

Russian Heptathlete Stripped Of Beijing Bronze

The International Olympic Committee has stripped Russian Olympic heptathlete [Tatyana Chernova](#) of her 2008 Beijing Games bronze medal on Monday after she tested positive to banned substances in re-tests of her sample.

A statement on the IOC's website reads Tatyana Chernova, 29, of Russia, competing in the women's heptathlon event in which she ranked 3rd and for which she was awarded a bronze medal, has been disqualified from the Olympic Games Beijing 2008. The statement further reads that re-analysis of Chernova's samples from Beijing 2008 resulted in a positive test for the prohibited substance Dehydrochloromethyltestosterone ([Turinabol](#)). The Russian athlete had already served another doping ban that saw her stripped of Olympic bronze at London in 2012 and the 2011 world title from Daegu in South Korea.

Meanwhile, Jessica Ennis-Hill has expressed her delight at the news that she would now become a triple world heptathlon champion after Chernova was finally stripped of her 2011 title. Chernova, who beat Ennis-Hill by 129 points, was given a doping ban of two years after a retesting of her sample from the 2009 world championships found a prohibited [anabolic steroid](#). The results of Chernova from 15 August 2009 to 14 August 2011 were annulled but the 2011 world championships started a fortnight later, on 28 August, and were thus not covered by the annulment. Later, the CAS ruled that all of Chernova's results between 15 August 2011 and 22 July 2013 are to be annulled that means the Russian loses her gold from Daegu and bronze from the 2012 London Olympics, when she finished behind Ennis-Hill.

The 2012 Olympics sample of fellow Russian Maksim Dyldin, who was fifth with the 4x400m relay team at the Games in London, also tested positive for the same substance. The Russian 400 meter runner finished 17th in the 400m in London and helped Russia to fifth in the 4x400m relay; the results have now been annulled.

In Beijing, Chernova initially finished fourth in Beijing but she was upgraded to bronze after Liudmyla Blonska of Ukraine tested positive in 2008. Britain's Kelly Sotherton, originally fifth, is now in line to be promoted to the bronze medal position.

Sotherton is also set to be upgraded to a bronze medal in the Heptathlon from the 2008 Beijing Games after silver medalist Lyudmila Blonska tested positive for anabolic steroid Methyltestosterone during the Games.

Suspension of Chernova is the 18th Russian doping case from the Beijing Olympic revealed in a re-testing program that has mostly relied on improved [detection of anabolic steroids](#).

The IOC disciplinary panel said in its published judgment that such a significant extension of the detection window is the obvious explanation for the unfortunately spectacular and unprecedented high number of positive cases which were revealed.

A total of 41 medals from Beijing have been stripped after retesting, mostly from athletics and weightlifting.

In another development, a doping ban of four years has been imposed on Russian marathon runner Albina Mayorova by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). A two-time Olympian, Mayorova tested positive last year for excess testosterone. The suspension of Mayorova will backdate to June 28, 2016, while all of her results between March 14, 2016 and June 28, 2016 will be annulled. The ban is likely to bring an end to the competitive career of the Russian marathon runner.

Albina Mayorova, who also competed at the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, has finished in the top 10 in the London, Boston, and Chicago marathons during her career.