

**INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE  
IOC DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**REGARDING IRYNA YATCHENKO  
BORN ON 31 OCTOBER 1965, ATHLETE, BELARUS, ATHLETICS**

1. On 21 August 2004, Iryna Yatchenko (hereinafter the “**Athlete**”) participated in the Women’s Discus Throw Final at the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens (the “**2004 Olympic Games**”), where she placed third and obtained the bronze medal.
2. After this competition, she was requested to provide a urine sample for a doping control.
3. The A sample of the Athlete was tested during the 2004 Olympic Games by the WADA Accredited Laboratory in Athens, but the analysis did not result in an adverse analytical finding at that time.
4. In January 2005, the A and B samples collected from the Athlete were sent to the WADA Accredited “Laboratoire Anti-Dopage de Lausanne” (“**LAD**”), along with all the other samples collected upon the occasion of the 2004 Olympic Games.
5. In 2012, the IOC decided to perform further analyses on certain samples collected during the 2004 Olympic Games. These additional analyses were performed with analytical methods which were not available in 2004.
6. Pursuant to Article 7.2.1 of the IOC Anti-Doping Rules applicable to the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens in 2004 (the “**Rules**”), the representative of the Chairman of the IOC Medical Commission, Dr. Patrick Schamasch, was informed on 13 July 2012 by LAD of the adverse analytical findings on the A-sample of the Athlete.
7. The analytical report indicated the presence of methandienone metabolite (anabolic androgenic steroid) and traces of oxandrolone metabolite.
8. Pursuant to Article 7.2.2 of the Rules, the IOC Medical Commission determined that the above-noted A sample belonged to the Athlete, and verified that it did in fact give rise to adverse analytical findings. It was also determined that there was no apparent departure from the International Standards for Testing or the International Standards for Laboratories, which would undermined the validity of the adverse analytical findings.
9. The IOC Medical Commission determined that the B sample analysis would be conducted on a split B sample basis, with both parts of the B sample being analysed.
10. Pursuant to Article 7.2.3 of the Rules, the IOC President, Dr. Jacques Rogge, was informed of the existence of the adverse analytical findings and the essential details available concerning the case.
11. Pursuant to Article 7.2.4 of the Rules, the IOC President set up a Disciplinary Commission, consisting of:
  - Thomas Bach (Chairman)
  - Ser Miang Ng
  - Gunilla Lindberg

The IOC President decided that the procedure would be extended beyond the 24-hour time-limit as per Article 7.2.15 of the Rules.

12. Pursuant to Article 7.2.5 of the Rules, by letter dated 13 July 2012, the IOC President notified the Athlete, the Secretary General of the NOC of Belarus and the Secretary General of the International Association of Athletics Federations (“IAAF”) of the above-mentioned adverse analytical findings. He also informed the Athlete that the IOC had decided to analyse the B sample, based on a split B sample. The Athlete was invited to attend the splitting of the B sample and the analysis thereof, or to be represented on these occasions.
13. The Athlete requested the opening and analysis of the B sample, and to be represented during the B sample splitting and analysis.
14. The splitting of the B sample into two separate samples – B1 and B2 – and the analysis of the B1 sample occurred on 25 July 2012 at the LAD, in the presence of the Athlete’s two representatives, Sergey Beliaev and Svetlana Pradun. The opening and analysis of the B2 sample occurred on 27 July 2012 in the presence of the two above-mentioned athlete’s representatives.
15. The analysis of the B1 and B2 samples confirmed the findings of the A sample analysis, indicating the presence of methandienone metabolites and of oxandrolone. On 29 July 2012, the Athlete and the NOC of Belarus were informed of these analytical results.
16. By an email dated 26 October 2012, the Athlete was informed that the IOC Disciplinary Commission would hold a meeting on 1 December 2012 in Lausanne. The A and B1/B2 samples Laboratory Packages were attached to this email.

The Athlete was also invited to attend this meeting and to be heard upon such occasion. The Athlete could also submit her defence in writing within a deadline expiring on 23 November 2012.

17. By an email dated 6 November 2012, the Athlete informed the IOC that she was retired from sport since 2009 and that she would not attend the hearing in person or through a representative.
18. In another email dated 21 November 2012, the Athlete made the following statement:

*“During my training process to the Olympics-2004, I have been tested a lot of times by anti-doping authorities. After finals at the Olympics-2004, where I took the third place and won a bronze medal, I also have been tested. All of my samples were negative. I can't explain why the prohibited substance have been found in my sample because I don't have a clue how this could happen. Perhaps, the prohibited substance contained in nutritional supplement which I took and which haven't been tested in my country for the presence of prohibited substances at that time. I retired from sport in 2009 that's why it is quite difficult for me to give you clear explanations about events which took place 8 years ago.”*

19. The Disciplinary Commission held a meeting on 1 December 2012, in Lausanne, in order to prepare recommendations for the IOC Executive Board, which is the competent body to render a decision in this case, pursuant to Article 7.1 of the Rules. The Athlete was neither present nor represented.
20. After carefully considering the elements in file, the Disciplinary Commission unanimously concluded that the Athlete had committed an anti-doping rule violation pursuant to Article 2.1 of the Rules, which provides as follows: *“The following constitute anti-doping violations:*

*[2.1] The presence of a Prohibited Substance or its Metabolites or Markers in an Athlete's bodily Specimen".*

21. The Disciplinary Commission was satisfied that the A and B samples which had been analysed by LAD were unequivocally linked to the Athlete and that no relevant departure from the WADA International Standards had occurred.
22. The analysis of the samples of the Athlete provided on the occasion of the 2004 Olympic Games showed the presence of methandienone and oxandrolone. Both substances were prohibited pursuant to the 2004 World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) prohibited list under class "S4 anabolic agents – anabolic androgenic steroids".
23. The Athlete did not challenge the analytical results. She did not have any explanations for the presence of the prohibited substances. She made an unsupported hypothesis that it could have been the consequence of the ingestion of nutritional supplements. These explanations did not put the finding of anti-doping rule violation in question.
24. As a consequence of the anti-doping rule violation, the Disciplinary Commission recommends that the results achieved by the Athlete in the Women's Discus Throw Final during the 2004 Olympic Games be disqualified in accordance with Article 8.1 of the Rules, and all consequences of such disqualification including withdrawal of medal and diploma shall be applied.

CONSIDERING the above, after deliberation, pursuant to the Olympic Charter and, in particular, Rule 59.2.1 thereof, and pursuant to the IOC Anti-Doping Rules applicable to the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens in 2004 and, in particular, Articles 2.1 and 8.1 thereof

THE DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDS TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

TO ISSUE THE FOLLOWING DECISION

- I. The Athlete, Iryna Yatchenko, Belarus, Athletics:
  - (i) is found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation pursuant to Article 2.1 of the IOC Anti-Doping Rules applicable to the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens in 2004 (presence of a prohibited substance or its metabolites or markers in an athlete's bodily specimen),
  - (ii) is disqualified from the Women's Discus Throw Final where she had placed 3rd at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games, and
  - (iii) shall have her medal and diploma in the above-mentioned event withdrawn.
- II. The International Association of Athletics Federations ("IAAF") is requested to modify the results of the above-mentioned event accordingly and to consider any further action within its own competence.
- III. The NOC of Belarus is ordered to return to the IOC, as soon as possible, the medal and diploma awarded to the Athlete in relation to the above-mentioned event.
- IV. The NOC of Belarus shall ensure full implementation of this decision.

Lausanne, 1 December 2012

The IOC Disciplinary Commission

Thomas BACH  
Chairman

Ser Miang NG

Gunilla LINDBERG