

Lawyer Of Russian Skiers Slams McLaren Report

The lawyer defending two Russian skiers [Evgeniy Belov](#) and Aleksandr Legkov has claimed that there are a significant number of inconsistencies in the second part of the McLaren report into alleged Russian doping.

Christof Wieschemann also said the inconsistencies make the identification of athletes questionable. The lawyer said you know that different documents are available that refer to the athletes if you are familiar with the McLaren report and added these documents are not consistent.

Referring to the Russian cross country skier Evgeniy Belov, Wieschemann said he is mentioned for two competitions, in which he did not participate. Belov, who competed for Russia at the 2014 Winter Olympics, was provisionally suspended in December 2016 over allegations of doping. The lawyer also pointed out that the cross country skier was not mentioned in several competitions, in which he did participate. Wieschemann also said there are also no less than ten faulty records in different lists in the McLaren report that refer to Aleksandr Legkov, a Sochi 2014 Olympic champion, who was also suspended over [doping](#) allegations.

The lawyer added the inconsistencies discovered by him are not some isolated single cases but a part of a larger flaw. Wieschemann emphasized that he does not think it is a minor error but a big bug he found out. Wieschemann added he would like to highlight that he does not want to challenge the results of the McLaren report in total but said the weakness of the [McLaren report](#) is that he was not ordered to investigate directly single athlete and added that he used documents he received from third parties. Referring to his clients Belov and Legkov, Wieschemann remarked it is unlawful and they are liable for damages if the reasons to suspend both athletes are not sufficient.

Wieschemann also said he had already informed the International Ski Federation (FIS) and is expecting a response within a week's time. The lawyer added we at first have to exhaust the sports arbitration, in particular through the Court Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne and said we will decide afterwards what is going on. Wieschemann said he is

hopeful that we will receive a positive result both from the FIS Doping Panel and probably from the International Olympic Committee.

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Independent Commission, headed by Canadian sports law professor, Richard McLaren, delivered the second part of its report in December. This report claimed that over 1,000 Russian athletes competing in the summer, winter, and Paralympic games could have been involved in a manipulation system for concealing positive doping tests. The FIS suspended six Russian skiers, including Belov and Legkov, following its publication. The International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Federation (IBSF) provisionally suspended four Russian skeleton athletes from competing but later lifted the suspension as the federation found no sufficient evidence for the ban. The reversal on the provisional suspension of four Russian skeleton athletes gave the green light for them to compete at the skeleton European Cup in Germany on January 14-15.