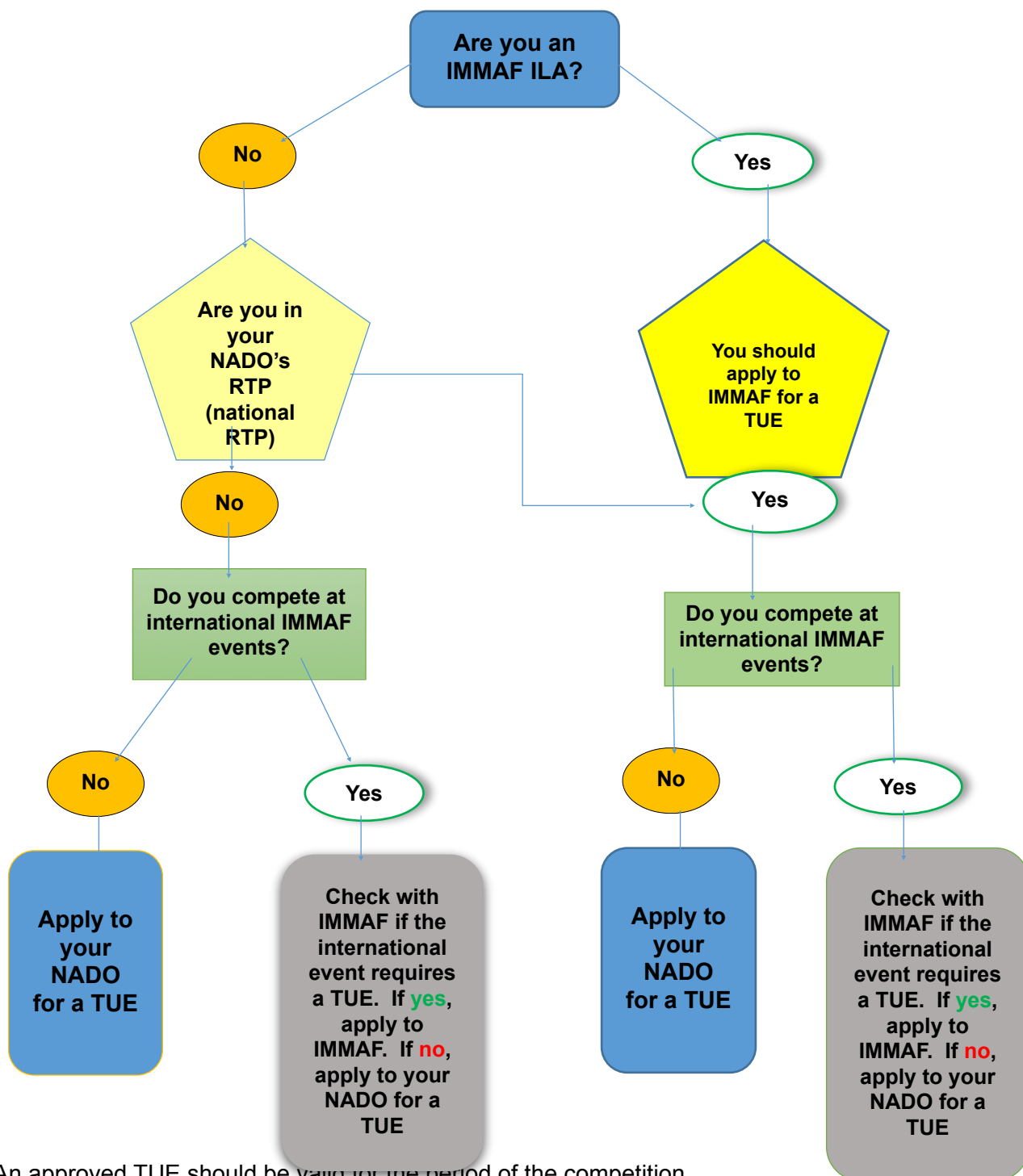
(21) days from such notification to refer the matter to *WADA* for review in accordance with Article 4.4.7.

TUE PROCEDURE FOR INTERNATIONAL LEVEL ATHLETES



Therapeutic Use Exemption Process – Who do I apply to?

To submit complete medical information on TUE Form to confirm the diagnosis of condition requiring a TUE



An approved TUE should be valid for the period of the competition.

Apply for a TUE as soon as possible after the medical condition is diagnosed and it is confirmed that no permitted alternative treatment is available.