

Spanish Rider Banned For Doping

The UCI, the world governing body of cycling, has imposed a doping ban of three years and nine months on Spanish rider [Alberto Gallego](#). The Spanish professional cyclist tested positive for [Stanozolol](#) just three days into his career.

The 25-year-old was just a few days into his career as a professional rider after joining the Caja Rural-Seguros RGA team when his doping sample revealed the presence of Stanozolol. The cyclist was handed a provisional suspension in January by the UCI and his contract was rescinded by Caja Rural-Seguros RGA team.

In a statement, the Caja Rural-Seguros RGA team said after the provisional suspension was announced that it has decided to rescind the contract of the rider Alberto Gallego after finding about anomalies discovered in the result of a control carried out on January 3, 2016. The statement further reads the rider came into the team on January 1, 2016 and he had not participated in any race on this season's program.

A few days back, the cyclist was added to the [UCI list of sanctions](#). His ban effective from the date of the test will run until the 25th October 2019, by which point Gallego will be nearly 28 years of age.

In his defense, Gallego had claimed he was the victim of supplement contamination. In an open letter, the Spanish rider said his reaction could have been what it was: incredulity. The rider he has never taken Stanozolol and did not even knew what it is used for and added he now knows that it is more suited for a bodybuilder than a professional cyclist. Gallego said he is also now aware that the banned substance stays in the system for long and it will be illogical to think that he would have used Stanozolol to improve his performances.

Alberto Gallego also remarked he is very well aware of the fact that many would not believe his innocence and claims but he has no doubts about it. Gallego further added he is more than certain after checking once more all the supplements he had used in recent years that Stanozolol does not appear on any of the labels. The cyclist said he therefore assumes he is a victim of supplement contamination.

The Spaniard impressed on the Spanish amateur scene and was ranked number one before he earned a deal with Radio Popular in 2014. Gallego earned his contract with Caja Rural-Seguros RGA team after catching the eye at last year's Route du Sud where he finished seventh on the queen stage and went on to finish seventh overall behind the likes of Alberto Contador and Nairo Quintana.

Manager Juanma Hernandez, while announcing the signing of Gallego, had remarked the cyclist can make very valid contributions to the team. The Caja Rural-Seguros RGA team manager had further remarked the profile of Gallego fits well with our team and added he is a courageous rider who climbs very well and is one of the great young assets of our national cycling.