

SPEAKING NOTES

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2017 JUNIOR ATHLETES ANTI-DOPING WORKSHOP

JAMAICA CONFERENCE CENTRE (JCC)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2017

STUDENT ATHLETES, SUPPORT PERSONNEL, TEACHERS, COACHES, PARENTS AND OTHERS, MEMBERS OF THE JADCO TEAM, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, GOOD MORNING. WELCOME TO THE FIRST WORKSHOP IN THE 2017 SERIES OF THE JUNIOR ATHLETES ANTI-DOPING EDUCATION WORKSHOPS.

IT IS THE DREAM OF EVERY JAMAICAN ATHLETE TO ONE DAY DON THE NATIONAL COLOURS, OUR BLACK, GREEN AND GOLD, WHILE REPRESENTING OUR COUNTRY AND YEAR AFTER YEAR WE EXPERIENCE PRIDE AS WE WITNESS THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF OUR ATHLETES WORLDWIDE. MANY OF THEM ARE MOTIVATED TO WIN FOR DIFFERENT REASONS, SOME STRIVE TO BEAT THEIR PERSONAL RECORDS, OTHERS AIM TO WIN MEDALS AT MAJOR GAMES AND MANY

WORK HARD TO HAVE THEIR NAMES WRITTEN IN THE HISTORY BOOKS AS SPORTING LEGENDS.

MANY OF YOU HERE TODAY HAVE SIMILAR ASPIRATIONS AND IT WILL ONLY BE A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE YOU JOIN THE RANKS OF OUR NATION'S SPORTING LEGENDS. TODAY WE ARE HERE TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO FOCUS NOT ONLY ON BECOMING EXCEPTIONAL ATHLETES AND WINNING MEDALS, BUT ALSO TO IMPROVE YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE ANTI-DOPING RULES AND PROCEDURES.

AT THE JAMAICA ANTI-DOPING COMMISSION (JADCO) WE HAVE ALWAYS SOUGHT TO PROVIDE JUNIOR ATHLETES WITH ANTI-DOPING INFORMATION THROUGH A VARIETY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION INITIATIVES. TODAY IS NO EXCEPTION. YOU WILL LEARN MORE ABOUT JADCO, THE DOPING CONTROL PROCESS, THE HEALTH CONSEQUENCES OF DOPING AND YOU WILL ALSO RECEIVE VALUES-BASED EDUCATION.

WE HOPE THAT THE INFORMATION THAT YOU RECEIVE HERE TODAY WILL IMPROVE YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF ANTI-DOPING AND ENCOURAGE YOU TO MAKE ETHICAL DECISIONS WHEN COMPETING. WINNING AT ALL COSTS IS NEVER OK. IF WE DO NOT PLAY BY THE RULES, NOT ONLY

DO WE CHEAT OURSELVES BUT WE ALSO RUIN THE SPIRIT OF THE GAME.

ATHLETE SUPPORT PERSONNEL, YOU ALSO HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN GUIDING OUR JUNIOR ATHLETES AND ENCOURAGING THEM TO MAKE ETHICAL DECISIONS. THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME OUT OF YOUR BUSY SCHEDULES TO BE HERE TODAY TO SUPPORT THEM.

TODAY, WE WILL ALSO BE AWARDING THE PARTICIPANTS IN OUR POSTER COMPETITION, WHICH WAS LAUNCHED IN OCTOBER 2016. WE HAVE IN OUR MIDST SEVERAL WINNERS FROM THE COMPETITION. THEY HAVE WORKED HARD TO CREATE SOME INTERESTING POSTERS AND AS A RESULT OF THEIR EFFORT THEY WILL BE REWARDED HERE TODAY. WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE THEM WITH THIS PLATFORM TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR CREATIVITY.

IN CLOSING, I WANT YOU ALL TO KNOW THAT THE JAMAICA ANTI-DOPING COMMISSION IS HERE TO SUPPORT YOU AS YOU STRIVE TO BE THE BEST THAT YOU CAN BE AND WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO REMAIN COMMITTED TO THE FIGHT AGAINST DOPING IN SPORT.

THANK YOU.