



TRIATHLON

AUSTRALIA

Participant Policy Document

FEBRUARY 2012

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These rules should be read in conjunction with the TA Race Competition Rules by event organisers, Technical Officials and participants.

The original (source) document for these rules is the electronic version, which can be found on Triathlon Australia's website (www.triathlon.org.au).

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Table of Contents

Races that require TA Technical Officials.....	4
Authority	4
Age Determination.....	5
Competition Categories	5
Elite or Open Category	5
Junior Category	5
Under 19 Category	5
Mature Under 19	5
Under-23-Category	6
Age Groups	6
Team Competition Categories	6
Initial Eligibility	6
Eligibility to Compete in Individual or Team Competition Categories	7
Distances for Australian Championship Events	7
Restrictions	8
TABLE 1: - UNDER 19 TRIATHLON RACE DISTANCES	8
TABLE 2: - UNDER 19 DUATHLON RACE DISTANCES	9
TABLE 3 - UNDER 19 AQUATHLON RACE DISTANCES	9
Prizes and Awards	10
Competition Clothing	10
Age Group Competitors	10
Elite or Under 23-Competitors	10
Doping Policy.....	11
Health	11
Time Limits	11
Suspension and Expulsion	11
Wetsuit Use Determination	12
Race Competition Jury	13
Race Operations and Administration Staff	14
Protests	14
Protest Hearing Procedures	14
Protest Flow Chart	17
Appeals.....	18
Appeal Hearing Procedures	18
Appeal Flow Chart	20
Infringement Flow Chart	21

Races that require TA Technical Officials

Any *sanctioned* event in Australia is required to have technical officials present. All triathlon, duathlon and aquathlon events conducted in Australia are encouraged to be sanctioned. TA recognises a National Race Directors' Committee (TARDC) which assists with events becoming sanctioned. The STTA or TA will appoint (where possible) a TD to each sanctioned event, as well as a RR and required number of technical officials, in consultation with the Race Director.

Authority

Triathlon Australia (TA) is recognised by the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) as the National Sporting Organisation (NSO) for the multi-endurance sports of triathlon, duathlon and aquathlon, and similarly by the International Triathlon Union (ITU) as the National Federation (NF) of those sports in Australia. TA is a founding member of the ITU and has resolved to adopt the rules and procedures of those sports as laid down by the ITU.

The TA National Technical Committee (NTC) has been charged with ensuring that the technical aspects of triathlon, duathlon and aquathlon are of the highest quality, with particular emphasis on the safety of each competitor and the fairness of each event. To this end, the Technical Committee has to date developed management criteria for events of two or more segments comprising two or more of the disciplines of swimming, bicycling and running to be conducted in a safe, efficient, effective and fair manner to standardised race procedures and rules. Successfully meeting these criteria results in an event being designated as 'sanctioned' thus creating direct benefits to the event and its participants.

Authority to sanction and enforce race rules at national and international level events is retained exclusively by TA, but initial sanctioning is to be conducted and clearances gained from state and territory civil authorities by state and territory associations in which those events are staged, and recommendations made to TA as to the suitability or otherwise of the events for sanctioning. Final sanctioning endorsement of national and international level events by the NSO/NF provides assurance at the national and international levels that the event is planned and structured to be safe and fair.

Age Determination

Age determination for all categories, with exception to Under-23 and Junior Sprint, is determined by age on December 31st during the season of the triathlon competition. For the categories Under-23 and Junior Sprint, age determination is by age on December 31st in the year of the coming Triathlon World Championship competition.

Competition Categories

Elite or Open Category

An event that has a prizemoney category must define the category as either 'Elite' or 'Open'.

a Prizemoney Is Greater Than \$5,000

An event that has greater than \$5,000 (AUD) prizemoney must be defined as a 'Elite' Category. Only competitors with a current TA Professional Membership are permitted to compete in the 'Elite' Category.

b Prizemoney Is Equal To Or Less Than \$5,000

If the total prize money is equal to or less \$5,000 (AUD) the Category must be classified as either 'Elite' or 'Open'.

- If the Category is classified as 'Elite' then (a) above applies.
- If the Category is classified as 'Open' all entrants may enter the 'Open' category. Competitors with a current TA Professional Membership must compete in the 'Open' category.

Junior Category

This category is reserved for triathletes in the 16 - 19 years age group. The Junior category is reserved for triathletes who are at least turning 16 years of age in the year of competition, up to and including turning 19 years of age in the year of competition. Triathletes wanting to compete in this category must be endorsed by their STTA.

For Selection Races Only age can be determined on race day in accordance with criteria listed with Triathlon Australia.

Under 19 Category

This category is reserved for triathletes in the 7 – 19 years age group. Triathlon Under 19 Race Distances have been recommended and distributed to each State/Territory Triathlon Association (STTA).

Mature Under 19

A screening process exists whereby a 13, 14 or 15 year old (age group competitor) in any given season can apply to their STTA as a mature Under 19 to step up in distance. This

process permits one step up in distance, as defined by those listed in **Tables 1 – 3**. Details on the process can be obtained from your STTA, or Triathlon Australia.

Under-23-Category

This category is reserved for triathletes in the 18 – 23 years age group. The Under-23 category is reserved for triathletes who are at least turning 18 years of age in the year of competition, up to and including turning 23 years of age in the year of competition. This category requires a TA Professional Membership.

Age Groups

The categories for Under 19 age group competitors should be in line with the distance recommendations by TA. The categories for age group competitors where not covered by Under 19 distance tables are:

a. 16 – 19 years	g. 45 - 49 years	m. 75 - 79 years
b. 20 – 24 years	h. 50 - 54 years	n. 80 - 84 years
c. 25 – 29 years	i. 55 - 59 years	o. 85 - 89 years
d. 30 – 34 years	j. 60 - 64 years	p. 90 - 94 years
e. 35 – 39 years	k. 65 - 69 years	q. 95 - 99 years
f. 40 – 44 years	l. 70 - 74 years	Etc

TA maintains national distance recognition of the 16 – 19 years' age group for Standard Distance competition.

TA maintains national distance recognition of the 14 – 15 years' and 16 – 19 years' age groups for Sprint Distance competition.

Team Competition Categories

A State/Territories Teams Championship is incorporated with the Australian Standard Distance Championship for Elite, Under-23 and Age Group categories under the following conditions:

Initial Eligibility

Each member of a state or territory team must be either:

Domiciled in that state or territory, and

An Australian citizen or currently married to an Australian citizen for a period greater than one year.

or

A resident of Australia for a period greater than two years, and

A membership holder of a state or territory association affiliated with TA.

Teams are made up of three male and three female athletes. The Championship is determined by assessing the performance of the three best-performed male and female finishers from each State/Territory irrespective of competition category. One point is awarded for first place, two for second and so on. The team with the lowest total wins. In the event of a tie, the team with the lowest team average will win.

Eligibility to Compete in Individual or Team Competition Categories

Where a requirement, all entrants for a sanctioned event may be required to produce at race registration a membership card in their name from any of the state or territory associations affiliated with TA. Where an entrant cannot produce a race membership, the following conditions apply:

- a. All non-member entrants for the Age Group Category and for the Under 19 Age Category are to pay the full membership fee of the state or territory association sanctioning the event or purchase a One Race Membership where One Race Memberships are available. The decision on the option is to be made by the entrant.
- b. All entrants at National events in the Elite Category or the Under-23 Category are to pay the full membership fee of the state or territory sanctioning the event. A One Race Membership is not acceptable for Elite Category or Under-23 Category entrants. Certain Elite events will require a special TA Professional Membership in addition to their state or territory membership.

The One Race Membership (ORM) will provide Public Liability insurance cover for the entrant from the actual start of the event to the finish line, or, to the point of withdrawal by the competitor from the event.

Distances for Australian Championship Events

The distances of Australian Triathlon Championship events are:

Championship Event	Swim Course (km)	Bicycle Course (km)	Run Course (km)
Sprint	0.75	20.0	5.0
Standard	1.50	40.0	10.0
Long	2.0	80.0	20.0
Ultra	3.8	180.2	42.2

Distances of the Long Course Triathlon Distance (non-TA Championship event) are 1.9km swim, 90.1km cycle and 21.1km run.

The distances of the Australian Duathlon Championship event are:

Run Course (km)	Bicycle Course (km)	Run Course (km)
10.0	40.0	5.0

The distances of the Australian Aquathlon Championship event are:

Run Course (km)	Swim Course (km)	Run Course (km)
2.5	1.0	2.5

Restrictions

The maximum race course segment distances permitted in any one day for a Under 19 competitor in a sanctioned event are the respective course segment distances shown in **Table 1** (Triathlon), **Table 2** (Duathlon) and **Table 3** (Aquathlon).

TABLE 1: - UNDER 19 TRIATHLON RACE DISTANCES

AGE GROUP	SWIM	BIKE	RUN	COMMENT	RELAY (one leg of distance stated)
Under 7	50m	500m	100m	Compulsory/Novelty Event	50m/500m/100m
7yo	100m	3km	500m	Non-Competitive/Novelty	200m/6km/1km
8yo	100m	3km	500m	Non-Competitive/Novelty	200m/6km/1km
9yo	100m	3km	500m	Non-Competitive/Novelty	200m/6km/1km
10yo	200m	6km	1km	Non-Competitive/Novelty	300m/10km/2km
11yo	200m	6km	1km	Non-Competitive/Novelty	300m/10km/2km
12yo	300m	10km	2km	Competitive	400m/15km/4km
13yo	400m	15km	4km		750m/20km/6km
14yo	750m	20km	5km		1.5km/40km/10km
15yo	1.5km	40km	10km		1.5km/40km/10km
16yo	1.5km	40km	10km		1.5km/40km/10km
17yo	1.5km	40km	10km		1.9km/90.1km/21.1km
18yo+	3.8km	180.2km	42.2km		

TABLE 2: - UNDER 19 DUATHLON RACE DISTANCES

AGE GROUP	RUN	BIKE	COMMENT	RELAY (one leg of distance stated)
Under 7	100m	500m	Compulsory/Novelty Event	100m/500m
7yo	750m	3km	Non-Competitive/Novelty	1km/6km
8yo	750m	3km	Non-Competitive/Novelty	1km/6km
9yo	750m	3km	Non-Competitive/Novelty	1km/6km
10yo	1.5km	6km	Non-Competitive/Novelty	2km/10km
11yo	1.5km	6km	Non-Competitive/Novelty	2km/10km
12yo	3km	10km	Competitive	4km/15km
13yo	4km	15km		5km/20km
14yo	7.5km	20km		7.5km/20km
15yo	10km	40km		10km/40km
16yo	10km	40km		10km/40km
17yo	15km	40km		

TABLE 3 - UNDER 19 AQUATHLON RACE DISTANCES

AGE GROUP	SWIM	RUN	COMMENT	RELAY (one leg of distance stated)
Under 7	50m	100m	Compulsory/Novelty Event	50m/100m
7yo	100m	750m	Non-Competitive/Novelty	200m/1km
8yo	100m	750m	Non-Competitive/Novelty	200m/1km
9yo	100m	1km	Non-Competitive/Novelty	200m/1km
10yo	200m	2km	Non-Competitive/Novelty	300m/2km
11yo	200m	2km	Non-Competitive/Novelty	400m/4km
12yo	300m	4km	Competitive	750m/6km
13yo	400m	6km		1km/8km
14yo	1km	8km		1.5km/10km
15yo	1.5km	10km		1.5km/10km
16yo	1.5km	10km		1.5km/10km
17yo	1.5km	10km		

Distances in each table are maximum distances permissible for each discipline, however, events can be of any configuration within these maximums (eg. Duathlon = Run / Bike / Run; Aquathlon = Run / Swim / Run; Triathlon = Enduro).

The Age Determination date for eligibility in Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3 is the age on race day for distances greater than Standard distance. For distances equal to or less than Standard distance the age is based as per Age Determination above.

Where the distance of only one or two course segments of an event exceeds the respective course segment distances for a particular category as listed in **Tables 1 – 3**, the distances as listed in these Tables are to apply, even if the distances of the other two or one course segments respectively are less than those segments stated (**Tables 1 – 3**).

Prizes and Awards

Prizes for all TA sanctioned national and international events will be distributed to male and female divisions in equal value and depth. Prizes for Australian Triathlon Championships will be distributed to male and female divisions in equal value.

Prizes for all State/Territory sanctioned events will be distributed to male and female divisions in equal value by placing and on a pro-rata basis for depth.

All competitors who place in the top three of their male and female individual category in TA sanctioned National Championship events will be awarded official TA Australian Championship medals.

Where competition conducted, the Team Trophy is awarded to the winning STTA.

Competition Clothing

Age Group Competitors

All Age Group competitors (male and female) who apply and are accepted to enter an Age Category of a TA designated national series event, where applicable must wear the following items:

- i. The designated TA series race singlet, where applicable or
- ii. TA approved sale items.

The designated item must remain unaltered during the bike and run leg of the event.

Elite or Under 23-Competitors

Only Elite and/or Under 23-Category competitors, who are the holders of current TA Professional Memberships or current Elite international memberships of their respective national federation, are eligible to apply for a start in a TA designated national series event. Accepted eligible applicants for the Elite Category of a TA designated national series event, must wear at all times during the conduct of the event (swim, bike and run) the designated TA series race competition uniform unaltered (female swim suit or male swim suit and race singlet or one piece speed suit).

The only exemptions to this rule are:

- a. Where TA in its discretion, waive such a restriction for a particular event which may be considered a separate national event and one not fully owned and or controlled by TA;
- b. For Under-23 and Junior Sprint Categories, where this restriction is amended for national Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) squad members, STTA squad members or State/Territory Institute of Sport Squad members where separate race uniform guidelines are enforced and advised each year before the commencement of competition.

Doping Policy

The ITU, the ASC and TA condemn the use of substances or practices which artificially enhance performance. Competitors in events sanctioned by the ITU and by TA or its affiliated state or territory associations are expected to comply with the TRIATHLON AUSTRALIA DOPING POLICY as laid down by the TA Board on the recommendation of the TA Medical Committee. Refer to the Triathlon Australia Website (www.triathlon.org.au) to obtain a copy of the policy.

All competitors must familiarise themselves with the policy, including prohibited conduct, medical control tests, testing obligations and procedures, and penalties and appeal processes.

Health

Triathlons are strenuous activities and to be able to compete, competitors should be in excellent physical condition. The health and welfare of competitors, officials, spectators and the general public are of paramount importance. Any competitor who appears to an official to present a danger to the health and welfare of himself/herself, another competitor, an official, a spectator or a member of the public may be immediately withdrawn from the competition.

Time Limits

The sanctioning authority for the event may establish time limits for each of the swim, bicycle, and run course segments of an event and for the overall finish time.

Suspension and Expulsion

These are penalties awarded for the more severe infringements at a national or international level by the TA Board on the recommendation of the TA Technical Committee, and at lower levels by their respective state/territory associations and regional/club committees.

After awarding a disqualification, the Race Referee of a national or international level event may refer, through the Technical Delegate to the TA Technical Committee, a report made by a race official of, but not limited to, the following infringements together with the Race Referee's recommendations for suspension or expulsion:

- a. Sports conduct of an unusual, protracted, violent or severe nature;
- b. Fraud, entering under an assumed name or age, falsifying an affidavit, or giving false information including, but not limited to indicating the triathlete belongs to another Competition Category;
- c. Participating when not eligible; and
- d. As detailed in the Triathlon Australia Doping Rules, using substances or practices, which artificially enhance performance.

The TA Board may also warn, suspend or expel a competitor if repeated instances of disqualification of that triathlete are brought to the Board's notice.

Committees at lower levels are to follow procedures similar to those of the foregoing paragraphs for the types of infringements listed.

When a competitor is suspended or expelled at national or international level, the President of TA shall, within 30-days of the infraction occurring, notify in writing the penalised triathlete, all state and territory associations and ITU, and the penalty is to be observed by those levels of authority. All suspensions and expulsions are to be announced in a TA newsletter.

When a competitor is suspended at a state/territory level, the committee at that level is responsible for notifying the next higher authority if it requires the penalty to be applied at a higher level or levels.

Wetsuit Use Determination

The upper and lower temperature limits for the use of wetsuits and the maximum time a competitor is allowed to remain in the water for the varying swim distances of events are to be in accordance with the following tables:

- a. Elite, Open and Junior athletes:

Swim Length	Forbidden Above:	Mandatory Below:	Maximum stay in water
0 – 1500m	20° C	14° C	30 mins
1501 – 3000m	23° C	15° C	1 hour 40 mins
3001 – 4000m	24° C	16° C	2 hours 15 mins

b. For Under 19 and Age Group competitors:

Swim Length	Forbidden Above:	Mandatory Below:	Maximum stay in water
0 – 1500m	24° C	14° C	1 hour 10 mins
1501 – 3000m	24° C	15° C	1 hour 40 mins
3001 – 4000m	24° C	16° C	2 hours 15 mins

An interim water temperature reading should be taken 24-hours before the start of the race and a provisional ruling on wetsuits should be provided on the afternoon prior to the event. The final temperature reading will be taken on the morning of the race and a wetsuit ruling advised.

If changing weather conditions, including ambient air temperatures dictate, the TD may waive the limits on wetsuit use at any time at his/her discretion. The decision will be made following consultation with the Medical Director (or senior medical officer) at the event. The TD and MD may consult further with a member of the TAMC.

Race Competition Jury

The Competition Jury is to be chaired by the Technical Delegate (TD) and is to comprise two other members as outlined below:

International Events – in accordance with ITU rules.

National Series Events - one other person who is either:

- Member of TA Board; or
- Member of an STTA committee; or
- Accredited Technical Official with a minimum Level 2 qualification.

If a TD has not been appointed then their replacement should also be someone meeting the above criteria.

State/Territory level championship events – two other persons, each of who are either:

- Member of TA Board; or
- Member of an STTA committee; or
- Accredited Technical Official with a minimum Level 2 qualification.

All other events – two other persons, each of who are either:

- Accredited Technical Official with a minimum Level 2 qualification ; or
- Member of an STTA committee; or
- Member of the committee of a triathlon club recognised by the STTA; or

- Member of an STTA with an understanding of the rules of triathlon.

The TD is responsible to the Race Sanctioning Authority to determine, hear and rule on all appeals against decisions handed down by the Referee, including decisions on protests.

Race Operations and Administration Staff

The general functions of some of the major categories of race operations and administration staff are outlined below:

Race Director

This official is responsible to the sanctioning authority, through the TD, for the preparation and safe conduct of the event, the compilation and distribution of results and the submission of the post-race RD report;

Marshals

The marshals are responsible to the Race Director to maintain the flow of the race, keep control of spectators and traffic, and maintain security. There may be appointed a Chief Marshal and also Assistant Chief Marshals for each sector of the event;

Administrators

These people are responsible to the Race Director for race registration, timing, recording, scoring, data manipulation, course set up and dismantling, and catering;

Medical Team

The medical team are responsible to the Race Director for establishing the necessary level of medical treatment facilities at the race HQ and providing medical care and evacuation from all points of the race to hospital facilities; and

PR Officer

This person is responsible to the Race Director for all advertising and media coverage of the event in order to obtain the exposure required.

Protests

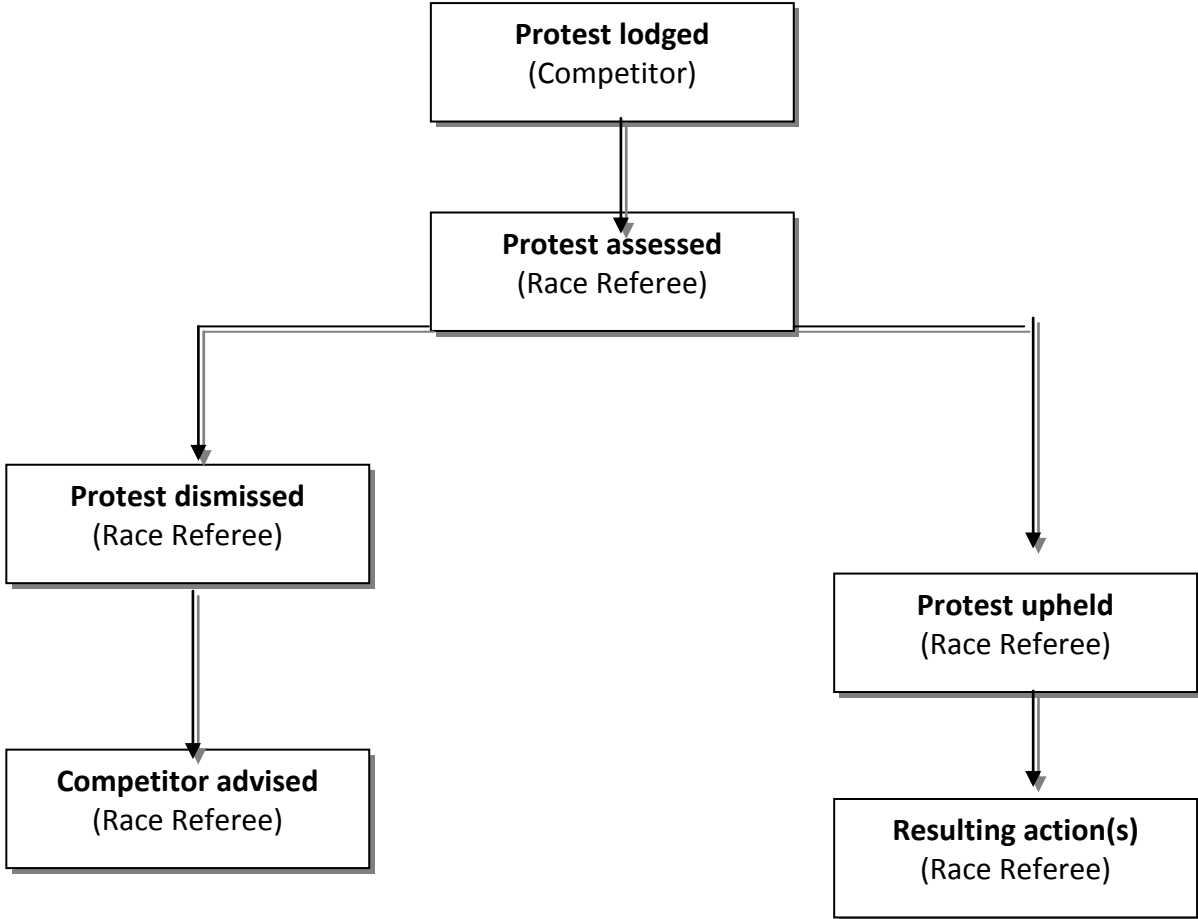
Protest Hearing Procedures

The following procedures are to be observed in the handling of protests:

- a. A protest is to be submitted in writing, preferably on a TA Race Protest Form but in any case is to be signed by the protester, to the Race Referee within the time limit specified in the foregoing paragraphs and accompanied by the Protest Fee;
- b. A copy of the protest is to be made available to the competitor(s) and official(s) named in the protest at least 30-minutes prior to the hearing;
- c. The protester and the accused, and/or their state, region or club representative should be present at the hearing. Failure of either party to attend the hearing may justify the Race Referee making a decision without that party. If both parties cannot attend, the Race Referee is to postpone or cancel the hearing, or if the Race Referee deems it appropriate, make a decision based on the information available;
- d. A representative for either the protester or the accused may be designated to appear if approved;
- e. The hearing is not to be open to the public or the media;
- f. The Race Referee is to read the protest;
- g. The protester and the accused (or their representatives) are to be allowed three minutes each to give his/her account of the incident;
- h. The protester and the accused are each to be allowed a maximum of two witnesses. Each witness may speak for three minutes;
- i. The Race Referee may ask questions of the protester, the accused (or their representatives) and the witnesses to clarify statements made by them. The time taken for questions is additional to the time each is allowed to give an account of the incident;
- j. After hearing and considering all evidence, the Race Referee is to render a decision;
- k. The decision is to be advised to both parties and posted immediately, and recorded in writing on the Protest Form on which the protest was submitted;
- l. The completed TA Protest Form endorsed with the Race Referee's decision is to be passed by the Referee to the TD on race day together with the Protest Fee in the case of a protest which has not been upheld. In the case of a protest that has been upheld, the Race Referee is to ensure that the Protest Fee is returned to the protester;
- m. The TD is to endorse the Form to confirm that the protest and its reported handling are in accordance with these Race Competition Rules. If the TD considers this is not the case, the matter is to be referred back to the Race Referee for corrective action; and

- n. After endorsement the TD is to dispatch the protest form to the state/territory association sanctioning the event together with the Protest Fee in the case of a protest which has not been upheld. The association is to ensure that the protest form is dispatched to reach the TA Technical Committee within one calendar month of the race day, and that the Protest Fee for a protest for national and international level events not upheld is disbursed to TA and for state based events the state/territory association sanctioning the event.

Protest Flow Chart



Appeals

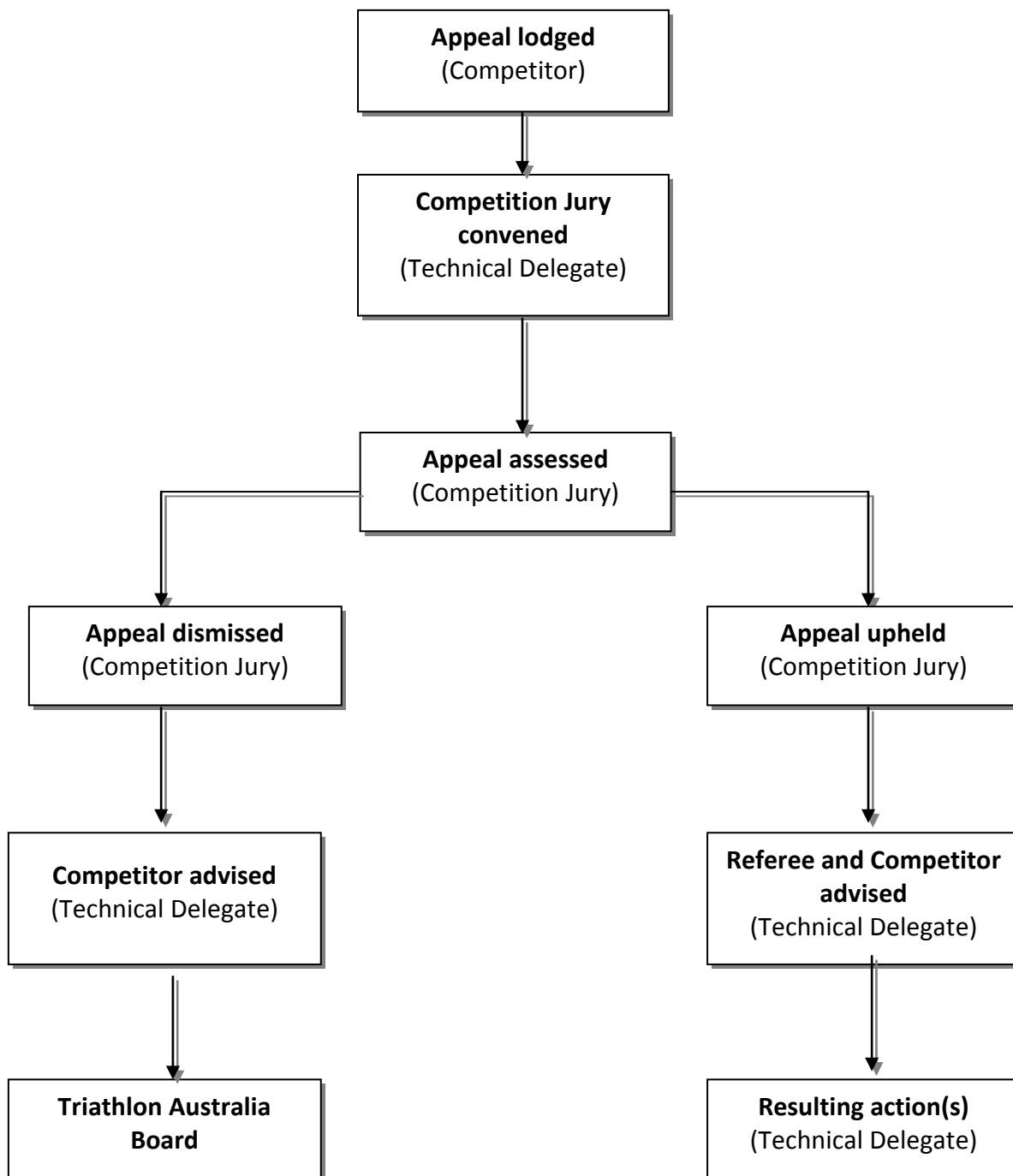
Appeal Hearing Procedures

The following procedures are to be observed in the handling of an appeal to the Race Competition Jury:

- a. The appeal is to be submitted, in writing on the appropriate form and signed by the appellant, to the Technical Delegate within the specified time limit;
- b. The Technical Delegate is to convene the Competition Jury;
- c. A copy of the appeal is to be made available to the Competition Jury, the competitor and officials named in the appeal at least 30-minutes prior to the hearing;
- d. The appellant and other competitors and officials named in the appeal, and/or their state, region or club representative should be present at the hearing. Failure of any party to attend the hearing may justify the Competition Jury making a decision without that party being present. If no party can attend, the Technical Delegate may postpone or cancel the hearing;
- e. A representative for the appellant or any other competitor or official may be designated to appear if approved by the Competition Jury;
- f. The hearing is not to be open to the public or the media;
- g. The Technical Delegate is to read the appeal;
- h. The appellant (or his/her representative) is to be allowed three minutes to give his/her account of the incident;
- i. The appellant, other competitors and officials named in the appeal (or their representatives) are each to be allowed a maximum of two witnesses. Each competitor and official named and each witness may speak in evidence for three minutes;
- j. The members of the Competition Jury may ask questions of the appellant, the other competitors and officials named in the appeal (or their representatives) and the witnesses to clarify statements made by them. The time taken for questions is additional to the time each is allowed to give an account of the incident;
- k. After hearing the evidence, the Competition Jury will retire to consider the case and is to:
 - (i) Give equal weight to the evidence and testimony provided by all;

- (ii) Appreciate that honest testimony can vary and be in conflict as a result of personal observation or reaction;
 - (iii) Keep an open mind until all evidence has been submitted;
 - (iv) Consider a competitor innocent until the alleged violation has been established to the complete satisfaction of the Race Competition Jury; and
 - (v) Render a decision by simple majority.
- l. The decision is to be advised by the TD to all parties and posted immediately, and recorded in writing on the form on which the appeal was submitted. In the case of an appeal that has been upheld, the TD is to ensure that the Appeal Fee is returned to the appellant;
 - m. After endorsement the TD is to dispatch the appeal form to the sanctioning state/territory association together with the Appeal Fee in the case of an appeal which has not been upheld. The association is to endorse the appeal form to confirm that the appeal and its reported handling are in accordance with these Race Competition Rules. If the association considers this is not the case, the matter is to be referred back to the TD for corrective action; and
 - n. The association is to ensure that the appeal is dispatched to reach the TA Technical Committee within one calendar month of the race day, and that the Appeal Fee for any appeal not upheld at national and international level events is disbursed to TA and for state based events the state/territory association sanctioning the event.

Appeal Flow Chart



Infringement Flow Chart

