

Published based on [Participants Who Try To Cheat At Sports By Taking Drugs Can Give Sportspeople A Bad Reputation, But There Is A Split Opinion As To What Drugs Are Acceptable In Some Circumstances](#)

Participants Who Try To Cheat At Sports By Taking Drugs Can Give Sportspeople A Bad Reputation, But There Is A Split Opinion As To What Drugs Are Acceptable In Some Circumstances

In the realm of sport, there are very strict guidelines about what can and cannot be permitted in relation to boosting a participant's performance, and most sports also have a zero tolerance attitude when it comes to recreational drugs (other than legal drugs such as alcohol).

Most people would probably agree that those who attempt to cheat by ingesting drugs should be excluded from participating in their sport and quite rightly so, but look a little more deeply and sometimes there are doubts to be raised about exactly where the line is between right and wrong.

One aspect to think about is the health position of the sports person. Although ingesting steroids over a few months to boost up the body and increase stamina is totally disapproved of, what about the asthma sufferer who has a steroid inhaler to control attacks. Those steroids are still assisting that sports person's performance, although they are enabling them to carry on competing rather than trying to gain an unfair advantage. A small minority of people would believe that an asthma sufferer should be refused the chance to participate in their chosen sport, but some would suggest that in both cases, drugs are being used to enrich performance.

Similarly, those who rely heavily on having outstanding vision to excel at their sport of preference – golfers, for example – can have Laser eye surgery if they would regularly need to use glasses to participate, but they can also ask for Laser eye treatment to embellish their vision even if they are not diagnosed at a normal eye test as needing corrective glasses or lenses. Surely there has to be a query as to whether having [Laser eye surgery](#) to change vision which is not medically defective is similar to taking drugs to enhance performance? But there is no move by any sporting organisation to ban [Laser eye](#) treatment or require that those who choose to have such an operation should advertise the fact.

As is obvious to see, something that looks to be quite a uncomplicated case of right and wrong rapidly becomes a much more perplexing situation if these questions are raised. Ultimately, it is a case of what the difference is between giving assistance to lessen the symptoms of a diagnosed health problem and allowing enhancements to areas of the body which, at that moment, are not medically recognised as being defective.

You can also find this article published on [Participants Who Try To Cheat At Sports By Taking Drugs Can Give Sportspeople A Bad Reputation, But There Is A Split Opinion As To What Drugs Are Acceptable In Some Circumstances](#), and on the tag pages [asthma sufferer](#), [Laser](#), [laser eye surgery](#), [laser eye treatment](#), [performance](#), [vision](#).