

## Chris Froome Welcomes Tougher Doping Penalties

Chris Froome has welcomed tougher doping penalties and said he has been personally hit hard by claims of cheating. The [Tour de France 2013](#) champion said cycling was now a much cleaner sport than it was during the notorious [Lance Armstrong era](#).

Speaking at the end of a private visit to Kenya, Froome said to reporters that it is great that the World Anti-Doping Agency plans to extend the ban from two to four years, and that cycling is being taken as leading the way in the fight in anti-doping. He added when first-time offenders are given a four-year ban, that's quite serious for a sport when the window is very short. Chris Froome added you can only be a professional for 15 years and it is a harsh penalty and that's what we need to see in cycling.

The Team Sky rider added that he has no sympathy for disgraced cyclist Lance Armstrong but hopes that the now-banned rider will be given a chance to testify at any future inquiry into doping in professional cycling. Froome said there is still so much that needs to be explained, needs to be elaborated on in order for everyone to be able to put this story to bed and, finally, move on from this and there is still a lot of good that can be done through what Armstrong has to say and he thinks it would eventually put an end to that story and allow the rest of us to carry on with our careers. The British rider added it would be really good for the sport to know exactly what was happening at those times so that we can learn and move on from that and he doesn't think it's good for the current situation of the sport to be lingering on what's happened in the past. Froome also said that he would want to see him come forward and really tell it like it is and say exactly what happened so that we can put the story to bed and it happened more than a decade ago and we need to stop talking about it now.

In another development, a new book [Inside Team Sky](#) has claimed that Sir Bradley Wiggins snubbed Team Sky colleague Chris Froome after he won last year's Tour de France by splitting his prize money with all his other teammates, excluding Froome. In his book, Sunday Times chief sports writer David Walsh said that Wiggins eventually paid Froome the money during the week of this year's World Championships in Florence, and on the insistence of team principal, Sir Dave Brailsford. Froome was runner-up to Wiggins in the race that would have netted him €200,000, but the tradition of Tour de France dictates that overall winner shares his prize money with all the riders who help him win. Wiggins and Froome were struggling with tension in the second half of the 2012 Tour de France after Froome appeared to attack Wiggins, his team leader, on Stage 11 to La Toussuire-Les-Sybelles. This incident sparked a row on Twitter between Wiggins' wife Cath, and Froome's now fiancée, Michelle Cound.