

Resolution for a Doping Free Sport

An Initiative of the German Track & Field Mailing List in the Summer of 98

As recent history with doping cases in cycling, swimming and track & field has shown, professional sport still suffers a lot from the abuse of performance enhancing drugs. We are afraid that this will cause the sport to lose its integrity and especially its role model function for kids and teenagers. The abuse of performance enhancing drugs is thus not only a problem for professional athletics, in the long run it will have consequences for the sport as a whole. One can assume that parents won't continue sending their kids to sports clubs when they continue to be confronted with the sad reality of performance enhancement through drugs and the health risks that come along with it.

That's why we are strongly against trivialising doping or worse, legalising it. Also the reduction of the list of banned substances as mentioned recently by IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch is a partial legalisation of doping and is incompatible with the principles of fair play. The claim that sport increases and maintains health would not be true any longer.

We have to fight doping effectively. Athletics must not give in. So, please support with your signature in the interest of a clean sport the following objectives:

1. All doping cases have to be resolved completely and in a timely manner.
2. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has to come up with anti doping rules binding for all Olympic sports and their governing bodies worldwide. This anti doping plan has to contain, among others, the following rules:
 - a) Unannounced out-of-competition controls by an independent testing organisation in all Olympic sports are a prerequisite for participation in the Olympics and international championships.
 - b) Uniform sanctions for all sports in all countries are necessary. It can not be that doping violations in different countries or different sports lead to completely different sanctions.
 - c) A second doping violation generally has to lead to a ban for life. Any national and international records this athlete might hold are to be taken off the books.
 - d) A time plan with maximum allowable time between sampling and the analysis of the A-sample, and in case of a positive test the B-sample, has to be established, for which the national governing body is responsible. Results are to be published and sanctions imposed immediately. The national sports federations will be supervised by their respective international federations to ensure compliance.
 - e) A substantial part of all sponsor and advertising money is to be set aside for anti doping measures. Besides financing controls in and out of competitions this money should be used for research into new analysis methods and prevention PR campaigns.
3. The National Olympic Committees (NOK) and further national sports federations of each Nation (in Germany for example the "Deutscher Sportbund") are to supervise the individual sports federations in following the anti doping rules. In the case of violations sanctions shall range up to the expelling of the guilty federation from the NOK and the national sport federation.

August 1998, members of the German t-and-f mailing list

I support all items of the “Resolution for a Doping Free Sport”

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Return address :

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