

FIVE FORMER RUSAF OFFICIALS - INCLUDING FORMER PRESIDENT, BOARD MEMBER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - GUILTY OF ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATIONS, BANNED FOR FOUR YEARS

17 February 2021, Monaco: The Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) welcomes the decision by the Disciplinary Tribunal to uphold all charges laid by the AIU against the former Russian Athletics Federation (RusAF) President Dmitry Shlyakhtin and the former RusAF Board Member Artur Karamyan.

In November 2019, the [AIU charged](#) RusAF and several RusAF officials including Shlyakhtin and Karamyan, Alexander Parkin (Executive Director), Elena Orlova (Senior Administrator), and Elena Ikonnikova (Anti-Doping Coordinator), with serious breaches of the Anti-Doping Rules. This was related to the submission of forged documents and false explanations to the AIU and their conduct during a 15-month AIU investigation into a ‘whereabouts’ case against Russian high jumper, Danil Lysenko. The athlete and his coach Evgeniy Zagorulko were also charged.

The Disciplinary Tribunal has found Shlyakhtin and Karamyan guilty of tampering, complicity, failing to report an Anti-Doping Rule violation, and failing to co-operate with the AIU investigation, (in this context Karamyan was found to have destroyed documents). Both Shlyakhtin and Karamyan have been banned for four years, the maximum possible sanction for these charges under the Anti-Doping Rules. The Disciplinary Tribunal decision can be found [here](#).

Parkin, Orlova, and Ikonnikova did not contest the AIU charges against them for tampering, complicity, failing to report an Anti-Doping Rule violation, and failing to co-operate with the AIU investigation and have also been banned for four years. Those decisions can be found [here](#).

The sanctions against Orlova and Ikonnikova will be served concurrently with sanctions of six and eight years respectively which were previously announced for cases of failure to comply with an investigation Demand by the AIU, as well an order of the Chair of the Disciplinary Tribunal that they comply with the Demand. The cases against Lysenko and his coach Zagorulko are still in process.

The charge against the Federation was referred to the World Athletics Council in January 2020. RusAF admitted the charges and was dealt with by the Council. The details can be read [here](#).

“These are important decisions for the sport of athletics. The AIU was created to be a fearless and independent organisation. Our work in uncovering the conspiracy and fraudulent behaviour in this case demonstrates that the AIU is fulfilling its role to make cheats accountable, irrespective of their stature or standing,” commented AIU Chair David Howman.

“Traditional approaches to uncovering cheating have often proven to be inadequate and that’s why the AIU made the strategic choice of investing heavily in our investigations and intelligence capability. The benefit of this approach is evident from decisions like these,” added Howman.

During the final phase of investigation, between April and November 2019, the AIU conducted 22 key witness interviews; acquired 14 electronic storage devices including mobile phones and computer hard drives, conducted digital forensic analysis of over six terabytes of electronic data and translated approximately 7000 documents or records from Russian to English.

SUMMARY OF CHARGES AND DECISIONS

Name and Former Position	Violation	Outcome
Dmitry SHLYAKHTIN RusAF President	Article 2.5 – Tampering Article 2.9 – Complicity Article 5.10.2 – Failure to report an Anti-Doping Rule Violation Article 5.10.3 – Failure to Co-operate with an investigation	4 years ineligibility
Artur KARAMYAN RusAF Board Member, President of the Moscow Regional Athletics Federation	Article 2.5 – Tampering Article 2.9 – Complicity Article 5.10.2 – Failure to report an Anti-Doping Rule Violation Article 5.10.3 – Failure to Co-operate with an investigation	4 years ineligibility
Alexander PARKIN RusAF Executive Director	Article 2.5 – Tampering Article 2.9 – Complicity Article 5.10.2 – Failure to report an Anti-Doping Rule Violation Article 5.10.3 – Failure to Co-operate with an investigation	4 years ineligibility
Elena ORLOVA RusAF Senior Administrator	Article 12 – Failure to Comply Article 2.5 – Tampering Article 2.9 – Complicity Article 5.10.2 – Failure to report an Anti-Doping Rule Violation Article 5.10.3 – Failure to Co-operate with an investigation	6 years ineligibility 4 years ineligibility, to be served concurrently
Elena IKONNIKOVA RusAF Anti-Doping Coordinator	Article 12 – Failure to Comply Article 2.5 – Tampering Article 2.9 – Complicity Article 5.10.2 – Failure to report an Anti-Doping Rule Violation Article 5.10.3 – Failure to Co-operate with an investigation	8 years ineligibility 4 years ineligibility, to be served concurrently
Danil LYSENKO Athlete	Article 2.4 – Whereabouts Failures Article 2.5 – Tampering* *Second violation	Ongoing
Evgeniy ZAGORULKO Coach of Danil Lysenko	Article 2.5 – Tampering Article 2.9 – Complicity Article 5.10.2 – Failure to report an Anti-Doping Rule Violation Article 5.10.3 – Failure to Co-operate with an investigation	Ongoing


About the Athletics Integrity Unit

The Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) is the independent body created by the World Athletics that manages all integrity issues – both doping and non-doping – for the sport of athletics. The remit of the AIU includes anti-doping, the pursuit of individuals engaged in age or competition results manipulation, investigating fraudulent behaviour with regards to transfers of allegiance, and detecting other misconduct including bribery and breaches of betting rules. It is the AIU's role to drive cheats out of our sport, and to do everything within its power to support honest athletes around the world who dedicate their lives to reaching their sporting goals through dedication and hard work.


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