MEDIAR RELEASE (2)

BOXING – IRELAND / MONTENEGRO

THE APPLICATION BY THE IRISH BOXER JOSEPH WARD (-81 KG) TO BE ENTERED IN THE 2012 OLYMPIC GAMES IS DISMISSED BY THE CAS

London, 26 July 2012 – The ad hoc Division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has rendered its second decision in London. It has dismissed a request for arbitration filed by the Irish boxer Joseph Ward (-81kg) who has challenged his non-qualification for the 2012 Olympic Games.

Not directly qualified for the Games, Joseph Ward had not been picked either by the International Boxing Association (AIBA), or by a Tripartite Commission, composed by representatives of the AIBA, the IOC and the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC), which had chosen to invite the boxer Bosko Draskovic from Montenegro. Joseph Ward considered that the competent authorities did not properly apply the qualification criteria with regard to his situation.

A CAS Panel composed of Prof. Massimo Coccia (Italy), President, Mr Martin Schimke (Germany) and Ms Maida Oliveia (USA) held a hearing last night from 9pm to 2am. Joseph Ward, the IOC, the AIBA, the ANOC, as well as the NOC of Montenegro were represented by counsels. The Irish Olympic Council and Bosko Draskovic have been also invited but chose not to attend.

The CAS Panel ruled that it lacked jurisdiction to deal with the application of Joseph Ward, either as an application under the CAS ad hoc Rules for the Olympic Games or as an appeal under the usual rules of the CAS. Furthermore, the Panel has considered that, even if the CAS had jurisdiction to decide the matter, the application would have to be dismissed on the merits too. Indeed, Ward would not have qualified for any open slot had any such slot been made available based on his claim that Bosko Draskovic was not eligible by the Tripartite Commission.

The full decision with the grounds is published on the CAS website (www.tas-cas.org).

For further information related to the CAS activity and procedures in general, please contact Mr. Matthieu Reeb, CAS Secretary General. Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, London, W1K 7TN, United Kingdom. Tel: (44 207) 399 8354; fax: (44 207) 399 8454, or consult the CAS website: www.tas-cas.org