



TAS / CAS
TRIBUNAL ARBITRAL DU SPORT
COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT
TRIBUNAL ARBITRAL DEL DEPORTE

MEDIA RELEASE

MILANO-CORTINA 2026 CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

THE CAS AD HOC DIVISION DOES NOT HAVE JURISDICTION TO CONSIDER THE APPLICATION FILED BY ALEKSANDR BOLSHUNOV (RUSSIA)

Milan, 29 January 2026 – The Ad hoc Division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has issued its first decision in Milan for an appeal by cross-country skier Aleksandr Bolshunov (Russia) against the International Ski and Snowboard Federation (FIS).

Filed on 28 January, the application by Mr Bolshunov sought a decision that he is eligible to participate in the Olympic Winter Games 2026 (OWG) as an Individual Neutral Athlete (AIN). Mr Bolshunov challenged a decision rendered by the FIS Individual Neutral Athlete Eligibility Review Panel (AINERP) on 24 December 2025, which declined his application to be granted AIN status.

The CAS arbitrator assigned to the procedure noted that the CAS Ad hoc Division for the 2026 OWG has been established to resolve disputes only insofar as they arise during the 2026 OWG or during a period of 10 days preceding the Opening Ceremony of the Games. As a result, the dispute must have arisen by 27 January 2026 at the latest, in order to fall within its jurisdiction.

Consequently, the case could not be entertained as it was filed outside the jurisdiction of the CAS Ad hoc Division Milano Cortina 2026.

Unless Parties request confidentiality, the CAS Award will be published shortly on the CAS website.

This is an unofficial summary for media use.

The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) is an independent organisation that resolves sports disputes worldwide. During the Olympic Games, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) grants CAS the judicial authority to resolve legal disputes in an expedited timeframe, sometimes less than 24 hours after a case is filed. Athletes and sporting federations are guaranteed free access to quality dispute resolution services that are compatible with the Olympic competition schedule. You can read more about the CAS Ad hoc Division for Milano Cortina 2026 [here](#).