

Russian Olympic Bobsled Champion Banned For Doping

[Dmitry Trunenkov](#), who won the four-man bobsled at the Sochi Games, has been banned by the Russian Bobsled Federation after he tested positive last year.

RBF president Alexander Zubkov, who was the teammate of Trunenkov at the 2014 Olympics, remarked we are very disappointed. Zubkov added we will look into how this happened. The RBF imposed a doping ban of four years on Dmitry. His ban is backdated to April 2016, four months before he announced his retirement from competition to focus on his role to lead a patriotic youth group set up by the Russian armed forces.

Dmitry won the silver medal in the four-man event at the 2008 FIBT World Championships in Germany. The Russian bobsledder who has competed since the early 2000s also won a gold medal at the 2009 Bobsleigh European Championship in St. Moritz, Switzerland and three European silver medals, all in the four-man event. Dmitry took up sprinting originally whilst at university before he switched to bobsleigh at the age of 21.

Born in the village of Taseyevo in the Krasnoyarsk region, Trunenkov has a degree in industrial and civil construction from the Academy of Architecture and Construction. Considered by many as the best driver in the Russian national bobsleigh team, Dmitry Trunenkov has twice become winner of the World Cup following results of the season for four-man bobs and once for two-man bobs.

In another development, a ban of four years was announced by the Russian Anti-Doping Agency on Alexander Yargunkin, who tested positive shortly before he was due to represent Russia at the 2015 world track championships. A sanction of one year was imposed on rower Yulia Solomentseva, who won silver at the 2014 world junior championships, after being found guilty of failing to make herself available for testing.

Yargunkin gave a positive test for the banned substance [Erythropoietin](#) (EPO) and was made to quit the 2015 world championships following reports that he has failed a drugs test. Yargunkin was expected to be Russia's sole representative in race walking at the IAAF 2015 World Championship in Beijing.

Nikita Kamaev, the executive director of RUSADA, had remarked Yargunkin definitely would not compete at the world championships in Beijing and added the sportsman has been temporarily suspended from competition while an investigation takes place. Kamaev had also remarked that everything that is part of the probe into this athlete is confidential information and RUSADA would

not comment on anything until its disciplinary committee passes a decision. Kamaev also commented that an athlete in case of revealing possible breaches in individual disciplines is suspended from competitions for the time of the probe.

Reacting to the positive test, Yargunkin then had remarked this news really was a shock for him. The athlete's coach, Konstantin Golubtsov, had then remarked that he cannot understand how this could have taken place. Golubtsov went on to add that he wants everyone concerned to study this situation and make it clear how it has so happened that international anti-[doping](#) services have not found any banned substances in Yargunkin's body system but RUASADA has found them.