

## **Lance Armstrong May Help USADA**

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency says it has been in contact with disgraced cyclist Lance Armstrong and offering him more time to decide if he wants to cooperate with the investigators and tell more about doping in cycling.

In a statement, USADA chief executive Travis Tygart said in a statement his group was “in communication” with Armstrong and his representatives and USADA understand that he does want to be part of the solution and assist in the effort to clean up the sport of cycling and must cooperate with its cleanup effort if his ban is to be reduced.

It was recently reported that the cyclist, who has been barred from Olympic sports for life, is in talks with USADA to possibly disclose who helped him dope and how he managed to cover up his doping for nearly a decade. Armstrong, according to sources, has expressed his desire to reveal those details to have his competition ban reduced to eight years. After the USADA deadline to reduce the ban got over, a two-week extension was given to him to come out all clean.

The goal of Lance Armstrong to come open and fully with information about his doping is to compete in triathlons and running events as most of these events are sanctioned by organizations that follow the [World Anti-Doping Code](#), under which the disgraced cyclist is serving his lifetime ban. His ban could be reduced to eight years if he helps anti-doping officials to build cases against others under the current rules. His ban may further be reduced if Armstrong decides to offer incriminating information about sporting officials, including those at the International Cycling Union or USA Cycling but an exception to the rule would be required to be made by anti-doping and cycling officials in such a case.

Meanwhile, the banned cyclist has been sued over \$12 million in Tour de France prize money after he admitted to using banned performance enhancing drugs throughout his career and to win seven consecutive Tour de France titles. In a suit filed in Texas state court in Dallas, SCA Promotions Inc alleges Armstrong and his management company, Tailwind Sports, defrauded it into paying Armstrong \$12.1 million in bonuses and interest for his 2002, 2003 and 2004 Tour de France wins by lying about the use of banned drugs by Lance Armstrong during those events. SCA Chief Executive Officer Robert Hamman said in a statement Armstrong cheated to win all of his Tour de France victories and we paid \$12,120,000 to Tailwind Sports Inc as a result of Lance Armstrong's unjustly achieved victories and related activities. He also added that SCA also suffered reputational damage and substantial loss of business. Armstrong attorney Mark Fabiani remarked that the agreement's "plain words bars SCA from ever revisiting the settlement it entered into in 2006."

In the recent past, two California men sued [Lance Armstrong](#) and his book publishers last month for fraud and false advertising and claimed his best-selling memoirs, billed as non-fiction, were revealed to be filled with lies after his confession to systematic doping.