THE CRICKET REGULATOR

IN THE MATTER OF ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATIONS BY DOUG BRACEWELL (THE "CRICKETER") CONTRARY TO ARTICLE 2.1 AND 2.2 OF THE ANTI-DOPING RULES (THE "ADR") OF THE ENGLAND AND WALES CRICKET BOARD ("ECB")

***Reasoned Decision*[1]**

[1] The Cricketer underwent an In Competition[2] Doping Control test on 25 September 2025 as part of his participation in the Rothesay County Championship Division 1 match between Essex and Somerset in Chelmsford, Essex. The Cricket Regulator, a body within the ECB, has authority for Results Management of alleged ADR violations.

[2] The Cricketer's urine sample was sent to the WADA-accredited Laboratory in King's College, London for analysis and returned Adverse Analytical Findings ("**AAF**") for cocaine and its metabolite benzoylecgonine. Cocaine is listed under section S.6A of the 2025 WADA Prohibited List as a Stimulant. It is a non-Specified Substance that is prohibited In-Competition only. Cocaine is also specifically identified as a Substance of Abuse in the 2025 WADA Prohibited List.

[3] The Cricketer did not have a Therapeutic Use Exemption for cocaine.

[4] On 24 November 2025, the Cricket Regulator notified the Cricketer of the AAF and explained that he may have committed ADR violations under ADR Articles 2.1 and/or 2.2. The notification letter also informed the Cricketer that he was Provisionally Suspended.

[5] The Cricketer provided a response on 8 December 2025, confirming that he had used cocaine on 24 and 25 September 2025 (being during a period of several hours across the evening of 24 September 2025 and into the early hours of 25 September 2025), and accepting that this amounted to an In-Competition ADR violation.

[6] The Cricketer submitted a witness statement on 4 February 2026 providing further information in respect of the AAF including, amongst other points, the Cricketer's history of substance abuse and the circumstances surrounding his AAF.

[7] The Cricket Regulator considered it appropriate under the ADR and the WADA International Standard for Results Management to commence proceedings against the Cricketer. There was no departure from any WADA International Standard in the analysis of the Cricketer's Sample.

[8] By a charge letter dated 2 March 2026 (the "**Notice of Charge**"), the Cricketer was given formal notice that he was being charged with two ADR violations, being:

a. ADR Article 2.1 – in that a Prohibited Substance, namely cocaine and its metabolite benzoylecogonine was present in the Cricketer's A Sample; and

b. ADR Article 2.2 – in that the Cricketer Used a Prohibited Substance, namely cocaine, on or before 25 September 2025 (the "**ADRVs**").

[9] In the Notice of Charge, the Cricketer was notified that the Cricket Regulator had considered the Cricketer's explanations, and accepted that the ADRVs were unrelated to sports

[1] This reasoned decision has been prepared in accordance with the ADRs and the WADA International Standard for Results Management.

[2] Capitalised terms that are not otherwise defined bear meaning attributed to them in the ADRs or the relevant WADA International Standard.

performance, and as such, the Cricket Regulator would be seeking a period of Ineligibility of two years, in accordance with ADR Articles 10.2.2 and 10.2.4.2.

[10] On 13 March 2026, the Cricketer admitted the ADRVs, and accepted the two-year period of Ineligibility that the Cricket Regulator sought.

[11] Consequently, the Cricketer is sanctioned with a period of Ineligibility of two years. In accordance with ADR Article 10.12.2.1, the period of Ineligibility runs from the date of the Cricketer's Provisional Suspension on 24 November 2025, ending at 11:59pm on 23 November 2027.

[12] Any results of the Cricketer between 25 September 2025 (being the date of the AAF) and 24 November 2025 (when the Provisional Suspension was imposed) have been Disqualified in accordance with ADR Articles 9 and 10.10. Under ADR Article 11 there is no requirement that Essex receive any form of sanction.

[13] The Cricketer's attention is drawn to ADR Article 10.13 which addresses the status of a Cricketer during their period of Ineligibility including what they are not permitted to do within cricket and when they are permitted to return to training.

[14] The Cricketer remains subject to Testing during his period of Ineligibility.

[15] This decision is final, subject to an appeal under ADR Article 13 by any party entitled to appeal.

Chris Haward

Director of the Cricket Regulator

17 April 2026