

Sotherton Admits To Missing Two Doping Tests

Former heptathlete [Kelly Sotherton](#) has revealed she missed two doping tests during her career. The British Olympic medalist said she has nothing to hide and thinks it is important for explain why a doping test was missed as people can assume you are [doping](#).

Sotherton, the former heptathlete who won bronze at the 2004 Athens Olympics, called for all athletes to make their missed tests public and also remarked that there should be more transparency surrounding missed tests. Under UK Anti-Doping rules, whereabouts must be provided by athletes for an hour a day, every day. If the athlete is not available for testers three times within the space of a year, a doping offence is constituted.

The ex-heptathlete said missing a doping test can happen to even the most professional people. Sotherton also said people will understand how it can happen if you are more transparent, open and honest, and the explanations are plausible. The former athlete she missed an anti-doping test of IAAF in 2007 since she left her training venue ten minutes early and also said she missed another test in 2011 as she had made an error on the date when completing her whereabouts.

Sotherton announced her retirement two months short of a final hurrah at the London 2012 Olympics. The heptathlete had an operation for removing a piece of disc from her back and was told by the doctor that she could be running again within six weeks but that did not gave her enough time for reaching the qualifying standard before the British team is picked.

The 2006 Commonwealth Games champion was sidelined by her British teammate Jessica Ennis who had became the dominant force in heptathlon, after she won the World and European titles. Sotherton announced her retirement after competing at the IAAF Combined Events Challenge in Italy and said she knew immediately that the injury was serious enough to end her dream of competing in the London Olympics. Sotherton added she will be extending her support to former rival Jessica Ennis and backed her to claim gold for Great Britain in the heptathlon at London 2012 Olympics.

Born on 13 November 1976 in Newport (Isle of Wight), [Kelly Sotherton](#) played netball for the Isle of Wight as a teenager and became a member of Birchfield Harriers athletics club in 1998. In 2002, Kelly made her senior British team debut and gained international recognition in 2004 when she surprised one and all by unexpectedly winning a bronze medal at the Summer Olympics in Athens.

The English former heptathlete and 400m sprinter was fourth at the 2008 Summer Olympics and was the bronze medalist at the 2004 Summer Olympics. Sotherton also bagged the bronze medal at the 2007 World Championships in Athletics. Since retiring in 2012, Kelly has undertaken a course in journalism and regularly appears in the media. She has been commentating and guesting on different productions including those by FiveLive and Talksport and has undertook public speaking engagements. Kelly Sotherton participated in the 2013 London Marathon in aid of AgeUK and completed the Deloitte Ride Across Britain from Lands End to John O'Groats.