

## **Global Doping Enforcement System Is Broken, Says USOC President**

[U.S. Olympic Committee](#) president Larry Probst has described the worldwide efforts against doping as broken. Probst cautioned against anti-[doping](#) efforts focusing on a single country or group of nations.

The President of the U.S. Olympic Committee remarked a new international model has to be developed to combat doping. Probst remarked the global system is broken and it needs to be fixed – the sooner the better, and added we owe it to clean athletes around the world to modernize our approach to anti-doping, to create a truly independent entity absent any conflicts of interest that currently may exist, and committing the resources necessary to protect the integrity of the competitions that we all love to see.

Probst also commented that we need an anti-doping agency that has real investigative powers and the authority to impose fines and sanctions. The U.S. Olympic Committee President further remarked this reconstituted agency needs to be supported globally by all constituencies – the (International Olympic Committee, international federations and national Olympic committees) Athlete Commissions, and national governments. He also disclosed the USOC board recently increased our contribution to the United States Anti-Doping Agency by 20 percent and added he is personally committed to investing the time and energy necessary to developing a new model for a new era.

Probst said it would be an error to single out individual nations. The International Association of Athletics Federations, the world governing body for track and field, recently banned Russia from competing in the Rio Olympics after allegations of state sponsored doping program were made. Probst added he supported the decision of the International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach at the IOC Session in Rio to request that each international federation make a reasoned determination on Russian participation at the Games. Probst further said he also made the point that doping in sport isn't simply the problem of one country, nor can it be solved by targeting one team and added we can't devolve into a Cold War mentality of us versus them if we are going to address the inadequacies of the current anti-[doping system](#).

The statement of Probst comes against a backdrop of global calls for an overhaul of the World Anti-Doping Agency in the wake of high profile drug controversies and the Russian doping scandal.

Probst was among the 84 International Olympic Committee members who at President Thomas Bach's urging gave their approval to call of the IOC executive committee to let individual sports federations review the doping pasts of athletes and determine which Russians could compete. Probst reiterated at the IOC meeting that the anti-doping system is in need of repair, and that the problem goes deeper than Russia.

The World Anti-Doping Agency was among several anti-doping groups that called for a complete blanket ban on all 389 athletes of Russia. The IOC President went against that recommendation and cited the "concept of individual justice" to justify the call to hand over the decisions to the sports. The IOC later confirmed that 271 Russian athletes had been cleared to compete.