

Bach urges limits on participation of countries with poor doping records at Tokyo 2020

Sports

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IOC President Thomas Bach [pictured] recommended other sports to follow the lead set by the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF), who announced new rules this month that mean at least 16 countries could forfeit spots due to repeated failures.

By [Nick Butler](#) of Inside the Games, Bangkok, Apr 19, 2018: World governing bodies are being encouraged by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to consider stripping Tokyo 2020 quota spots from countries, including Russia, where there are serious doping problems. IOC President Thomas Bach recommended other sports to follow the lead set by the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF), who announced new rules this month that mean at least 16 countries could forfeit spots due to repeated failures. Bach, speaking at a joint meeting of the IOC and the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) here, cited the idea as a "collective" sanction which could help eradicate doping problems during a discussion specifically about the problems in Russia. He also urged International Federations to "follow-up" all disciplinary cases against individual Russian athletes implicated in the LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System) database from the Moscow Laboratory and to apply "relevant sanctions". "Some of you are considering measures and sanctions with regard to National Member Federations," Bach told representatives from all 33 sports due to appear on the Tokyo 2020 programme. "In this respect I would like to highlight maybe the approach that the IWF is taking now with this measure of reducing the quota of participation in the [Olympic] Games and in their World Championships for countries which have significant high number of doping tests from which you can conclude that the anti-doping system in this member federation needs to be improved. "I think the IOC Executive Board has approved this approach and we're supporting this and it is good food for thought for all of us. "This mechanism of referring to the quota as this, on the one hand respects, so far as possible and as necessary, the need for individual justice, but, on the other hand, also makes the responsibility of the federation and also the National Olympic Committees very clear. "So, [it is] up to you to think about and then finally I hope that for Tokyo we will have pre-Games testing programme there as successful as the one for Pyeongchang [2018], so we do everything to catch cheats before the Games." [⋮] [https://www.insidethegames.biz/article ... ing-records-at-tokyo-2020](https://www.insidethegames.biz/article...ing-records-at-tokyo-2020)