

Olympics

IOC explores legal options on banning all Russians

By **STEPHEN WILSON**
Associated Press

LONDON — With just over two weeks until the opening ceremony, Russia still doesn’t know whether its athletes — all or even some — will be competing in the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. It may all come down to the lawyers.

While the IOC decided Tuesday to ban from the Rio Games all Russian Sports Ministry officials and other administrators implicated in allegations of a state-run doping program, it delayed a ruling on whether to take the unprecedented step of barring the entire Russian Olympic team.

The International Olympic Committee said it “will explore the legal options with regard to a collective ban of all Russian athletes for the Olympic Games 2016 versus the rights to individual justice.”

The IOC has also said it could let individual international sports federations decide on whether to ban Russians from their events in Rio, just as the IAAF has done by ruling track and field athletes from the games. The 28 international federations that govern



In this June 20, 2015 file photo, Aliya Mustafina of Russia competes during the women’s uneven bars event at the 2015 European Games in Baku, Azerbaijan.

AP Photo/Dmitry Lovetsky

the individual sports at the summer games have made clear that they do not support a blanket ban.

The IOC’s legal options may become clearer after Thursday, when the highest court in sports will rule on an appeal by 68 Russian track and field athletes seeking to overturn their ban from the games.

Two-time Olympic pole vault champion Yelena Isinbayeva was among those arguing the Russian track and field team’s case Tuesday in Geneva at the Court of Arbitration for Sport. Should the court rule

Thursday in their favor, it would seemingly rule out the chance of the IOC imposing a blanket ban.

If the court upholds the IAAF’s exclusion of the track athletes, however, that would keep the possibility of a total ban in play. Further appeals are also possible, meaning that the final word on the Russians may go down to the wire before Aug. 5, when the Rio games open.

Still, it will take a major leap for the IOC to impose the ultimate sanction of kicking out Russia entirely. IOC President Thomas

Bach has repeatedly called for a balance between “individual justice and collective punishment.”

No country as a whole has ever been barred from the games for doping, and Russia is a major force in the Olympic movement as well as a sports powerhouse. The last time Russia was missing from the Olympics was when it boycotted the 1984 Los Angeles Games in retaliation for the U.S. boycott of the 1980 Moscow Games following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Russian President Vladimir Putin called the doping

allegations “a dangerous return to ... letting politics interfere with sport.”

“The Olympic movement, which is a tremendous force for uniting humanity, once again could find itself on the brink of division,” he said in a statement Monday after the release of the report into Russian doping issued by Canadian lawyer Richard McLaren.

The 15-member IOC executive board met by teleconference Tuesday to consider its moves following McLaren’s report.

The report, commissioned by the World Anti-Doping Agency, accused the Russian Sports Ministry, headed by Vitaly Mutko, of overseeing the doping of the country’s Olympic athletes on a scale larger than previous alleged. It said the ministry had help from Russia’s intelligence service, the FSB.

The investigation uncovered an alleged doping program that ensnared 28 sports, both summer and winter, and ran from 2011 to 2015. It found 312 positive tests that Russia’s deputy minister of sport directed lab workers not to report to WADA.

Mutko on Tuesday denied

all wrongdoing and said he expected his subordinates to be cleared. But addressing the ban by the IOC of Russian sports administrators, he said he was ready to accept it because “we have always been guests at the Olympics,” and that the important issue was that the Russian Olympic team go to the games.

McLaren’s report also confirmed details of state-supported doping that subverted the testing at the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi. That included allegations by Moscow’s former lab director, Grigory Rodchenkov, that dirty urine samples of Russian athletes — including medalists — were swapped out for clean ones in covert middle-of-the-night operations at the Sochi lab.

WADA and its president, Craig Reedie, urged the IOC to consider a total ban on Russia. Reedie, who is also an IOC vice president, presented details of the McLaren report to the executive board Tuesday and answered questions about it, before Bach asked him to recuse himself from the meeting because of a “conflict of interest.”

Phelps to captain US Swim Team

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Michael Phelps is in unfamiliar waters as he heads to his fifth Olympics. He’s been chosen as a captain of the U.S. men’s swimming team for the first time.

Phelps was voted in by his teammates, along with veteran sprinters Nathan Adrian and Anthony Ervin. Phelps owns a record 22 Olympic medals, including 18 golds. Adrian and Ervin are three-time Olym-

pians, while Phelps’ fifth Olympic berth is the most for a U.S. male swimmer.

Serving as captains for the women’s team will be Cammile Adams, Elizabeth Beisel and Allison Schmitt. Adams is a two-time Olympian. Beisel and Schmitt are competing in their third games.

During the U.S. trials this



Phelps

month, Phelps noted he had never been chosen captain by his teammates.

“I guess no one likes me that much on the team,” he joked. “I just want to be able to help some of the younger guys. Just being able to help them just kind of stay in their relaxed zone, not get worked up because it’s the Olympics.”

MARINERS: King Felix starts today for first time since May 27

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in 17 starts for the season.

TRAINER’S ROOM

White Sox: C Alex Avila (hamstring) has started his rehab assignment with Triple-A Charlotte. Avila was 1 for 2 with a double on Tuesday.

Mariners: SS Ketel Marte was out of the lineup for the second straight day with illness. Manager Scott Servais was hopeful Marte would be able to get back

in the lineup on Wednesday.

UP NEXT

White Sox: Miguel Gonzalez (2-5) makes his 14th start of the season. Gonzalez is just 1-2 over his last three starts but has a 2.25 ERA during that time.

Mariners: Felix Hernandez (4-4) makes his first start since May 27 after landing on the DL with a calf injury. Hernandez had two rehab starts in the minors before returning to the rotation.

SOCCKER: Only 20,000 tickets have been sold for the match as of Monday

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to play good and try to win the game,” left-back Senna Miangue said.

“It’s very important to get good results because good results give us confidence. So we’ll do whatever we can to win the games and certainly play well. ... I feel very honored to be here.”

The Ducks have sold out 110 consecutive games at Autzen Stadium. ICC

organizers had hoped for a sellout when the Milan-Paris Saint-Germain match was announced in March, but as as of Monday only about 20,000 tickets had been sold.

“It has been slower than expected,” said Bruce Bundrant, the chief commercial officer of Relevant Sports, the promotional company for the ICC. “We’d like to get the number up to 25- to 30,000 this week.”

The ICC hosted the

largest attended soccer match in U.S. history in 2014 when 109,318 fans watched Real Madrid and Manchester United play at Michigan Stadium.

“I’ve never seen the stadium, but I’ve heard it is good,” Inter Milan striker Stevan Jovetic said of Autzen Stadium. “I hope the atmosphere is going to be great and the stadium is going to be full and the people are going to enjoy it.”

Inter Milan will also play friendlies against Real Salt Lake of the MLS on Tuesday in Salt Lake City and Estudiantes de La Plata of Argentina’s Primera Division on July 27 in Harrison, N.J. The team’s American tour concludes with an ICC match against Bayern Munich on July 30 in Charlotte, N.C.

“To play against great teams, it’s going to be difficult, but it’s better to play against good teams,” Jovetic

said. “We hope that fans come to the stadium and that we do well. (PSG) are a great team, they show it every year. I think it’s going to be a great match, they have great players.”

Paris Saint-Germain will also play ICC matches against Real Madrid on July 27 in Columbus, Ohio, and Leicester City on July 30 in Carson, Calif.

The 10-team tournament begins Saturday and finishes

on Aug. 13 with matches in North America, Australia and China. Each team will play three matches and the club with the most points (three for regulation win, two for shootout winner, one for shootout loser) at the end of the tournament will be crowned champion.

In the ICC’s four-year history, Real Madrid, Manchester United and Paris Saint-Germain have all won the tournament.

DUCKS: Allen still plans on playing football in 2016

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during the Ducks’ dominant victory over Florida State on Jan. 1, 2015, at the Rose Bowl couldn’t dash.

“I’m excited for him,” running back Royce Freeman said. “Especially after his injury, it’s well-deserved. He worked hard to accomplish that, and I really couldn’t think of anybody more deserving than that guy after his injury.”

Allen caught a team-high seven touchdowns during Marcus Mariota’s Heisman season in 2014. He watched helplessly on crutches as the Ducks lost the national title game to Ohio State 11 days after his serious knee injury.

During the 2015 season, Allen only had nine catches for 94 yards with no touchdowns in 12 games.

After sitting out of spring practice to focus on track, the world-class speed and ability to deliver clutch performances in the spotlight returned.

“We have a lot of very unrealistic discussions in recruiting sometimes,” Helfrich said on Allen’s drive to be great. “Just the distinct, viable, tangible possibility of playing in the NFL and participating in the Olympic Games was something, from day one, the guy had a plan and then a willingness and a desire to see it through.

“It has just been unbelievable.”

Allen has been an inspiration for the Ducks as they prepare for the start of fall camp on Aug. 8 without him.

“When I transferred from

Cal, he was one of the first guys to reach out to me,” linebacker Johnny Ragin said. “It has been awesome to see him do well. He trains hard, he works hard and he deserves all the success that he’s getting. I talked to him the week leading up to the Trials. He was still in the weight room working out with us and stuff. He was getting a little workout in.

“It’s funny because we all had like little bullet points on our workout (goals). His was: Olympic Trials, get to Rio.”

Allen has said he plans to play football at Oregon this season.

“It is the biggest excuse and the longest excuse, the most eventful excuse, to miss fall camp I’ve ever seen,” Helfrich quipped. “And we’ll give him a couple days off.”

Of course, Allen’s athletic and financial outlook could all change, depending on what happens in Brazil and the doors the Olympics might open for the new face of American hurdling.

“If a guy leaves the program for all the right reasons, awesome,” Helfrich said. “If that comes — I don’t know whether it’s endorsements or all the other things that go along with that, if it’s what is right and what is best, great. If it’s not, then we’ll have that continual discussion. ...

“As far as his long-term future, it’s to be determined. His focus and our focus is him winning the gold medal, and we’ll figure it out from there.”

Baseball

MLB				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	53	39	.576	—
Boston	52	39	.571	½
Toronto	53	42	.558	1½
New York	47	46	.505	6½
Tampa Bay	36	57	.387	17½
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	55	38	.591	—
Detroit	49	45	.521	6½
Kansas City	47	46	.505	8
Chicago	46	47	.495	9
Minnesota	34	59	.366	21
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	55	40	.579	—
Houston	50	44	.532	4½
Seattle	47	47	.500	7½
Los Angeles	42	52	.447	12½
Oakland	42	52	.447	12½

Tuesday’s Games				
N.Y. Yankees	7	Baltimore	1	
Boston	4	San Francisco	0	
Minnesota	6	Detroit	2	
Cleveland	7	Kansas City	3	
Tampa Bay	10	Colorado	1	
Toronto	5	Arizona	1	
Oakland	4	Houston	3	10 innings
L.A. Angels	8	Texas	6	
Chicago White Sox	6	Seattle	1	
Today’s Games				
Minnesota	(Santana 3-8)	at Detroit		
(Verlander 9-6)	10:10 a.m.			
Cleveland	(Carrasco 6-3)	at Kansas City		
(Kennedy 6-7)	11:15 a.m.			
Tampa Bay	(Archer 4-13)	at Colorado		
(De La Rosa 6-6)	12:10 p.m.			
Houston	(Fister 9-6)	at Oakland		
(Menden 1-4)	12:35 p.m.			
Chicago White Sox	(Gonzalez 2-5)	at Seattle		
(Hernandez 4-4)	12:40 p.m.			
Toronto	(Stroman 7-4)	at Arizona		
(Corbin 4-8)	12:40 p.m.			
Baltimore	(Gallardo 3-1)	at N.Y. Yankees		
(Pineda 3-9)	4:05 p.m.			
San Francisco	(Cain 1-5)	at Boston		
(Pomeranz 8-7)	4:10 p.m.			
Texas	(Perez 7-6)	at L.A. Angels		
(Santana 3-8)	7:05 p.m.			

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	56	38	.596	—
Miami	51	42	.548	4½
New York	50	43	.538	5½
Philadelphia	43	52	.453	13½
Atlanta	33	61	.351	23
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	56	37	.602	—
St. Louis	48	44	.522	7½
Pittsburgh	48	45	.516	8
Milwaukee	39	52	.429	16
Cincinnati	35	59	.372	21½
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	57	37	.606	—
San Angeles	53	42	.558	4½
Colorado	43	50	.462	13½
San Diego	41	52	.441	15½
Arizona	40	54	.426	17

Tuesday’s Games				
L.A. Dodgers	8	Washington	4	
Miami	2	Philadelphia	1	10 innings
N.Y. Mets	2	Chicago Cubs	1	
Pittsburgh	3	Milwaukee	2	
Atlanta	5	Cincinnati	4	11 innings
Boston	4	San Francisco	0	
San Diego	at St. Louis	ppd.		
Tampa Bay	10	Colorado	1	
Toronto	5	Arizona	1	
Today’s Games				
Atlanta	(Harrell 1-1)	at Cincinnati		
(DeSclafani 4-0)	9:35 a.m.			
San Diego	(Rea 5-3)	at St. Louis		
(Martinez 8-6)	11:15 a.m.			
N.Y. Mets	(Colon 8-4)	at Chicago Cubs		
(Hendricks 8-6)	11:20 a.m.			
Tampa Bay	(Archer 4-13)	at Colorado		
(De La Rosa 6-6)	12:10 p.m.			
Toronto	(Stroman 7-4)	at Arizona		
(Corbin 4-8)	12:40 p.m.			
L.A. Dodgers	(Norris 5-7)	at Washington		
(Gonzalez 5-8)	4:05 p.m.			
Miami	(Chen 5-3)	at Philadelphia		
(Hellickson 6-7)	4:05 p.m.			
Milwaukee	(Anderson 4-10)	at Pittsburgh		
(Locke 8-5)	4:05 p.m.			
San Francisco	(Cain 1-5)	at Boston		
(Pomeranz 8-7)	4:10 p.m.			
San Diego	(Clemens 1-0)	at St. Louis		
(Garcia 6-6)	5:15 p.m.			
	2nd game			

MLB				
NORTHWEST LEAGUE				
North Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Tri-City	16	16	.500	—
Everett	16	16	.500	—
Vancouver	16	16	.500	—
Spokane	15	17	.469	1
South Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Eugene	22	10	.688	—
Hillsboro	16	16	.500	5½
Salem-Keizer	14	18	.437	8
Boise	13	19	.406	8½

Tuesday’s Games				
Tri-City	8	Everett	6	
Vancouver	1	Spokane	0	
Boise	6	Salem-Keizer	3	
Hillsboro	8	Eugene	2	
Today’s Games				
Vancouver	at Spokane	6:30 p.m.		
Boise	at Salem-Keizer	6:35 p.m.		
Hillsboro	at Eugene	7:05 p.m.		
Tri-City	at Everett	7:05 p.m.		

Cycling

Tour de France				
Tuesday (Rest Day)				
At Bern, Switzerland				
Overall Leaders				
(After 16 stages)				
1. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, 72 hours, 40 minutes, 38 seconds.				
2. Bauke Mollema, Netherlands, Trek-Segafredo, 1 minute, 47 seconds behind.				
3. Adam Yates, Britain, Orica-BikeExchange, 2:45.				
4. Nairo Quintana, Colombia, Movistar, 3:17.				
5. Alejandro Valverde, Spain, Movistar, 3:17.				
6. Romain Bardet, France, AG2R La Mondiale, 4:04.				
7. Richie Porte, Australia, BMC Racing, 4:27.				
8. Tejay Van Garderen, United States, BMC Racing, 4:47.				
9. Daniel Martin, Ireland, Etixx-Quick-Step, 5:03.				
WEDNESDAY — Stage 17: A 114.6-mile ride from Bern to the mountains of Finhaut-Ermoson, Switzerland, with a Category 1 climb to the Col de la Forclaz followed by an “Hors categorie” finish at Finhaut.				

Basketball

WNBA				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	17	7	.708	—
Atlanta	12	11	.522	4½
Chicago	11	12	.478	5½
Indiana	11	12	.478	5½
Washington	9	13	.409	7
Connecticut	6	16	.273	10

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SCOREBOARD

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	20	3	.870	—
Minnesota	19	4	.826	1
Phoenix	10	14	.417	10½
Dallas	9	14	.391	11
Seattle	8	14	.364	11½
San Antonio	5	17	.227	14½

Tuesday’s Games				
Indiana	92	Los Angeles	82	
Chicago	79	Phoenix	77	

Today’s Games				
New York	at Washington	8:30 a.m.		
Connecticut	at Dallas	9:30 a.m.		
Atlanta	at Minnesota	10 a.m.		
San Antonio	at Seattle	Noon		