

Masters Racer Suspended For Doping Violation

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency has suspended Richard Meeker, the U.S. masters racer who tested positive for a banned substance last year, for a period of two years. This was after Meeker provided a urine sample on September 6, 2012 after competing in the masters road championships in Oregon that tested positive for 19-norandrosterone and 19-noretiocholanolone, which are metabolites indicating the use of a prohibited [anabolic steroid](#).

The Masters racer however has claimed that he is the victim of a tainted supplement and added he has the proof. In a statement to the media, Meeker's attorney Howard Jacobs, who represented athletes such as [Floyd Landis](#) and Marion Jones in their doping cases, remarked that Richard Meeker discovered which supplement contained 19-norandrostenediol, an anabolic steroid prohibited by the World Anti-Doping Agency. The statement further revealed that the Masters racer tested many supplements he had been taking and kept USADA informed of his progress. Meeker shared the final results with the United States Anti-Doping Agency but was still suspended for two years for the doping violation.

Meeker agreed that the positive test constitutes a first doping offense and believes his test results may have been positive due to his use of a dietary supplement that he bought and used before his positive test.

Richard Meeker, an elite Masters cyclist with many road cycling championships to his credit, holds an international license as a member of USA Cycling and the UCI. Reeker's suspension will expire on September 5, 2014 and he will not be eligible to compete in any competition under the jurisdiction of the UCI, USA Cycling, the USOC, any other signatory of the WADA Code, any body that has accepted the WADA Code, any body whose rules are consistent with the WADA Code, or any of the clubs, member associations, or affiliates of these entities.

The 51-year-old remarked he was shocked to learn of the finding of this sanction, as he had always been a proponent of clean sport and have never knowingly taken any prohibited substances. He went on to add that cycling is his hobby and not his career and it would make no sense for him to use an illegal substance.

Meeker's case was reviewed by the American Arbitration Association North American Court of Arbitration for Sport (AAA), according to USADA. It was found that Meeker had failed to establish the source of the prohibited substance in his sample and had committed a doping violation under WADA Code 2.1. The Masters racer was stripped of all results dating back to the Masters Road Championships and he will be eligible to return to racing next fall. Meeker remarked he return to amateur cycling competition in September 2014, and will prove through his results that he had always raced clean.

The two-year period of ineligibility for Meeker began on September 6, 2012, the day his sample was collected. The cyclist has also been disqualified from all competitive results achieved at and

subsequent to the [Masters Road Championships](#) competition, including forfeiture of any medals, points, and prizes.