



PRESS RELEASE

TENNIS

YANINA WICKMAYER AND XAVIER MALISSE FILE APPEALS AT THE COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS)

Lausanne, 18 November 2009 - The Belgian tennis players Yanina Wickmayer and Xavier Malisse have filed appeals at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) against decisions taken by the Vlaams Doping Tribunal of Gand, Belgium, in which they were found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation in relation to Article 2.4 of the 2009 WADA Code (violation of Athlete Availability for Out-of-Competition Testing).

The Doping Tribunal determined that Ms Wickmayer failed to meet the whereabouts filing requirements on three occasions in 2009 and suspended her from competition for one year. In relation to Mr Malisse it determined that in 2009 he had committed three 'Whereabouts Failures' and suspended him from competition for one year.

In their appeals to the CAS, the athletes request the annulment of the decisions taken by the Vlaams Doping Tribunal. The CAS procedures will be conducted in accordance with the Code of Sports-related Arbitration and as a general rule a final decision will be rendered within four months.