February 3, 2016

Nigel Melville, CEO
USA Rugby
2500 Arapahoe Ave., Suite 200
Boulder, CO 80302

RE: Rugby Approved Personal Performance Gear List

Dear Mr. Melville,

This letter is in response to Rugby’s request for certain equipment/gear to be formally recognized as “specialized equipment” for the sport of Rugby in the United States. As you know, the Olympic Charter and PASO Statutes define specialized equipment as having a material effect on the performance of athletes, due to the specialized characteristics of the equipment. Once approved by the USOC, this equipment (also known as Personal Performance Gear) will be included on a list posted on the Athlete Ombudsman website, and athletes have the right to select this equipment/gear for use at the Olympic Games, Pan American Games and other protected competitions.

Based on input from USA Rugby and USA Rugby’s USOC AAC representative as to what items have a material effect on performance, and our internal review process, the USOC approves the following items, effective as of January 27, 2016:

  Scrumcap
  Shoulder pads
  Mouth guard
  Sports bras
  Compression gear
  Cleats
  Kicking tee
Thank you for the time and consideration you dedicated in recommending this list.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Blackmun
Chief Executive Officer

CC: Kacie Wallace, Athlete Ombudsman
    Gary Johansen, Associate General Counsel
    Rachel Isaacs, Sport Performance Bid Committee Liaison
    James Gillenwater, USA Rugby USOC AAC representative