

## **Dick Pound No Longer Has Faith In Sport At The Top**

[Dick Pound](#), the former head of the World Anti-Doping Agency, has revealed that he has lost faith in sports due to the widespread use of performance enhancing drugs.

The founding chairman of the World Anti-Doping Agency says drug use in sport has forced him to question everything he sees. Pound recently co-authored an authoritative WADA report in which he laid out in detail why anti-doping programs across the world are so ineffective. Pound, in the wake of the publication of WADA's global review of drug tests by sport, nation and laboratory, remarked that it is pretty clear just from the numbers of people being caught that drug use is rampant, and it's rampant at the top end of sports. He added this isn't people ranked at No 300 taking drugs to boost them up the rankings, it's the people at the top who have used drugs to get there and he believes it's happening across sports. Pound also added that it's clear that cycling, athletics, swimming, tennis, and soccer have major problems and are ruled by governing bodies in denial.

One of the most influential members of the International Olympic Committee, Dick Pound was a swimming finalist at the 1960 Olympic Games. He was also the Chairman of the IOC commission that oversaw the [Olympic Bribery Scandal](#) in 1999. Dick Pound was named the first Chairman of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), a post to which he was re-elected in 2004. He was made an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1992 and was made an Officer of the National Order of Quebec in 1993 besides being awarded with the Gold and Silver Star of the Order of the Sacred Treasure by the government of Japan in 1998. In 2008, Pound won the Laureus Spirit of Sport Award for his work at WADA and is the Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of the Canadian Grenadier Guards (CGG).

For 2012, the review of global testing by WADA revealed that almost 300,000 samples from all sports were analyzed by accredited laboratories, with 1.19 per cent of them testing positive for banned substances with the rates of positive tests varying from 0.34 per cent in China to 3.34 per cent in India. Britain had 0.74 per cent positives, France 1.97 per cent, and Belgium 2.05 per cent. The anti-doping commission of Jamaica performed only 106 tests in 2012, against 4,051 by the anti-doping agency in the United States of America, 5,971 in Britain (plus almost 10,000 at the Olympics and Paralympics), 15,854 in Russia, and 10,066 in China.

The former WADA chief also said that the fact that Lance Armstrong could pass around 300 drug tests is enough proof that dopers are beating the system. He added that he will not watch the Tour de France unless administration of the sport is reformed. Pound also remarked that he got a dismissive response from commissioners of all America's major sports when he asked how the World Anti-Doping Agency could help in the fight against drugs. Dick Pound said there is no general appetite [in sport] to undertake the effort and expense of a successful effort to deliver doping-free sport because exposing dopers is bad for business.