

Former Figure Skating World Champion Summoned

Carolina Kostner will appear before Italian Olympic Committee officials who are investigating whether she was complicit in doping by [Alex Schwazer](#), her former boyfriend and Olympic race walking champion.

In a brief statement on Monday, CONI says it has summoned the former figure skating world champion Carolina Kostner to a hearing on Friday. This was after media reports about evidence Kostner gave to Bolzano prosecutors investigating the case. Kostner, the 2014 Olympic bronze medalist, will be asked to provide details on Schwazer's doping and allegations of complicity in the breach of doping regulations.

Schwazer was excluded from the 2012 London Olympics after he tested positive for [Erythropoietin](#) (EPO) before the games. Prosecutors believe that coaches and doctors knew that Schwazer, who won the 50-kilometer walk at the 2008 Beijing Games, was doping long before he tested positive. Schwazer was banned by CONI for 3 ½ years in April 2013.

Schwazer, the Italian race walker, retired during the [London 2012 Olympics](#) after he was disqualified for doping offences. Schwazer admitted to buying EPO and said he lied to his fiancée as he stored EPO in their fridge. While admitting EPO use, Schwazer said in a press conference in Bolzano, in northern Italy that he lived three very difficult years as an athlete and there was too much pressure on him. The Italian walker said he acted alone and remarked he did not want to compromise anyone, especially his coach.

Schwazer said he went to Turkey in September and bought EPO from a chemist. He added that it is easier to buy EPO in Turkey than in Italy where you can get it with 1500 euros and added that he brought back EPO with him to Italy. Schwazer revealed he took the last injection on July 29, 2013 and anti-doping controllers visited him on July 30. The walker said he could have avoided the anti-doping test but decided he did not have strength to lie any more. Schwazer issued an apology to Carolina and it was not easy for him to lie to her and he told Carolina the medicines in the fridge were vitamin B12.

Alex Schwazer won the bronze medal in the 50 km race at the 2005 World Championships and was the runner-up at the 2008 IAAF World Race Walking Cup. Schwazer and went on to win gold at the 50 km walk at the 2008 Summer Olympics where he set a new Olympic record with his time of 3:37:09.

Carolina, the Italian figure skater, is a five-time European champion, the 2011 Grand Prix Final champion, the 2014 Olympic bronze medalist, and the 2012 World champion. Carolina Kostner is also a medalist at five other World Championships, three other Grand Prix Finals, four other European Championships, a seven-time Italian national champion, and the 2003 World Junior bronze medalist. She is the cousin of Isolde Kostner, a silver medalist in alpine skiing at the 2002 Winter Olympics. Carolina is best known for her speed across the ice and can land triple-triple

combinations, including the double axel-triple toe loop combination, triple flip – triple toe loop – double loop combination, and the triple flip – triple toe loop.