

REMARKS**MR. CAREY BROWN – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JADCO****JUNIOR ATHLETES ANTI-DOPING EDUCATION WORKSHOP****WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015****JAMAICA CONFERENCE CENTRE**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, BOYS AND GIRLS, IT IS INDEED A PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU TODAY. THIS IS THE THIRD TIME WE ARE STAGING THIS SERIES OF WORKSHOPS AND I AM HAPPY TO SEE SO MANY PROMISING STUDENT ATHLETES, AS WELL AS MEMBERS OF THEIR SUPPORT TEAM, COMING OUT TO GET VITAL INFORMATION.

DECIDING TO PURSUE A CAREER AS A PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE IS A BIG RESPONSIBILITY. IT MAY APPEAR GLAMOROUS AND YES IT DOES HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO TRANSFORM LIVES AND BRING YOU, YOUR FAMILY AND COUNTRY GLORY, BUT IT TAKES A LOT OF HARD WORK AND DISCIPLINE. ATHLETES IN ALL SPORTING DISCIPLINES NEED TO ENSURE THEY MAKE PROPER DECISIONS ON AND OFF THE FIELD OF PLAY SO THAT THEY CAN ENJOY THE FRUITS OF THEIR LABOUR.

VIRTUES LIKE RESPECT FOR THEIR OPPONENTS, MAKING ETHICAL CHOICES SUCH AS NOT USING PERFORMANCE ENHANCING SUBSTANCES TO GAIN AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE AND OTHERS ARE ALL NECESSARY IN ORDER TO SURVIVE IN THE PROFESSIONAL WORLD.

ALL THE STUDENTS HERE TODAY MAY NOT DECIDE TO GO PROFESSIONAL BUT YOU ARE AT AN IMPRESSIONABLE AGE WHERE HABITS THAT ARE

FORMED WILL AFFECT THE REST OF YOUR LIVES. HERE AT JADCO, WE SEE IT AS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, PROVIDE YOU WITH AS MUCH INFORMATION ON THE RULES GOVERNING DOPING IN SPORT SO THAT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND WHAT IS REQUIRED AND BE ABLE TO MAKE INFORMED AND ETHICAL DECISIONS IN YOUR SPORTING LIVES.

EVERYTHING YOU WILL LEARN HERE TODAY IS CRITICAL, EVEN IF YOU DO NOT CONTINUE IN SPORT BEYOND THIS LEVEL, SOME OF YOU MAY END UP CHOOSING CAREERS THAT ARE LINKED TO SPORT. YOU MAY BECOME DOCTORS WITH ATHLETES AS PATIENTS, COACHES, PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHERS, GUIDANCE COUNSELLORS AND SPORT MANAGERS AND SO ON.

I WISH TO FORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGE ALL THE ATHLETE SUPPORT PERSONNEL HERE TODAY, BECAUSE YOU HAVE RECOGNISED THAT YOUR ROLE IS IMPORTANT. THE TRUTH IS, EVEN IF YOU ARE SIMPLY A FAMILY MEMBER OR A FRIEND OF AN ATHLETE, IT IS GOOD TO BE ARMED WITH THE INFORMATION SO THAT YOU CAN BE IN A POSITION TO ASSIST THEM IN MAKING THE DECISIONS NECESSARY TO PROGRESS IN THEIR CAREERS. REMEMBER ALSO THAT THE 2015 WORLD ANTI-DOPING CODE MAKES PROVISIONS FOR SANCTIONS TO BE APPLIED TO PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH AN ATHLETE WHO MAY ASSIST WITH OR COVER UP DOPING.

ONE BAD MOVE, WHETHER OR NOT IT WAS INTENTIONAL, CAN RESULT IN A BAN FROM COMPETITION, LOSS OF EARNINGS, THE ERODING OF ONE'S FAN BASES AND CAN CAUSE AN ATHLETE TO LOSE A SENSE OF SELF. ALL OF US NEED TO BE ON BOARD SO WE CAN PLAY OUR PART IN PROTECTING THE INTEGRITY OF OUR ATHLETES AND JAMAICA'S RICH SPORTING PROGRAMME.

I ENCOURAGE YOU ALL TO TRULY REFLECT ON THE INFORMATION YOU WILL GET TODAY AND I IMPLORE YOU NOT TO HESITATE TO ASK QUESTIONS IF YOU NEED TO. WE ARE HERE TO ASSIST YOU THROUGHOUT YOUR CAREERS, SO FEEL FREE TO ALSO CONTACT THE JADCO TEAM THROUGH THE VARIOUS CHANNELS IF YOU NEED FURTHER INFORMATION OR CLARIFICATION AFTER YOU LEAVE.

TODAY, WE WILL ALSO BE AWARDING THE PARTICIPANTS IN OUR MASCOT COMPETITION WHICH WAS LAUNCHED IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR. WE RECEIVED SOME VERY CREATIVE ENTRIES FROM AMONG YOUR PEERS AND I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THE MASCOT WHICH IS NOW BEING CREATED BASED ON THE WINNING DESIGN. OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ARE EXTREMELY TALENTED IN ALL AREAS AND IT IS ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO ASSIST THEM TO SHOWCASE THEIR CREATIVITY IN A WHOLESOME WAY AND SHARE IN THE JOY OF THEIR SUCCESS.

I TRUST THAT YOU WILL HAVE A FULFILLING DAY.

THANK YOU.