

AIU BANS RANDOLPH ROSS FOR THREE YEARS

13 DECEMBER 2022, MONACO: The Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) has banned American runner Randolph Ross for three years for Anti-Doping Rule Violations (ADRVs); his period of ineligibility starting retroactively from 1 July 2022 until, and including, 30 June 2025. In addition, all his competitive results since 18 June 2022 have been disqualified.

This is the outcome of the Case Resolution Agreement which the AIU and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) have reached with Ross after the 21-year-old admitted the ADRV under Rule 2.4 (three Whereabouts Failures in a 12-month period) and under Rule 2.5 (Tampering or Attempted Tampering with any part of Doping Control by an Athlete) of the World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules. Under such Rules, the two ADRV are treated together as a single first violation and the applicable sanction is based on the violation that carries the more severe sanction (in this case, four years for Tampering).

Commenting on this announcement, AIU Head Brett Clothier stressed the AIU's commitment to holding athletes accountable for their Whereabouts' responsibilities.

"Out-of-competition testing simply doesn't work without the provision of accurate Whereabouts information by athletes and therefore the AIU will continue to enforce the Whereabouts rules strictly," he said.

"It is fundamental to the proper administration of the sport that athletes are honest in their dealings with the AIU during any investigation. The AIU has prosecuted many Tampering cases from all over the world and will continue to do so to protect the integrity of its processes and, of course, the integrity of athletics."

Ross admitted to AIU representatives that he altered a system-generated email (confirming an apparent update to his Whereabouts information for the relevant period) to try and avoid a third Whereabouts Failure within a 12-month period. This third potential Whereabouts Failure took place on 18 June 2022. The athlete was provisionally suspended on the Rule 2.5 ADRV (Tampering) on the eve of the men's 400-metre heats at the 2022 World Championships in Eugene, Oregon, in which he was to have competed.

On 10 November 2022, following completion of the Results Management process for the potential 18 June 2022 Whereabouts Failure – including confirmation that it was Ross' third Whereabouts Failure in the 12-month period, beginning 14 April 2022 – the AIU charged him with both ADRV. Based on Ross' prompt admission of the ADRV and the time served since his provisional suspension on 16 July 2022, the parties agreed Ross' period of ineligibility would be reduced to three years and start on the date the last ADRV was committed (the Rule 2.5 ADRV, on 1 July 2022).

Details here: <https://bit.ly/PUBLICDISCLOSURE-RANDOLPHROSS>

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.

Athletics Integrity Unit

media@athleticsintegrity.org

www.athleticsintegrity.org

- @aiu_athletics
- @aiu.athletics
- @aiu_athletics