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Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs

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***COMPPS Submission – Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment (Enhancing Australia's Anti-Doping Capability) Bill 2019***

The Coalition of Major Professional and Participation Sports (**COMPPS**) and its members appreciate the opportunity to make a submission to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee in relation to the *Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment (Enhancing Australia's Anti-Doping Capability) Bill 2019 (the Bill)*.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

COMPPS consists of the following member organisations:

- (a) Australian Football League;
- (b) Cricket Australia;
- (c) Football Federation Australia;
- (d) National Rugby League;
- (e) Netball Australia;
- (f) Rugby Australia; and
- (g) Tennis Australia.

Each member of COMPPS is the governing body and custodian of a major professional and participation sport in Australia. COMPPS members play a large role in developing, promoting and presenting their sport from the grass roots through to the international level. They are not-for-profit bodies and are responsible for the long-term development and sustainability of their sports.

COMPPS members provide a wide range of public benefits through a self-funding business model. A large portion of the revenue of COMPPS members is devoted to enhancing, promoting and developing sport for all Australians. One of COMPPS' roles is to facilitate a response to public inquiries and consultations on behalf of its member sports.

## **2 BACKGROUND**

Each of the COMPPS members has invested significantly in recent years in enhancing and strengthening their own integrity capability, including through dedicated integrity resourcing and establishing solid and collaborative



relationships with relevant government agencies, law enforcement and wagering service operators.

The COMPPS members remain committed to zero tolerance in respect of doping in sport and seek to ensure that every aspect of their competitions is conducted fairly and free of the scourge of doping.

In 2017 COMPPS was an active participant and contributor to the Review of Australia's Sports Integrity Arrangements led by Justice Wood and welcomed its report as well as the Government's response to the report and its recommendations.

In the area of anti-doping, COMPPS advocated to the Wood review for the abolition of the Anti-Doping Rule Violation Panel (**ADRVP**) process as being convoluted, confusing, bureaucratic and largely unnecessary or duplicative of the general anti-doping rule violation processes otherwise provided for under the WADA Code and the sports' own anti-doping policies.

### **3 COMPPS' POSITION IN RELATION TO THE BILL**

Having regard to the above, COMPPS is supportive of the provisions in the Bill that give effect to the removal of the ADRVP process as being consistent with COMPPS' earlier submission to the Wood review, the recommendations contained in the Wood Review and the Government's response.

COMPPS is also supportive of other measures in the Bill (such as the protections granted to NSOs and the revised threshold for the issue of disclosure notices) that are designed to enhance the capability of SIA (performing ASADA's functions) and Sporting Organisations to prevent, detect, investigate and prosecute breaches of anti-doping policies. In providing its support for such measures, COMPPS notes the importance of maintaining a balance between the existence of such tools to combat cheating in sport and the rights of athletes and others to due and fair process in connection with any anti-doping violation allegations. These are provided for under the relevant anti-doping framework of WADA as reflected in each of the COMPPS members' anti-doping policies.

Finally, whilst not a matter for the Bill itself, COMPPS reiterates its long-standing position on the need for adequate resourcing of ASADA (now SIA) to carry out the functions and powers granted to it under legislation. The existence of enhanced capabilities through legislative instrument is clearly welcome but is only one element and a meaningless one if not matched by sufficient funding to enable the exercise by ASADA/SIA of its enhanced functions.

#### **4 CONTACT DETAILS**

Should there be any questions in relation to this submission please contact Jo Setright

Yours sincerely

Jo Setright  
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