

# Record of Official Protest and Process



The SNC Rule book is located on the SNC website at

<https://swimming.ca/content/uploads/2018/05/2017-Rulebook-05-01-18.pdf>

## GR 9.2.1 Protest are possible

- If the rules and regulations for the conduct of the competition are not observed
- If other conditions endanger the competitions and/or competitors, or
- Against decisions of the referee; however, no protest shall be allowed against decisions of fact.
  - o Statement of fact – The swimmer didn't start the race, left the water or did not finish the race.
  - o Judgement decision – Non-simultaneous touch. The official is making a judgement of what they see/saw and it therefore isn't a statement of fact.

## Protest Process

- When DQs are announced, a coach's initial exchange with the Referee may simply be seeking for more information regarding the disqualification.
- If the coach disagrees with the decision made, the Referee should be calm, and professional and try to resolve the disagreement.
- If the Coach is not satisfied with the outcome of the discussion, the Referee can advise them to submit a written protest.
- Protest forms are generally kept with the clerk of course.
- The protest must be received within 30 minutes following the conclusion of the respective event. Referees must be diligent in recording the finish times of all events.
- The Referee will record the time the protest was received on the protest form.
- The Referee will then make a decision to accept or reject the written protest and provide a written rationale for their decision on the protest form.
- A copy of this written decision will be provided to the coach/team leader. If they accept this decision, the matter is closed. If they do not accept the decision, they can request the protest move to a Jury of Appeal.

## Jury of Appeal Process

- Clerk of Course, should notify Meet Manager/Referee of the potential protest when form is picked up by a coach.
- Meet Manager and Competition Coordinator can pre-select officials not involved in the disqualification, should a Jury of Appeal be required. A coach can also be selected to be a member of the Jury if previously arranged & available with no bias.
- When selecting members of the jury, the most experienced officials on deck should be selected.
- The pre-selection will ensure a timely formation of a Jury of Appeal if required.
- If the written protest is not accepted by the Referee, the Coach may request the matter go to a Jury of Appeal
- Meet Manager, and 3 – 5 jury members meet privately as soon as possible.
- Review overall Jury purpose, especially if a coach is a member of the Jury
- Review the DQ card, written Protest Form and rulebook.
- The Panel would call in the Meet Referee, the Official who reported the infraction, and the coach who wrote the appeal for questioning.
- Based on discussions with those involved, protest is upheld or overturned by a majority vote.
- The Jury must provide a rationale for the decision reached.
- Paperwork completed and appropriate individuals informed.
  - Only the Jury Record is to be kept (all notes should be destroyed).
  - The Jury record should include all witnesses' names and rationale for the decision reached.
  - The Chairperson should inform the protestor and referee (not the Jurors)

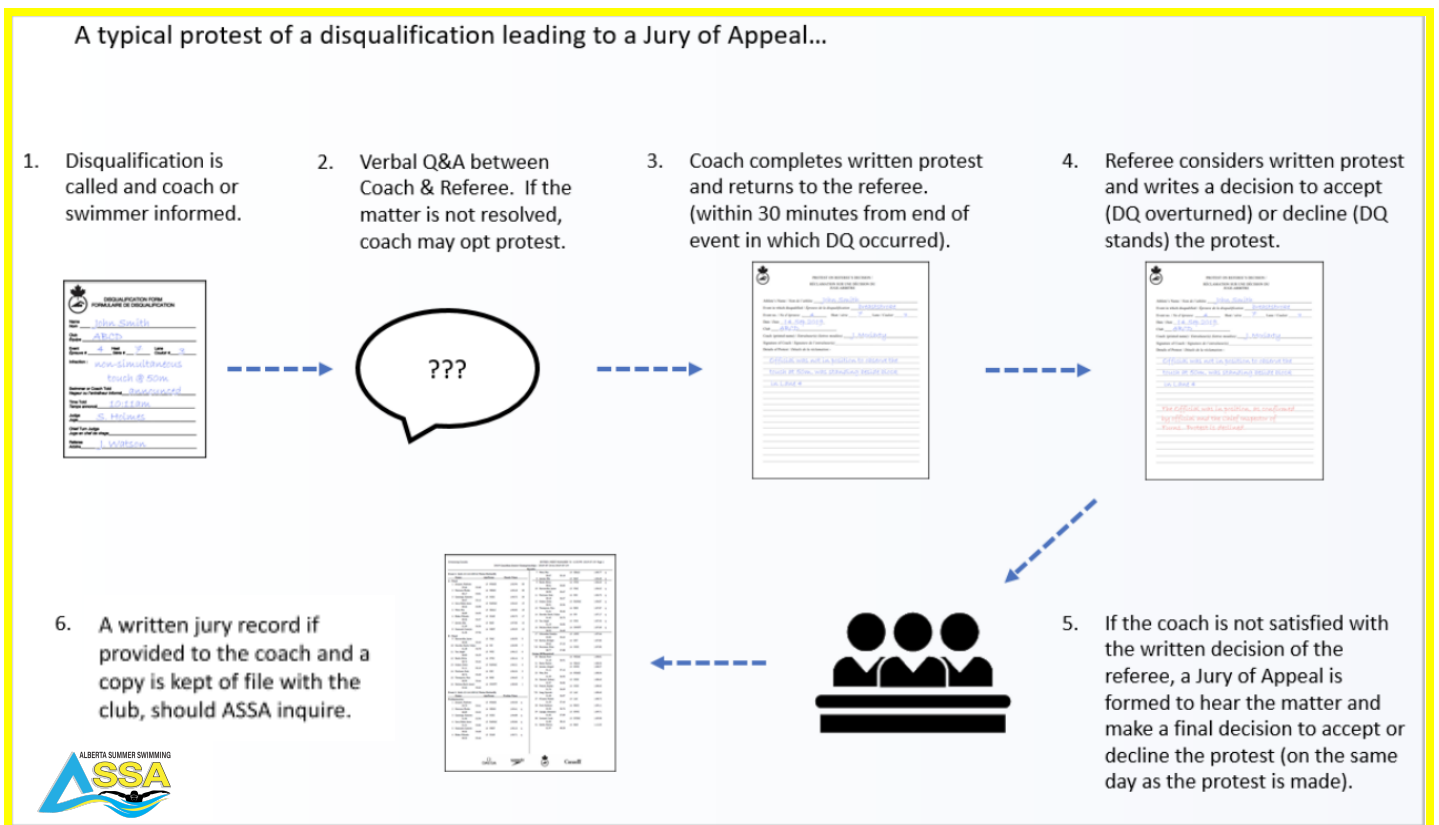
### Role of the Chair

- Arrange for a quiet area to hold the Jury
- In consultation with the Competition Coordinator, select a Jury which may include a coach if appropriate
- Review the overall purpose of the Jury of Appeal with the Jurors
- Retrieve witnesses for the Jury
- Although not a voting member, keep the jury on track and focused on what was in the written protest and that their decision is based on the written protest
- Deliver Jury decision (and paperwork) to protestor, referee & competition coordinator Jury of Appeal

### Purpose

- The Jury of Appeal must ensure that
  - the rules and regulations for the competition are observed
  - the conditions of the competition are safe for all competitors & participants
  - the decisions of the referee are fair and accurate
  - Jury members must be impartial and objective in considering the protest and reaching their decision
  - When questioning witnesses they should not ask leading questions but stick to questions regarding the protest and infraction – the facts as they are presented.
  - The protester shall be given an opportunity to present their case to the jury.
- At no time is video evidence allowed

### Example:





# Record of Official Protest

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

EVENT #: \_\_\_\_\_

HEAT #: \_\_\_\_\_

SWIMMER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB ASSOCIATION: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Infraction:

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Rationale for Protest:

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Signature of Protester: \_\_\_\_\_

***Official Protest is to be presented to the Meet Referee no later than 30 minutes following the completion of the event. Following the Jury of Appeal, the original copy and the original disqualification the Meet Manager shall keep a copy and provide a copy to the ASSA should you be asked.***



## Receipt by Referee

Date and Time Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Event End Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Accepted**

**Denied**

Reason(s) :

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## Official Report of Jury of Appeal

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of DQ. \_\_\_\_\_

Time swimmer/coach informed: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of verbal: \_\_\_\_\_

Event no.: \_\_\_\_\_ Heat #: \_\_\_\_\_ Finals: \_\_\_\_\_

Swimmer's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and position of Protester: \_\_\_\_\_

Time meeting of jury commenced: \_\_\_\_\_ Time adjourned: \_\_\_\_\_

Officials interviewed by jury (name and position)

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_



**The decision of the jury:**

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**Rationale:**

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**Signatures of jury:**

Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

***A summary of the Official Report of the Jury of Appeal must be kept on record by the Manager Manager. The Meet Manager shall keep a copy (for a minimum of one year) and provide a copy to the ASSA should you be asked.***