

Anti-doping education programme for competitors in all European Athletics events to be mandatory

Sports

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Every athlete at last year's European Championships in Amsterdam wore a bib claiming they competed clean

By [Duncan Mackay](#) at Lausanne, for Inside the Games, July 12, 2017 Competitors who want to take part in major international events may soon have to complete an online anti-doping education platform under a radical proposal by European Athletics President Svein Arne Hansen. Hansen announced today that he plans to introduce the new criteria starting with next year's European Athletics Under-18 Championships in Győr in Hungary. The target is that by the time the 2020 European Championships are staged in Paris all athletes will have completed the programme called "I Run Clean". Hansen had pledged in his manifesto before his election in 2015 to introduce "enhanced anti-doping education leading to a 'driver's licence' to compete". All athletes competing at European Championship events now wear bibs saying "I run clean", "I throw clean" or "I jump clean" - an innovation introduced in December 2015. "For the last 18 months, athletes at our Championships have been wearing number bibs with the words 'I Run Clean' as a statement of their commitment to fair play and doping-free sport," Hansen said. "Now we are offering a fantastic tool branded with the same words to help them understand exactly what they have to do to keep that pledge. "I believe the vast majority of athletes want to compete fairly and want to know that others will do the same. "Our responsibility is to provide reliable information in a way they want to receive it, and it only makes sense to insist that everyone goes through this important preparation before they are allowed to compete in our events. "The image of athletics will be enhanced if we can show parents, the public and partners that we are doing everything we possibly can to keep our sport clean." [...]

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