

Double Olympian Re-launches Fight Against Doping Charges

[Paul Edwards](#), the double Olympian shot putter from Britain, has launched a Facebook page as part of his longstanding efforts to get his name cleared from charges that took place long before social media existed.

Edwards, who was banned for life in 1997 after a second positive doping test, competed at the 1988 and 1992 Olympics and won bronze for Wales at the 1990 Commonwealth Games. Till date, he disputes his positive test in 1994 that resulted in a ban of four years and the findings from an out-of-competition test undertaken while he was still banned which led to his lifetime ban.

Edwards said in a video recording on his page, entitled *Paul Edwards Victim of Deceit and Deception* that he wrongly received a life ban from athletics after an incorrect out-of-competition test for Testosterone in 1997. The former GB international and Olympic shot putter said he is not guilty and will continue as he had done for 20 years to fight to prove his innocence. The shot putter, who competed for both England and Wales, was sent home on the eve of the Victoria 1994 Commonwealth Games along with fellow athlete Diane Modahl after doping charges emerged against them.

The double Olympian shot putter failed two tests. He first failed an anti-doping test that was conducted during the European Championships in Helsinki earlier in the year and the second failed test was two days after he returned from competing there. The first sample tested positive for a cocktail of banned substances, including [anabolic steroids](#), raised testosterone, and the stimulant [pseudoephedrine](#). The second sample was found to be positive for Testosterone. Edwards subsequently received a lifetime doping ban and his ban was the first incident of a British athlete receiving a lifetime ban.

In 1996, Modahl made a return to athletics after she was cleared on appeal by the international body for athletics, then known as the International Amateur Athletic Federation, and the British Athletic Federation, following evidence that her sample had materially degraded after serious failures in the chain of custody and storage.

Edwards in the past have alleged numerous faults with the findings for his 1997 sample and even went on to challenge the chain of custody. The shot putter made use of the Freedom of Information Act in 2009 to obtain information on his tests from the Drug Control Centre at King's College, London. In November 1997, the High Court ruled in the favor of UK Athletics, UK Sport, and the Doping Control Centre at King's College, London that the claim for damage by Edwards was "statute barred".

Edwards said his case has still not been reconsidered and added he had received a lifetime ban which has marred his life even though guilty athletes are constantly being reinstated after agreed periods of time. Edwards added he is not guilty and will continue to fight.

Edwards represented Great Britain 43 times and won 11 AAA titles and 5 UK titles. The retired professional athlete also represented Great Britain in decathlon and held Welsh national records at shot put, decathlon, and discus and won 9 Welsh titles.