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Russia Cannot Compete in 2022 World Cup Under Own Flag

By Reuters

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The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) said Monday that the Russian national football team could not take part in the 2022 World Cup under the Russian flag due to doping sanctions that bar the country from major sporting events for four years.

"If they qualify, a team representing Russia cannot participate, but if there is a mechanism put in place, then they can apply to participate on a neutral basis, not as representatives of Russia," Jonathan Taylor, chair of WADA's compliance review committee, told a news conference.

Related article: Russia Banned From Olympics for 4 Years Over Doping Scandal

Taylor was speaking after WADA earlier on Monday banned Russia from the world's top

sporting events for four years, a period that includes the next summer and winter Olympics and the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, for tampering with doping-related laboratory data.

A spokesperson for FIFA, global football governing body, told Reuters it had asked WADA and the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) to clarify its decision in regards to Russian national football teams.

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