

Lance Armstrong To Be Banned

Seven-time Tour de France winner, [@Lance Armstrong](#), may lose his titles and may be banned from cycling for life. This was after the cyclist dropped his fight against drug charges that threaten his legacy as one of the all-time greats.

Armstrong won the sport's ultimate contest from 1999 to 2005 before retiring. The cyclist said his dropping charges against the USADA is not an admission of guilt and remarked that he was growing weary of the fight and the strain doping accusations had put on his personal and professional life. The cyclist won his first Tour at a time when a trace amount of a banned anti-inflammatory corticosteroid was found in his urine sample and cycling officials remarked that he was authorized to make use of a small amount of a cream for treating saddle sores.

The chief executive of USADA, Travis Tygart, said the cyclist may be hit with a lifetime ban on Friday. Under the WADA code, Lance Armstrong may lose his 2000 Olympics bronze medal besides losing awards, cash earnings, and event titles. Armstrong would be stripped of all his results dating back to August 1, 1998, said USADA chief Travis Tygart. He added that this is an example and reassuring reminder to all clean athletes that there is a big hope for future generations to compete on a level playing field without using [performance enhancing drugs](#).

Armstrong said in a statement that **there comes in a point of the life of every man when he has to say 'enough is enough' and that time is now for him. He termed the investigation of the anti-doping agency an "unconstitutional witch hunt."** The cyclist added that he has passed hundreds of drug tests during his illustrious career and he adhered to all rules that were in place at the time of his Tour de France wins. The cyclist added that the USADA has used heavy-handed tactics to pursue him and even broke the law and remarked that he refuse to participate in a process that is so one-sided and unfair. The investigation, from the beginning, has not been about learning the truth or cleaning up cycling, but about punishing me at all costs, said Armstrong.

The statement was very soon taken by the USADA as an admission of guilt on an athlete who was a hero to many for overcoming testicular cancer and the support of his foundation for cancer research. Tygart added that it is a sad day for all who love sports and athletes and said that there is no success in cheating to win.

The anti-doping agency has maintained that Armstrong had made use of banned substances such as EPO and anabolic steroids as well as blood transfusions as far back as 1996 for boosting his performance. John Fahey, the President of the WADA, said decision of the cyclist to drop his fight against drug charges was an admission that the allegations against him "had substance in them."

The International Cycling Union that had backed legal challenge of the cyclist may take the case before the International Court of Arbitration.