

Second Batch Of Athletes' Doping Data Released

A second batch of the medical data of the [World Anti-Doping Agency](#) (WADA) has been released by Hactivist group 'Fancy Bear' on 25 athletes from the United States, Germany, Britain, Czech Republic, Denmark, Poland, Romania, and Russia.

The group published ten more names from the United States, five from Germany, five from Great Britain, one from the Czech Republic, one from Denmark, one from Poland, one from Romania, and one from Russia. In a statement, the group said the list of [doping](#) addicts includes not only the athletes of the top Olympic teams but also those who compete for other countries. The group also said there will be more leaks to come.

In a statement, WADA confirmed the latest data was illegally gained by hackers when they breached the [Anti-Doping Administration and Management System](#) (ADAMS) of WADA. The statement further reads the group has illegally gained access to ADAMS via an International Olympic Committee (IOC)-created account for the Rio 2016 Games. It also reads that the account confined to the Games includes such confidential medical data as Therapeutic Use Exemptions delivered by International Sports Federations (IFs) and National Anti-Doping Organizations (NADOs). It was also added the group is releasing the data that it has obtained from this account in batches.

WADA further added it believes spear phishing of email accounts was used by the hackers for gaining access to the data confined to the Rio 2016 Games and also remarked it has no reason to believe that other ADAMS data has been compromised.

Olivier Niggli, Director General of WADA, remarked the World Anti-Doping Agency has no doubt that these ongoing attacks are being carried out in retaliation against the Agency, and the global anti-doping system, because of our independent Pound and McLaren investigations that exposed state-sponsored doping in Russia. Niggli termed the hack as a criminal attack that was aimed at smearing the reputations of world athletes and urged the Russian government to "stop" the hackers.

In its defense, Dmitry Peskov, spokesperson for Russian President Vladimir Putin, said Russia is in no way tied to the hacking of the WADA database. Peskov added it can be

stated with all certainty that there is no involvement of the official Moscow, Russian government, or special services in such actions. The spokesperson for Russian President Vladimir Putin said this is completely ruled out and also commented that these unfounded allegations do not honor any organization, if they are not backed by something substantial.

The second list includes names like Bethanie Lynn Mattek-Sands, an American professional tennis player who has won three Grand Slam titles in women's doubles and two in mixed doubles, and Dagmara Wozniak, an American sabre fencer who represented the US at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. This list also included professional US women's basketball players Brittney Griner and DeAnna Marie Price, an American track and field athlete competing primarily in the hammer throw. It also included Kathleen Baker, an American swimmer who won one gold and one silver at the 2016 Summer Olympics.

David Larkin, a US-based international sports attorney and biochemist, said we need to re-think TUEs, these exemptions that are offered, as it raises some questions about whether there is in fact a room for abuse because it's very reliant on local physicians and their assessments and then it's submitted to the TUEC, which is the committee that approves or disapproves these things.