

Rory McIlroy Delivers Astonishing Attack On Golf At Olympics

Four-time major winner [Rory McIlroy](#) has launched an astonishing attack on golf at Olympics by telling the media he has not been blood tested in advance of golf's return to the Olympics at the Rio Games in August. McIlroy also casually asserted he could take [human growth hormone](#) (HGH) "and get away with it."

McIlroy added he thinks blood testing is something that needs to happen in golf just to make sure that it is a clean sport going forward. McIlroy also commented he thinks if golf wants to be seen as a mainstream Olympic sport then it has to get into line with the other sports that test more rigorously. The Northern Irish professional golfer who is a member of both the European and PGA Tours said he gets tested four or five times a year and even that is only a urine test, not a blood test, so it is very little compared to the rest of the Olympic sports.

The comments caught the attention of the World Anti-Doping Agency and WADA spokesperson Catherine MacLean remarked the Montreal-based organization that oversees drug testing for the Olympics will keep a watchful eye on golf. MacLean added WADA does find Rory McIlroy's comments troubling and also said anti-doping organizations under the World Anti-Doping Code are required to implement testing programs that test the right athletes, the right way, for the right substances at the right time, and WADA will continue to monitor anti-doping programs in golf as it does with all other sports as part of its Code compliance activities.

MacLean said it is common knowledge that a number of [prohibited substances and methods](#) are only detectable through blood testing. The WADA spokesperson also commented golfers participating in the Rio Olympic Games should expect to be blood-tested by anti-doping organizations in the lead-up and during the Games.

Golfers eligible for the Olympics were due to be subjected to random blood testing administered by the International Golf Federation starting on May 6. However, McIlroy said the International Golf Federation gave him only a single urine test on the Friday of the U.S. Open at Oakmont before he announced his withdrawal from the Olympic competition on June 22.

The 27-year-old is one of 20 players to have withdrawn from next month's Games, citing fears about the Zika virus. The Northern Irishman said he doesn't think anyone can blame me for being too honest.

The drug-testing protocols of IGF were defended by its spokesperson. An IGF spokesperson said the Olympic eligible golfers have been blood tested "multiple times" since May 6 and also affirmed more stringent doping controls are in place. The IGF spokesperson said McIlroy was tested under the WADA accredited IGF program and would have continued to be tested had he not withdrawn and also commented the IGF and national anti-doping programs are actively conducting testing on the IGF Registered Testing Pool and those athletes will continue to be subject to such testing through the Olympics which includes blood, whereabouts and out of competition testing.