



TAS / CAS
TRIBUNAL ARBITRAL DU SPORT
COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT
TRIBUNAL ARBITRAL DEL DEPORTE

MEDIA RELEASE

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THE COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS) DISMISSES THE APPEAL FILED BY NAIRO QUINTANA

Lausanne, 3 November 2022 - The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has issued its decision today in the arbitration procedure between the Colombian cyclist Nairo Quintana and the Union Cycliste International (UCI). The CAS Panel in charge of the matter has dismissed the appeal and confirmed the decision issued by the UCI Medical Director on 17 August 2022 (the Challenged Decision) in which Nairo Quintana was found to have infringed the UCI Medical Rules (presence of tramadol in-competition) and was sanctioned with the disqualification of the results he obtained at the Tour de France 2022 and a fine of CHF 5,000.

In July 2022, Nairo Quintana participated in the Tour de France finishing 6th in the general ranking. Laboratory analysis of the dried blood spot samples provided by him after the stages of 8 and 13 July 2022 revealed the presence of tramadol and its two main metabolites. On 17 August 2022, the UCI Medical Director issued the Challenged Decision.

On 26 August 2022, Nairo Quintana filed an appeal at the CAS seeking the annulment of the Challenged Decision. The CAS Panel appointed to decide the matter held a hearing on 12 October 2022.

Following the hearing, the Panel deliberated and determined that the UCI's in-competition ban on tramadol was for medical rather than doping reasons and was therefore within the UCI's power and jurisdiction. Furthermore, the Panel was comfortably satisfied that the scientific evidence showed that Nairo Quintana's samples contained both tramadol and its two metabolites. On this basis, the Panel concluded that the Challenged Decision should stand, and dismissed the appeal.

The full award with the grounds for the Panel's decision will be notified to the parties in due course.