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AS

06/02/2020

La CADF no abre expediente a Fuglsang tras filtrarse su posible vinculación con Ferrari

El organismo antidopaje emitió un comunicado en el que asegura que no hay procedimiento contra el danés tras la revelación del informe que le relacionaba con el médico.



JESÚS RUBIO DIARIO

AS

La Fundación Antidopaje en el Ciclismo (CADF) ha anunciado que no abrirá un procedimiento contra Jakob Fuglsang y Alexey Lutsenko tras la [revelación de un informe en el que los dos ciclistas del Astana aparecían vinculados a la figura del doctor italiano Michele Ferrari](#), suspendido de por vida para ejercer la medicina deportiva tras su vinculación con el caso de dopaje de Lance Armstrong y el equipo US Postal.

[En un comunicado difundido este miércoles](#), el organismo confirmó que no se han tomado medidas contra Fuglsang y Lutsenko por estos hechos. "La CADF confirma que, después de la cuidadosa revisión de los elementos disponibles, no ha presentado un informe a la UCI para iniciar los procedimientos contra los corredores o el equipo en cuestión".

La CADF confirmó en el comunicado que "investiga cualquier información que recibe sobre una posible violación del reglamento antidopaje" y que en este caso "recibió información relacionada con una posible violación de la normativa antidopaje y pidieron más detalles a Sportradar para realizar búsquedas adicionales para completar los archivos de la CADF". Aseguran que "el informe de Sportradar fue compartido de forma confidencial y de forma segura con una selección de relevantes organismos antidopaje y agencias de fuerzas de seguridad", y añaden que "se trató la información que contenía el informe como mucho cuidado, hasta el punto de no compartir estos hallazgos con terceros, incluyendo los representantes de los medios".

Por último la CADF reconoció su error y "lamenta profundamente que se revelase el informe y está realizando una investigación para saber cómo se hizo público este archivo y evitar que esto vuelva a suceder".

https://as.com/ciclismo/2020/02/06/mas_ciclismo/1580978566_996019.html

ABC

06/02/2020

«¿Mezclo la EPO con agua?» Así ganó siete millones la red de dopaje

[José Carlos Carabias](#)

La trampa funcionaba en silencio desde hace al menos una década, poco antes de que en España entrase en vigor la Ley Orgánica que promueve la protección de la salud del deportista y la lucha contra el dopaje en la actividad deportiva. Un delincuente serbio marcado en la Europol por sus negocios turbios con las monedas virtuales y un enfermero de un hospital público de Cádiz, el Puerta del Mar, que se asociaron para montar una red de distribución de eritropoyetina (EPO) –la sustancia predilecta de los deportistas de fondo– a través de páginas webs. La incautación por la Guardia Civil de 850 inyectables de EPO, la mayor captura de Europa, exhibe un negocio de máxima rentabilidad. Las estimaciones de la investigación oficial cifran en 7.144.200 euros el beneficio que obtuvo la red, desmantelada en la operación Hipoxianet, durante al menos nueve años y medio.

Sin saberlo, el dinero público español y en particular **el sistema andaluz de salud (SAS) estuvo financiando** la adquisición de viales de EPO a este clan delictivo a través de un enfermero que multiplicaba por dos los pedidos. Cada vez que realizaba un encargo de eritropoyetina para los enfermos del hospital Puerta del Mar, se quedaba con la mitad para traficar en el mercado negro de las webs. En la Junta de Andalucía nunca se observaron irregularidades, hasta que en 2017 la UCO se puso a rastrear el delito a partir de una denuncia en la Agencia Española Antidopaje (AEPSAD).

La Consejería de Sanidad de Andalucía aportó un dato concreto respecto al fraude. En el periodo comprendido entre enero de 2016 y junio de 2019, **los envases desviados al mercado negro ascendieron a 5.103** en distintas presentaciones, «destacando en número los de alta concentración (8.000 y 10.000 unidades internacionales)». El precio de los inyectables de EPO oscilaba entre 200 y 500 euros, por lo que los investigadores tasaron en 350 la cifra media de las compras.

Estableciendo un baremo de cuatro años como base entre los dos años y medio datados por la Junta de Andalucía y los nueve de actuación de la trama, la cantidad resultante en dinero efectivo asciende a más de siete millones de euros recaudados entre los deportistas que hacen trampas con la química. **7.144.200 euros de ganancia a coste cero**, sin más inversión que el riesgo, ya que pagaba el sistema nacional de salud.

Según las pesquisas, el encuentro entre el sanitario gaditano y el mafioso serbio se produjo de manera casual, sin que ninguno de ellos tuviera relación hasta entonces con el deporte. Según consta en las diligencias, el enfermero es un asiduo del gimnasio que ha utilizado anabolizantes de forma habitual. Por ahí y por los conocimientos de su profesión, empezó a traficar con medicamentos prohibidos en el deporte, en particular la EPO, en webs que no se escondían ni ofrecían dudas (**epototal.eu, epobest.com, steroidesfr.com, eesteroides.com, steroidihr.com, anabolikade.net**). Páginas de internet que han sido clausuradas por la Guardia Civil.

«¿Mezclo la EPO con agua?»

El procedimiento del enfermero gaditano era bastante rudimentario, tanto que diversas fuentes consultadas por ABC no descartan que el efecto de la EPO fuese nulo cuando llegaba a los deportistas consumidores, ya que se rompía la cadena del frío necesaria para conservar y refrigerar la eritropoyetina. **El sanitario guardaba los medicamentos en el trastero de un garaje**, en recipientes similares a los que usan para conservar la comida. Y, una vez se confirmaba el pedido por medio de las webs, introducía una placa de hielo en la paquetería para intentar garantizar lo que promocionaba en internet. «Enviamos Eprex de la UE, muy rápido y discreto con número de seguimiento. EPO llega en el paquete frío».

Las webs incluían **una suerte de tutorial para inyectarse EPO** (dejar la jeringuilla a temperatura ambiente, un pinchazo por debajo de la piel en la parte superior del muslo, tirar de la tapa de la jeringa sin hacerla girar, introducir la aguja empujando el émbolo con el pulgar, al escuchar un clic retirar la aguja, finalmente desinfectar con un antiséptico si hay sangre...), pero muchos deportistas tocaban de oídas sin mayor conocimiento y preguntaban al enfermero cosas del estilo, «¿tengo que mezclar la EPO con agua?».

https://www.abc.es/deportes/abci-mezclo-agua-gano-siete-millones-dopaje-202002060144_noticia.html

EFE

04/02/2020

Andrea Iannone, suspendido provisionalmente por dopaje



EPA/FAZRY ISMAIL/Archivo

La Federación Internacional de Motociclismo (FIM) ha informado este martes de que ha suspendido provisionalmente al piloto italiano Andrea Iannone por haber dado positivo en un control antidopaje tras el Gran Premio de Malasia de 2019.

"Después de una prueba de dopaje rutinaria en competición realizada en el Gran Premio de Malasia, disputado en Sepang el 3 de noviembre 2019, el señor Andrea Iannone dio positivo por una sustancia prohibida por la AMA (Agencia Mundial Antidopaje), por lo que ha sido suspendido provisionalmente desde el 17 de diciembre de 2019", informa la FIM.

La federación agrega que Iannone "solicitó el análisis de su muestra B, que también confirmó el resultado del análisis de la muestra A".

La vista del Tribunal Disciplinario Internacional (TDI) tuvo lugar este martes en el sede de la FIM en presencia de tres jueces, ante los que Iannone tuvo la oportunidad de presentar su caso, añade la FIM.

"El procedimiento sigue en curso hasta que el TDI dicte una decisión. El señor Andrea Iannone permanece provisionalmente suspendido hasta entonces y por lo tanto no podrá participar en cualquier competición de motociclismo o actividad relacionada hasta nuevo aviso", señala la FIM en su nota.

La federación precisa que, "según el Código Mundial Antidopaje y el Código Antidopaje de la FIM, ésta "no puede proporcionar información adicional alguna en este momento".

Andrea Iannone, de 30 años, ha sido tres veces tercero en el Mundial de Moto2, en las ediciones de 2010, 2011 y 2012.

El año pasado terminó decimosexto en el Mundial de MotoGP al manillar de una Aprilia RS-GP. Lleva en la máxima categoría desde 2013, con un quinto puesto en 2015 como mejor resultado final. Ganó el Gran Premio de Austria de 2016.

<https://www.efe.com/efe/espana/deportes/andrea-iannone-suspendido-provisionalmente-por-dopaje/10006-4166143>

AS

05/02/2020

La ITF sanciona a Spears con 22 meses de suspensión por dopaje

La ITF confirmó este miércoles que la veterana jugadora de 38 años dio positivo el pasado septiembre por prasterona, testosterona y metabolitos.



Nuevo caso de dopaje en el tenis. Abigail Spears, veterana jugadora estadounidense de 38 años, dio positivo en un control antidopaje durante el pasado US Open. Este miércoles, la ITF (Federación Internacional de Tenis) confirmó que sancionaba a Spears con una suspensión de 22 meses, ya que su muestra de orina del 31 de agosto analizada por la AMA contenía prasterona, testosterona y metabolitos.

Tal y como indica la ITF en su comunicado oficial, "la prasterona y la testosterona son sustancias no especificadas, por lo que están prohibidas en la categoría S1 (Agentes Anabólicos) de la Lista de Prohibiciones de la AMA 2019". Así las cosas, la suspensión de Spears comenzó el 7 de noviembre de 2019 y finalizará el próximo 6 de septiembre de 2021.

https://as.com/tenis/2020/02/05/mas_tenis/1580926667_916923.html

CICLO 21

05/02/2020

Dopaje: 4 años para el brasileño Da Silva



Roberto Silva © bike76.com

Fernando Ferrari / Ciclo 21

Casi dos años después de conocerse su suspensión, el brasileño **Roberto (Pinhero) Da Silva** ha sido sancionado por la Unión Ciclista Internacional con **4 años sin licencia por «uso de sustancias y métodos prohibidos**. El excorredor de 37 años -sexto positivo del extinto equipo **Funvic**- no podrá volver a ningún evento deportivo hasta el **3 de abril de 2022**.

Más información previa del caso a continuación:

7 abril 2018

Tras **Alex Correia Diniz, Otavio Bulgarelli, Ramiro Rincón Díaz, João Marcelo Pereira Gaspar** y **Kleber Da Silva Ramos**, el **Funvic** brasileño -en 2018 equipo elite y sub-23 y **suspendido dos veces por la UCI cuando fue profesional**- ha acumulado el **sexto positivo** de su plantilla en la persona del también brasileño **Roberto (Pinhero Da) Silva**.

El corredor de **35 años** de edad y nueve en el conjunto sudamericano -que participó en la reciente **Vuelta a Uruguay 2.2 UCI** terminando el 49º en la general a 21 minutos del ganador y compañero de equipo, Magno Nazaret- ha sido suspendido por el máximo organismo internacional por «uso de sustancias dopantes» sin especificar cuáles ni fechas de controles, lo que se presupone una sanción a instancias de una investigación de la Confederación Brasileña que ha terminado en su supresión de licencia hasta que se resuelva su expediente.

Por otro lado también han dado positivo las elites iraníes **Maedeh Nazari** (19 años) y **Fatemeh Hadavand** (20) con esteroides anabolizantes en controles efectuados en el pasado mes de febrero.

Recordamos que, entre otros, siguen a la espera de su sanción o absolución los exprofesionales españoles **Samuel Sánchez** y **David Belda**.

<https://www.ciclo21.com/dopaje-4-anos-para-el-brasileno-da-silva-funvic/>

CYCLING WEEKLY

04/02/2020

'In cycling there is 90 per cent doping,' says Stefan Denifl's lawyer

The Austrian is on trial after admitting to blood doping

[Alex Ballinger](#)



Stefan Denifl has

appeared in court (Picture: JOSE JORDAN/AFP via Getty Images)

Stefan Denifl's defence lawyer has claimed "in cycling there is 90 per cent doping" as the Austrian pro stands trial over his own blood doping.

Denifl, who formerly raced for Aqua Blue Sport and IAM Cycling, is on trial in Austria accused of serious sporting fraud after he used the banned performance enhancing method.

The 32-year-old, winner of a stage of the Vuelta a España in 2018, is accused of misleading sponsors and organisers by doping between 2014 and 2018. Denifl has been banned by the UCI and has admitted blood doping, but denies the fraud charge, Austrian news website [Tirol.Orf](#) reports.

Speaking in court, Denifl said "I am not a criminal" and added "I wouldn't have got a contract without doping."

Denifl was implicated in Operation Aderlass, a police investigation into blood [doping](#) in Germany and Austria that originated in endurance skiing and eventually hit the cycling world.

Raids by police in February 2019 threw up evidence linking cyclists to the scandal, with Denifl [reportedly confessing](#) to police that he had used the prohibited method after being arrested. Denifl was not riding with a team at the time, having stepped away from a contract with CCC Team in December for "personal reasons."

Fellow Austrian Georg Preidler also [quit WorldTour team Groupama-FDJ](#) in March last year after he too was implicated in the long-running doping scheme which has seen a number of other riders and former professionals [provisionally banned](#).

Both Preidler and Denifl have been banned for four years by the [UCI](#).

Preidler is also charged with sport fraud over his doping and is accused of defrauding his team after blood doping and regularly taking growth hormones from the 2017 Giro d'Italia up until he left the squad in early 2019.

He has admitted blood doping but denies ever taking performance enhancing substances.

Last month he told a court in Austria he became involved in doping [“out of pure curiosity.”](#)

The investigation centres around the German doctor Mark Schmidt, with whom Denifl communicated with using a prepaid mobile phone from 2016.

Schmidt has been charged by German authorities in connection with the doping scandal but he has yet to comment on the allegations.

Denifl's lawyer told the court: “He ruined his health and sometimes ran races at the risk of his life.

“In cycling there is 90 per cent doping. There is no super clean athlete.”

According to the prosecution, Denifl's doping caused damages of around €580,000 (£490,000) in bonuses and team fees.

The case, being held at the regional court in Innsbruck, Austria, was adjourned until a later date so more witnesses can be interviewed.

<https://www.cyclingweekly.com/news/latest-news/in-cycling-there-is-90-per-cent-doping-says-stefan-denifls-lawyer-448411>

THE NEW YORK TIMES

04/02/2020

WADA: U.S. Bill Could 'Shatter the Anti-Doping System'

By The Associated Press

The World Anti-Doping Agency sent a letter to U.S. Senators explaining how a bill designed to deter drug cheats in international sports would, instead, “have the unintended consequences of shattering the anti-doping system” if it is passed without changes.

The document, obtained by The Associated Press, was sent this week at the request of a Senate committee that is holding a hearing Wednesday in which it will hear testimony about the Rodchenkov Act.

The House passed the bill last year, and WADA has hired a lobbying firm to engage Congress for changes in the legislation triggered by a Russia cheating scheme that has shaken the global Olympic movement for the past five years.

WADA director general Olivier Niggli told AP that “WADA favors governments using their legislative powers to protect clean athletes in the fight against doping and this Act is no exception.”

The six-page WADA letter does, in fact, say the agency “supports the overall objectives of the legislation.” The letter also goes into extensive detail about provisions it says would create a “chaotic World Anti-Doping system with no legal predictability.”

The measure, named after the Moscow lab director who blew the whistle on Russia’s cheating at the 2014 Sochi Olympics, calls for fines of up to \$1 million and prison sentences of up to 10 years for those who participate in schemes designed to influence international sports competitions through doping. (Individual athletes who get caught doping would not be subject to punishment under the law.)

It would also allow the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency to obtain information collected by federal investigators, which could help in prosecuting anti-doping cases.

The WADA letter said the agency agrees with the information-sharing language.

But there is also a long list of concerns, notably over the “extraterritorial” jurisdiction the bill proposes — a clause that would allow U.S. authorities to pursue those who perpetuate doping schemes at international events in which Americans are involved as athletes, sponsors or broadcasters. Many U.S. corruption laws, including those used to prosecute FIFA executives in the soccer-bidding scandal, include similar extraterritorial jurisdiction.

“The effort to criminalize doping acts under U.S. law and then apply that law extraterritorially (cq) will shatter the international harmonization of rules that is critical to advancing clean sport,” WADA wrote in the memo.

It predicted that if the U.S. passes the law, “other nations will follow suit and inevitably competing jurisdiction on the same set of facts will result in confusion, weaken the system, and compromise the quest for clean sport.”

The athlete-advocacy group FairSport sent out a news release responding to the WADA document, giving a point-by-point rebuttal of the clauses with which the agency disagrees.

In that statement, Rodchenkov's attorney, Jim Walden, said similar laws with extraterritorial jurisdiction weren't always popular "with corrupt nations."

The Rodchenkov act "will do the same in the fight against doping fraud deployed by gangster states who hijack international sports competitions," Walden said.

At meetings last November, WADA officials took criticism for lobbying efforts on the bill, which has bipartisan support in Congress.

"If we, as payers to you, use those funds to undermine legislation, then that's not going to be a cooperative and effective way to go forward," said Kendel Ehrlich, the U.S. government representative on WADA's foundation board.

The U.S. government provides about \$2.5 million annually to WADA.

In its letter to the Senators, WADA also defended its action in the long-running doping case involving Russia.

WADA recently ruled on the latest development in the Russia saga: proof that the country had tampered with the data it was supposed to turn over as part of a deal to be reinstated. WADA set a framework that would ban the Russian flag and its dignitaries from the upcoming Tokyo Games while allowing for some of the country's athletes to compete.

Russia appealed that case to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, and on Tuesday, WADA asked the hearing to be made public.

WADA said it was urging a "go-slow" approach to any legislation "authored in revulsion to Russia's cheating."

"Such a move would jeopardize the international system, could undercut the foundation upon which WADA sanctioned Russia; and send shockwaves through the system precisely at a time when clean sport needs a strong and globally recognized system," the letter said.

Niggli wanted it made clear that WADA's intent is not to scuttle the bill. But, he told AP, "currently, there are elements of the Act that could backfire and be counter-productive for the protection of clean sport around the world."

<https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2020/02/04/sports/olympics/ap-oly-doping-bill-lobbyists.html>

THE GUARDIAN

06/02/2020

Edwin Moses: 'We all knew doping was happening ... it was a dark period in athletics'

[Donald McRae](#)

[Athletics](#)

The two-time Olympic 400m hurdles champion on his fight against doping, his amazing unbeaten streak and meeting Nelson Mandela



Edwin Moses has been at the forefront of anti-doping for 32 years. Photograph: Simon Hofmann/Getty Images for Laureus

The number 999 is burned into Edwin Moses's psyche. He holds the greatest winning streak in athletics for, as a two-time Olympic champion over the 400m hurdles, Moses was unbeaten for [nine years, nine months and nine days](#). From August 1977 to June 1987, he won 122 successive races. But the worldly American, who is also a physicist and the chairman emeritus of the United States Anti-Doping Agency, has spent enough time in other countries, like Britain, to know that 999 is also the number to call in an emergency.

For much of his life the struggle against doping has felt like an emergency to Moses. It explains why he has been at the forefront of anti-doping for 32 years and why, even now, he is such a vocal proponent of clean sport. Moses has helped lead the clampdown on [Russia's state-sponsored doping programme](#). He continues to monitor the situation in regard to a likely blanket ban on all Russian athletes competing in this summer's Tokyo Olympics, even as "authorised neutrals", and he is heartened that last week World Athletics hardened its stance. Real changes and genuine contrition needs to be shown by the Russian Athletics Federation to avoid the ban on all its individual athletes. This is a fight Moses has waged for decades.

"That's why I worked out three times a day," he says when asked if he felt the shadow of doping among his rivals even when he seemed invincible as an athlete. "I ate properly. I had a great stretching programme. I had a great physical therapist. I did all kinds of innovative training exercises. I swam. Did weights. But I also did it because I knew it would make me the best."

This was not the template used by cheating athletes. “We all knew it was happening,” Moses says. “We knew doping was wide-scale because there was no drug testing – beyond being able to detect drugs for three or four days. It was unabated. I’m a physicist. I’ve got a biology and chemistry background. I wanted to be a doctor. So I was shocked when I went to the 1976 Olympics and saw some of the Eastern Bloc women. They were much more manly than me. Then, in the 1980s, more athletes used performance-enhancing drugs because out-of-competition testing did not exist. There was no test for testosterone or growth hormones then. EPO was brand new. So there was unabated use of these drugs all over the world.

“A few athletes spoke up but many made comments out of expediency. It was a dark period in my sport and it’s continued for a long time. It’s finally changing now. But I was one of the few who spoke out at the start. People who protest, and do the right thing, usually don’t have anything to gain. I was winning anyway so there was nothing for me to gain. I could have done nothing and track and field would have been worse than it is today. I made a difference. That’s why we have out-of-competition drug testing – because of what I and a few others did in 1988.”



[Facebook](#)[Twitter](#)[Pinterest](#)

Moses crosses the line to win gold in the 400m hurdles at the LA Olympics in 1984.
Photograph: Colorsport/Shutterstock

Athletics has never recovered from its loss of legitimacy in [the aftermath of the Dirtiest Race in History](#), the 100m final at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, when Ben Johnson, the initial winner, failed a drug test. Serious questions, at the very least, have been raised over the other seven finalists. Moses, who won bronze in the 400m hurdles at those Games, when he was 33 and competing in his final Olympics, felt an even sharper desire to clean up his sport.

“[After Ben Johnson](#), I put together a group of 10 US athletes. We demanded [out-of-competition] testing in the US. We got the money and legislation and drew up the drug programme from scratch because no one had ever done it. We got it ratified and the following year the US Olympic committee adopted our programme. I became the chief of US testing from 1989 to 1994. There was no such thing as Wada [the World Anti-Doping Agency] and, in the US, I was chairman of the committee for the big six Olympic sports over here. I negotiated agreements to test athletes and that was the first testing outside competition.”

The 64-year-old Moses seems energised by World Athletics. “They’re doing an outstanding battle in the fight against doping and hopefully the corrupt people are now gone. [The news \[last Thursday\] was great](#). World Athletics put out a statement saying unless the Russians apologise for the last transgression [when their federation conspired to hide the truth with the 2018 world indoor high jump champion, Danil Lysenko, who missed three doping tests], they’re rescinding the possibility of their athletes competing in Tokyo. Period. They’ll stop all of them.”

At the 2019 World [Athletics](#) Championships in Doha in October, 29 Authorised Neutral Athletes from Russia won six medals – despite their country being banned for four years. “The ones they allowed to compete [in Doha], were tested as much as anyone else. If they can’t show the same evidence there’s no reason to let them compete. I feel that way about any athlete from the many areas of the world where there’s very little testing. But this latest news is significant. Someone’s got to stand up for the right thing.”

Does he expect Russia to back down and apologise? “No. I doubt it.”

Moses is justifiably proud of his role in toughening up Wada – as the anti-doping agency seemed subservient to the IOC. Moses and Beckie Scott, the chair of Wada’s Athlete Committee, became embroiled in a row with the organisation. [Scott said she was “bullied”](#) in 2018 over her opposition to reinstating Russia’s anti-doping agency. Moses supported Scott and he was told to “shut up” by some Wada officials.

I think the strain in anti-doping politics has been taken out because the leadership has changed

“I’m proud that – alongside Beckie and others on the athletes’ commission – we forced Wada to look at its governance,” Moses says. “Hopefully we’ve been able to [fix some of Wada’s problems](#). Changes were made to bring an ethical balance to the way Wada is run internally. The Russians got caught red-handed and the evidence was clear from two investigations. But politically it was perceived differently because of the money Russia puts into sports. If it had been a completely independent group that had nothing to do with international federations or the IOC, it would not have dragged on. At Wada they had federation guys, and IOC guys, who were not looking out for the best [anti-doping] interests. That was the innate problem. We forced them to deal with those issues.”

Will Wada be stronger now? “We will see. The new president at Wada, Witold Banka, is a [former Polish] athlete. I think the strain in anti-doping politics has been taken out because the leadership has changed. That was the elephant in the room. It started at the top [with former president Craig Reedie being associated with the IOC].”

Is the war against doping being won? “Our deterrent model is very important. New software packages mean we’re able to buy the right tests that can withstand the legal, analytical and statistical scrutiny required to prove a test is conclusive. Drugs are being detected for longer periods of time. They’re now looking at proteins in the body that change immediately upon use of growth hormone, testosterone, EPO. We can detect more because we’re looking at protein chains, 200 or 300 segments long, in the DNA. That’s brought in a whole new way of testing.”

Moses is also a passionate ambassador for [Laureus](#) – the group which celebrates the power of sport to transform the lives of millions of people. He cites the moment when he [was on stage with Nelson Mandela](#) at the inaugural Laureus awards in 2000, as “one of the big moments of my life. What he said that night, about the power of sport, was so pertinent. I saw people crying in the audience. From then on I applied all the hard work, the discipline, the winning – all the positive things I learned from sport – to Laureus and helped build a great organisation. It’s been as satisfying as sport itself.”



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Moses speaks to young soccer players in September 2019. Photograph: Sarah Stier/Getty Images for Laureus

Stressing the wider social and political power of sport, Moses encourages athletes to protest openly against racism, homophobia and other forms of injustice. He talks knowledgeably about football’s enduring problems with racism and supports those England players who have [discussed walking off the field](#) the next time they are subjected to racial abuse. “I would agree with them. If that’s what it takes, that’s a small price to pay for the indignity human beings suffer. I would have walked off the track if I had seen something like that.”

Moses also backs [American athletes who have taken a knee](#) against police brutality and racism in the US. In contrast, when asked about Donald Trump, Moses says, “I don’t even want to talk about our president.”

The IOC has promised to ban [all political protest at the Tokyo Olympics](#) but Moses rejects this aim. “I don’t think you can stop it. It’s an individual discretionary endeavour and history shows that you can’t stop protest.”

Sporting history confirms that, for those nine years, nine months and nine days, Moses was also unstoppable. Before he races off to his next meeting in Atlanta I ask him about that astonishing streak which began after he lost a race in Berlin against the German 400m hurdler, Harald Schmid. A week later, in Dusseldorf, Moses beat Schmid by 15 metres. Did the pain of defeat drive him for the next decade?



50 stunning Olympic moments No33: Ben Johnson wins gold ... tests positive

“That was a funny day. Before the race I’m sitting at the pool when I should’ve been working out at the track. But I was winning the race until I made a mistake at the last hurdle because I was running so slow. I used 14 steps instead of 13. That’s why I lost that race. But it taught me a lesson. You have to be 100% ready all the time. Don’t take anything for granted. After that I did not have any problems for almost 10 years.”

Was it particularly painful when, in June 1987, he finally lost a race to Danny Harris? “No. When I first started I lost all the time. Losing is part of the game. If you lose you figure out what you did wrong and fix it up. If it had been another five metres, I would probably have caught him. I’d been suffering from food poisoning and nearly pulled out. But I was paid my money and I ran.”

A few months later, Moses beat Harris to clinch the world championship. “I was happy and the fact I had lost to him was beside the point. Most people lose.”

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Moses, however, almost always won. But is there a danger his remarkable sporting record might be forgotten? “No. Just last week Tiger Woods said he believed [mine was the streak of all streaks](#). As time goes on, it becomes more meaningful and more significant. It’s been 33 years since I quit. No one’s even come close to my record. And it’s doubtful that anyone will.”

The 20th anniversary Laureus World Sports Awards take place in Berlin on 17 February, honouring the sporting triumphs of 2019, and celebrating the power of sport

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/feb/06/edwin-moses-interview-donald-mcrae-athletics>