



PRESS RELEASE

CYCLING

VALVERDE CASES: HEARING DATES FIXED

Lausanne, 15 December 2009 - The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has fixed the hearing dates for the two arbitration procedures involving the Spanish cyclist Alejandro Valverde.

The hearing in the case between Valverde and CONI/UCI/WADA will take place from 12 to 14 January 2010. In this case, Alejandro Valverde filed an appeal following a decision taken by CONI to suspend him for two years from cycling in Italy due to a violation of the CONI anti-doping rules. The athlete contests this decision and requests its annulment. The first hearing date fixed for this matter by the CAS for 16 November 2009 had to be cancelled following a request from CONI to join the UCI and WADA as parties to the arbitration procedure. Their participation was admitted by the CAS which led to several deadlines having to be re-fixed and to the postponement of the hearing.

The hearing concerning the case between UCI/WADA and Valverde/Spanish Cycling Federation will take place from 18 to 21 March 2010. In this matter, the UCI and WADA contest the decision taken by the Spanish Cycling Federation to not open a disciplinary procedure against Alejandro Valverde. The CAS had organised for the hearing to take place at the end of November 2009. However, at the request of the parties, the hearing was postponed in order for it to be able to take place over a minimum of three consecutive days.