



Sarzeau, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017

MPCC  
Mr Roger Legeay  
President

*By email only: roger.legeay@wanadoo.fr*

Dear Mr. President, *Dear Roger,*

I confirm to have received your letter dated 17 July 2017 and sent to the two candidates for the UCI 2017 Presidential election.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate your association for its commitment to support the respect of the code of ethics in cycling. Alongside the work done by the UCI, for many years now the MPCC has made tremendous contribution to the improvement of road racing. The manner by which your association has been able to bring various teams to work together on this matter is commendable.

Axe 5 of my presidential candidature manifesto for the UCI (as seen attached) insists on the needs to ensure the credibility of our sport and protect the riders. Hence, your concerns are addressed in my programme aiming at promoting a clean cycling.

You wished to interview me on several key points related to this issue, and I am pleased to answer your questions below.

**What are your personal views regarding the position of the MPCC on sporting rules and code of ethics which govern the association?**

I think that the rules set by the MPCC are in the right direction, and I applaud them. Some of these rules could be included within the UCI' regulations and I hope that we can do so as rapidly as possible. For other practices which are not written regulations the UCI wouldn't include them in its set of rules, but could reflect on alternative solutions, such as in the case of strengthening the respect of anti-doping rules for those with a career in cycling.

**Regarding health and well-being: should riders with an abnormally low cortisol level be prevented from racing?**

I am totally in support of this measure which must be integrated in the UCI regulations. The risks of having a low cortisol level have been demonstrated by independent scientific studies.

Sports leaders must work to prevent such risks. As a result, I propose that the UCI establishes a rule banning any rider with an abnormally low cortisol level from racing.

#### **Should we go back to regulating corticosteroid drugs?**

Absolutely! Scientific publications have shown that corticosteroids improve performance. Corticosteroids must be banned from competition and these substances should therefore fall under anti-doping rules. If a rider needs cortisone treatment for an illness, he or she must be put on sick leave like any other ill person and must not take part in competitions until his or her cortisol level is back to normal. I think the UCI could have been more keen on applying this rule; which is not the most difficult to implement.

#### **What about banning Tramadol?**

Tramadol must also be banned in cycling. We must continue to push for the World Anti-Doping Agency to include Tramadol and corticosteroids on the list of illegal products. Similar to corticosteroids, we must reflect on the rapid implementation of rules against the use of Tramadol in cycling.

#### **Other issues...?**

In my candidature manifesto I propose a mandatory medical monitoring, independent to teams' medical tests, to be implemented by 2019, as it is done in some other countries. Any sign of inaptitude to the practice of cycling (e.g. abnormally low cortisol level) will prevent a rider from competing. This will protect the health of riders and establish the same rule for everyone. We could make use of test samples already taken by the CADF (Cycling Anti-Doping Foundation). In addition, I advocate that the UCI recruits a full-time medical director. It is astounding to know that one of the earliest measures taken by the current administration was to cut the full-time position of the UCI' physician.

Finally, I have always expressed my firm determination to also fight against technology fraud and look forward to share these views with your association.

As things stand today, these are my responses to your questions, and I hope to have answered to your satisfaction. Please do not hesitate to get back to me if I can provide you with any further information.

I thank you once again for your engagement and reaffirm my commitment to working with your association to keep cycling clean.

Yours sincerely



David Lappartient