

USA Cycling To Ban People With Doping History To Work

USA Cycling will very soon enact a formal zero-tolerance doping policy for its contractors and employees to draw a line the stand by defining who all can and cannot work at the US governing body of cycling.

The policy is likely to be enacted within weeks and still under evaluation by internal counsel. This policy will be roughly structured into two branches, each defined by the individuals it will prohibit from working at or with USA Cycling. The first section of the policy states that any employee or contractor with a proven doping past will not be hired to work directly with athletes. In other words, any coach, trainer or doctor must have a clean record under the new policy.

[Derek Bouchard-Hall](#), USA Cycling's new CEO, defined "*proven doping past*" as having been sanctioned by the World Anti-Doping Agency or the United States Anti-Doping Agency. Bouchard-Hall added this has already been done informally, but we're putting into a formal policy and also commented that we are not in the business of evaluating rumor and innuendo but with a proven doping past, you will not work at USA Cycling with athletes.

The second section of the policy states that USA Cycling will not hire any employee or contractor (who has a proven connection to doping from "*this point forward*"), whether he or she works directly with athletes or not. In other words, if a rider or coach or doctor is found guilty from October 2015 onward, he or she cannot work at USA Cycling in any capacity. USA Cycling, to augment this new policy, will be asking new employees to sign a statement when they are hired that will verify they have never been involved in [doping](#) in any way. If an employee is proven to be involved in doping after hiring, he or she will be terminated.

Bouchard-Hall added [USA Cycling](#) would also want current employees to sign such a statement. He also remarked we are seeking to do that with all employees, including those that are here today and added but that's a legal nuance we need to work out, whether we can do that or not. Previously, Bouchard-Hall described the new, tougher

stance of the organization on dopers in broad terms to express the requirement for evaluating the context of doping offenses before meting out punishment. Bouchard-Hall

Bouchard-Hall said athletes should learn that doping can have professional ramifications well after their riding career is over. He also commented that it is not at all about vengeance but this is about stopping doping in the future. The USA Cycling's new CEO also said the policies that we're making are not about putting further penalties on those in the past, it's about how we stop doping going forward. Bouchard-Hall also clarified that his recent statement that there will be no coaches working with our athletes or directly with athletes who have a doping past was not understood rightly. He said the policy does not apply beyond USA Cycling employees and into American-registered teams and riders.