

IOC Session Lima

Report of the IOC Disciplinary Commission in charge of the retests of samples from Beijing 2008 and London 2012

Introduction

As you are probably aware, since the Athens Games in 2004, the IOC retests, a few years after the relevant Games, samples which were negative at the time but that could turn positive six or eight years later, thanks to the evolution of methods and equipment. This is a way to catch the cheaters who, sometimes, are one length ahead of their prosecutors and to avoid that doped athletes can keep medals they do not deserve. It should also have a deterrent effect on athletes in general.

There are provisions in the WADA Code which authorise the storage of samples for further analysis.

Samples from around 1100 athletes from Beijing and London were selected for retest at the end of 2015.

Main criteria for selection of the retested samples

Samples: Criteria for selection included the following elements:

- Likelihood to compete in Rio
- Medallists at Beijing or London
- Athletes from the 13 highest risks sports for doping
- Targeted athletes after consultation with WADA, NADOs, ADOS and the relevant IFs

Countries: Athletes from countries considered at higher risks as a result of previous doping cases or because these countries are normally successful at the Olympic Games. On that basis, athletes from 37 countries, included all important countries in sport, have been selected.

Management of the positive cases

One hundred and six cases returned with a positive result. Most athletes requested their B sample be tested as well, which took some time, as we had to offer them the possibility to be present for the opening of the B sample. The large majority of tests were carried out at the Lausanne Laboratory. The other ones were performed by the Cologne Laboratory.

Regular legal and judicial procedures were followed for all positive cases. The Disciplinary Commission held 99 hearings. Several athletes were assisted by a lawyer and/or a medical expert, which sometimes made it difficult to find dates that would be convenient for all parties. All decisions have now been drafted and notified to the relevant athletes and NOCs. 75 medals have been withdrawn. There have been only nine appeals to CAS. Three have already been rejected and six are still pending.

Distribution of the positive cases by countries and sports

Countries

Russia	37
Belarus	16
Kazakhstan	12
Ukraine	11
Azerbaijan	6
Turkey	5
Armenia	4
Moldova	3
China	3
Cuba	2
Uzbekistan	2
Spain	1
Georgia	1
Greece	1
Jamaica	1
Qatar	1

Sports

Weightlifting	49
Athletics	46
Wrestling	8
Boxing	1

Cycling	1
Modern Pentathlon	1

Most frequent substances found

Turinabol	68
Stanozolol	31

Conclusion

Thanks to these retests, athletes who chose to dope know now that they run the risk of being caught not only at their competition, but later as well. Seventy-five medals have been withdrawn and most of them have been redistributed to the athletes who deserve them. Even if, for them, it is not the same feeling as receiving their medal in an Olympic venue just after the competition, it is a way to render justice to clean athletes.

Our Commission is happy to have been able to contribute to this effort of the IOC. We are ready to continue our task with the retests of the Vancouver samples which are currently being analysed. I would like to thank the colleagues who have assisted me on the Commission, Gunilla Lindberg, Uğur Erdener and Juan Antonio Samaranch, as well as the staff of the IOC Legal Affairs Department.

**Denis Oswald,
Chair**