

SAIEDAH'S TWO-YEAR DRUG BAN UPHELD

TODAY - 3rd Edition, 24 July 2013, Page 41

Article is not available on microfilm

Printer-Friendly Page

SAIEDAH'S TWO-YEAR DRUG BAN UPHELD

SINGAPORE – Former silat world champion Saiedah Said has failed to overturn a two-year suspension for a doping offence.

LOWLINFHONG

The 28-year-old — the Sports Girl of the Year in 2005 — had won the Match Class "E" (65-70kg) title at the 38th National Pencak Silat Championship on April 14, and subsequently tested positive for illegal appetite suppressants Nor-Sibutramine and OH-Nor Sibutramine after in-com-

petition testing conducted by Anti-Doping Singapore (ADS).

She was then banned from all sports for two years until June 3, 2015 by the National Anti-Doping Disciplinary Committee (NADC), after analysis of her "B" sample confirmed her "A" sample result.

In her defence, the firefighter said she had consumed a traditional supplement for back pain provided by her mother. The Singapore Silat

her inability to prove they were in the traditional medicine she consumed.

SSF Chief Executive Officer Sheik Alauddin said Saiedah, who retired after the 2011 SEA Games, had been tested many times and did not consume illegal substances during her time as a national athlete.

"This is a lesson for every athlete that if you take anything, you better know what it is."

"This doesn't affect our plans for the SEA Games, and we will continue to scrutinise our athletes," he added.

Federation (SSF) also submitted an appeal to the NADC by the June 17 deadline.

But the National Anti-Doping Appeals Committee, which is independent of ADS and NADC, upheld the ban after an appeal hearing last Friday, citing her inability to provide any corroborative evidence to support her claims, including the lack of evidence in proving how the illicit substances entered her system, and