

Chris Froome Backs Doping Inquiry

In an interview, the reigning Tour de France champion [Chris Froome](#) said he backs an inquiry into cycling's dirty past.

The Team Sky rider said he supports the UCI-sanctioned inquiry into the *dirty laundry of cycling*. Froome remarked he hopes that anyone who does have anything to contribute would get involved and added he believes that at the end of the day people will be able to say of it and put everything bad about the past behind and stop asking questions about it. Froome added the current generation of cyclists has an equally arduous task ahead of them to prove to the world that they are riding clean. He remarked it is a challenge for the new generation of cyclists to be able to show people that the sport really has turned around -- and that doping is not something that's done any more. He also said the pressure falls on us now and it is our burden but it does fall on us to tell people that the sport is no longer how it used to be.

A few months back, the Cycling Independent Reform Commission (CIRC) was created by the president of the International Cycling Union (UCI) -- Brian Cookson -- with the vision of investigating both historic [doping in cycling](#) and allegations that the world governing body of cycling had been involved in previous wrongdoing.

Cookson said at that time we can all agree that the [Lance Armstrong](#) affair has done immense damage to our sport and added Armstrong wants to be first through the door when the Commission is up and running and he as the UCI President urge him and anyone else to participate.

Froome also said he would not be participating in the Milano-Sanremo as originally planned after organizers were forced to remove the Pompeiana climb due to poor road conditions. Milano-Sanremo takes place March 23.

Team Sky officials revealed that Froome will not be racing Milan-Sanremo because of the change of course and will instead be racing Volta a Catalunya (March 23-29) following Tirreno-Adriatico (March 12-18). Recently, many teams are juggling their rosters for Milano-Sanremo after it was announced that Pompeiana climb's introduction would be delayed until 2015. Sandwiched between the Cipressa and Poggio, the climb, tilted the race toward climbers and away from sprinters.

Meanwhile, Mark Cavendish (Omega Pharma-Quick Step) and André Greipel (Lotto-Belisol) both have changed their schedules to start the longest classic of the season while others decided not to change their plans. Cavendish will also contest Gent-Wevelgem, Driedaagse van De Panne (Three Day s of De Panne), and Scheldeprijs. According to Giant-Shimano officials, John Degenkolb remains the team's captain for the Italian classic and Marcel Kittel will not start.

In a press release, Omega Pharma sport and development manager Rolf Aldag said uncertainty about the route of the Sanremo left Mark's program open until just a few days ago and therefore, after Strade Bianche and Tirreno-Adriatico races, Mark will be in the starting lineup for the Milano-Sanremo. Cavendish said he is very happy to be riding in Milano-Sanremo, on the same route where he watched his heroes' race and win when he was a kid. Cavendish added it will be fun and stimulating to ride on this route, which is making this race the only classics monument for the sprinters.