

Cookson Claims Substantial Support In UCI President Re-Election Bid

[International Cycling Union](#) (UCI) President Brian Cookson has claimed he has the support of 30 of the 45 votes required to be re-elected as chief of the world governing body of cycling at the world governing body's Congress.

Cookson claimed he has received a good response from the voting delegates. The 66-year-old Briton suggested he has enough support to secure a second term and added those who vote against him may have some small political concerns.

Brian added he has a track record that anyone can examine. The UCI President added Ireland's Pat McQuaid whom he defeated in a bitter election campaign four years ago has been actively campaigning for his rival David Lappartient. Cookson claimed the Frenchman had offered him the position of UCI Honorary President. The world governing body of cycling's chief added he had of course seen the declarations [Pat McQuaid](#) has made recently in support of David in the media and he had also been shown proof that Pat is actively lobbying on David's behalf and went on to say that the appointment of McQuaid in a senior role at the UCI would be a grave concern for anyone who can recall the disastrous situation that the UCI was in just four-years ago under his leadership.

Cookson said he is focused on running his own campaign with the support of people who have contributed to restoring trust in our sport, to take cycling forward and build on the great achievements we have had over the past four years. The International Cycling Union President said it is however disappointing that David Lappartient has not come out renouncing the support of Pat McQuaid, but having hosted Pat and other former executives at the first Elite European Road Championships in France last year and added he is not surprised as that speaks volumes for the devastating direction David would take the UCI in if he wins next week's election.

The 66-year-old Cookson has prioritized ensuring equal opportunities for men and women to participate and compete, championing cycling for transport and leisure, and accelerating international development. The UCI President also expressed his desire to build on restored credibility and ensure the world governing body of cycling continues to drive excellence in operations. Cookson blasted everyone who placed doubts on his leadership skills by saying he was the one who put his head above the parapet when the sport was engulfed with [doping](#) and corruption allegations coming from everywhere, if you talk about leadership, no-one else wanted to take that on and challenge the status quo and the people who had run cycling into the ground in the previous period.

Lappartient claimed the emails from McQuaid were a personal act on his part. Lappartient claimed it has been reported that McQuaid has sent an email to a couple of delegates, whom he knows, by telling them his personal opinion about Brian Cookson and therefore calling on them to support his candidature. Lappartient added this was a personal act of McQuaid and not on his demand.

McQuaid admitted he had sent an email to voting delegates of UCI in support of Lappartient but claimed suggestions of such a deal was "absolute rubbish."

Europe has the largest bloc with 15 delegates and the voters include nine delegates each from Africa, the Americas and Asia, with three more from Oceania.