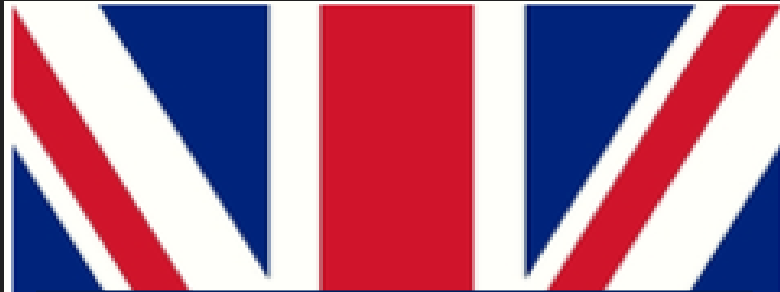




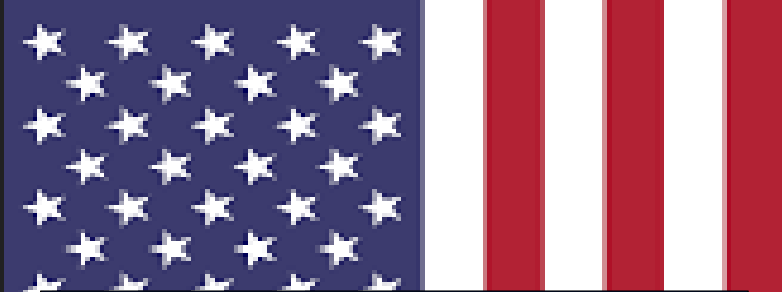
Whistleblowing: *An appealing avenue for exposing and deterring doping?*

Kelsey Erickson, PhD
SafeSport Director & Anti-Doping Lead, USA Cycling
Leeds Beckett University





5 Coaches (100% Male)
8 Athletes (25% Male)



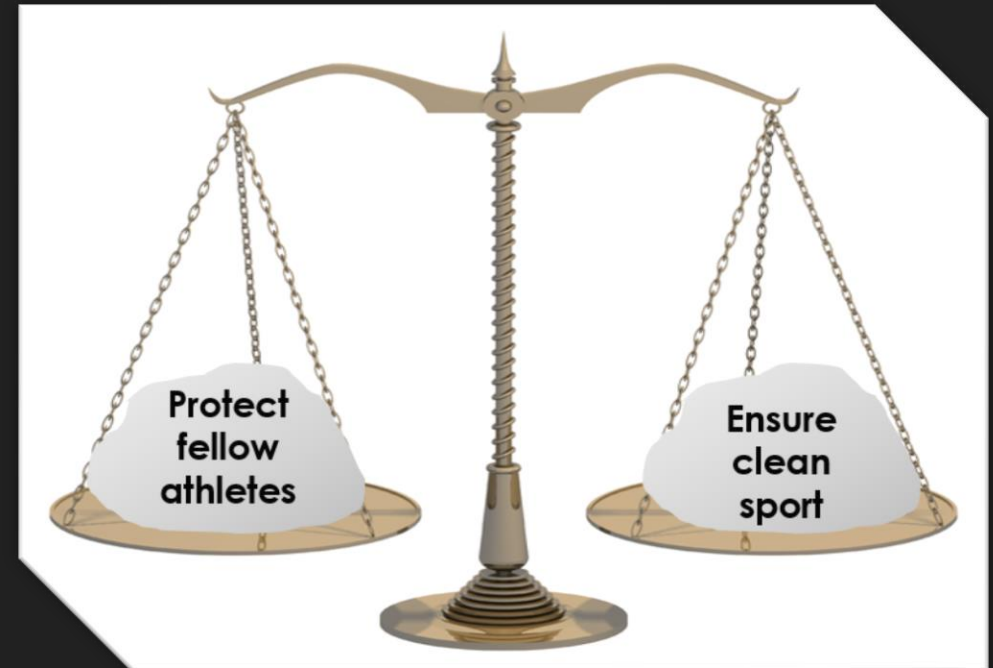
5 Coaches (80% Male)
9 Athletes (33% Male)

Coaches: Aged 33 – 68 years of age (M age = 53 years)
Athletes: Aged 18 – 45 years of age (M age = 31 years)

Participants represented various sports, including: track and field, rowing, triathlon, cricket, sliding sports, and weightlifting.


“It’s the same thing like reporting a crime, if you know someone is going to go to jail or perhaps some major consequences, you just don’t want to inflict that kind of pain and damage on a person’s future. But, at the same time, it’s the right thing to do...I would feel a little bit bad personally but I also know deep down that it would be the best thing to do for the sport and for the other people that we compete against”.

Barb, US Athlete





“I don't know if I would report them”: Student-athletes' thoughts, feelings and anticipated behaviours on blowing the whistle on doping in sport

Kelsey Erickson  , Susan H. Backhouse, David Carless

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My best friend is also a good pro. If I had gone to her house and seen the same products, I think I would have had a real moral dilemma. Because, I would have wanted to report it, but knowing I could potentially ruin my friend's life by doing so...I honestly don't know what I would have done in that scenario – if I actually liked the person. It makes me feel really bad to say it.

Megan, US Athlete

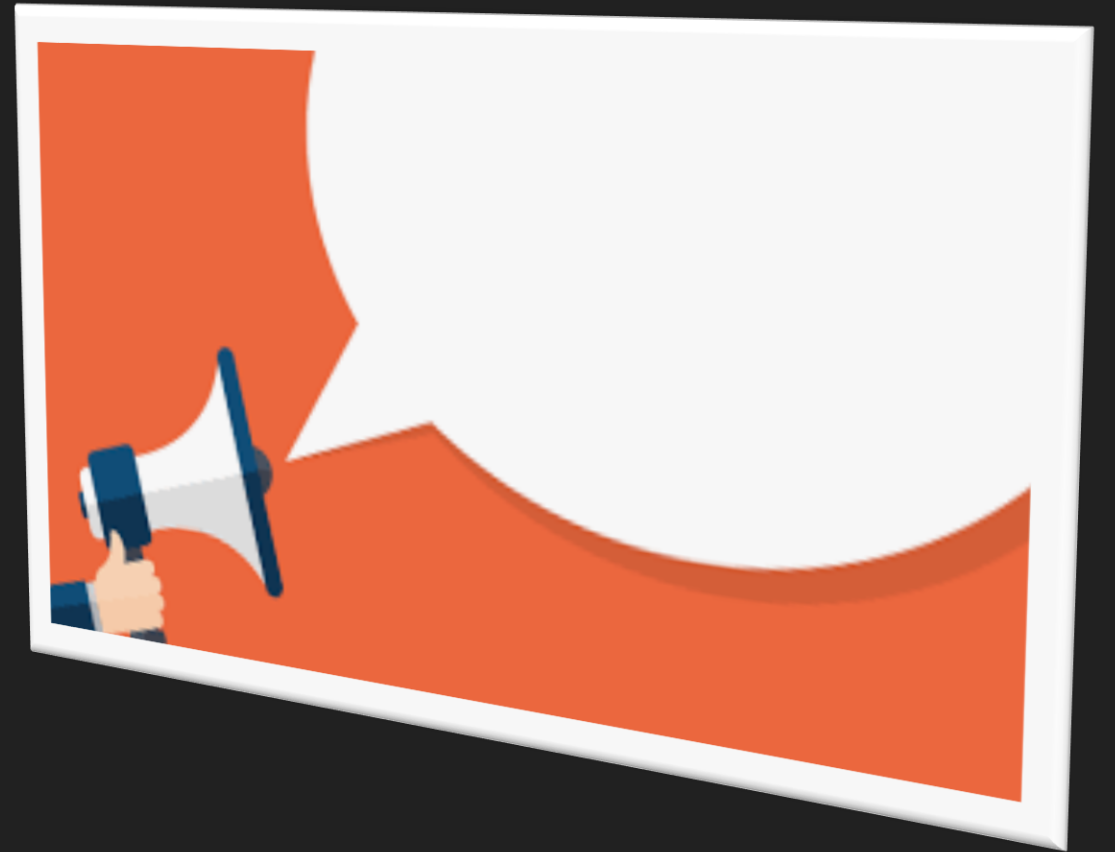
I mean I would feel a responsibility to an individual athlete cos if somebody has...a violation...that's somebody that's in trouble that...I have a responsibility to. So...it's not that I'm going to cover up something for them but I'm gonna give them the best support that I can in the circumstances, even if they've been an idiot...

Asher, UK Coach



“That kind of thing, like having something that’s like ‘speak out’ and ‘play clean’, that kind of thing, is exactly what...I think if people were aware these existed, then it would be much more likely they would do it”.

Gina, UK Athlete



“They need to say, ‘hey, look, so and so’s’...when they announce you can go on [NADO]’s page and see all the latest bans, like ‘hey, you know what? This person got banned because of an anonymous tip; this person received a four-year suspension because of an anonymous tip’. Instead of just saying, ‘this person received ... ’ But, why did they? Well, yes, they got tested, but why did they get tested? Because of an anonymous tip”.

Steve, US Coach



"I think maybe because I hear so much about the corruption in these different bodies, it's almost like I want someone who is not associated with the [sport] bodies or something. Kind of like an athlete liaison, like we have the...what's the word? 'Ombudsman' – whatever those people do. But, basically, someone who...is there to help athletes and somebody that I could trust and that I would want to report to".

Trisha, US Athlete



“A person would normally only report it if they were really, emotionally involved in the circumstance, because it’s a lot easier not to do it...a genuine whistleblower who genuinely would have gone through quite a bit of emotional turmoil to get to the stage where they then, probably would have gone ‘make the call’. It’s not sufficient simply to say, “Thank you very much, we’ll deal with it.” This isn’t like ringing up and saying, “You realize the bus is late?” “Thank you very much,” and not go to the bus stop until ten minutes later. It’s like seriously? So, I would think that there needs to be...some sort of acknowledgement that this is a tough thing to do and then some sort of actions that support that person for a period of time in an appropriate way”.

Blake, UK Coach



BUS STOP





Thank you!

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