

# Artistic Swimming New Zealand Competition Appeals Process 2025

## 1. Appeals Process and Timeline

To lodge an official appeal the following processes must be observed:

- Appeals must be lodged within **30 minutes** of the official scores being released.
- Appeals must be submitted **in writing** using the official paper appeals form (See Appendix 1). A copy of this form will be provided at the Team Managers' Meeting.
- Only **Team Managers** are permitted to submit an appeal.
- Appeals must be accompanied by a **protest fee of \$200**, which will be reimbursed if the protest is upheld.
- Appeals must be submitted to the designated **Meet Manager**. This person will be identified at the competition Team Managers' Meeting.

Please note: If conditions causing a potential protest are noted prior to the event, this must be brought to the attention of the Meet Manager before the respective session begins.

## 2. Grounds for Protest

An appeal may be lodged on the following grounds:

- A breach of official competition rules that impacts the final result.
- A scoring error that affects the outcome of the competition.
- A referee's perceived failure to observe the appropriate rules and regulations of the competition.
- Any decision affected by unforeseen or dangerous conditions that are likely to have impacted the competitor

Please note final judge and technical controller decisions cannot be appealed.

## 3. Appeal Review Process

If an official appeal is lodged the following review process will take place as soon as convenient.

- The Referee will conduct the initial review of the protest.
- If the Referee requires additional advice or input, they may consult the Assistant Referee.
- A final decision will be made following the review, and if the appeal is upheld, the protest fee will be refunded to the appealing team.
- If the appeal is rejected, the Team Manager may appeal the rejection to the Jury of Appeal, whose decision shall be final (see Section 4).

#### **4. The Jury of Appeal**

If an appeal is rejected by the referee, the Team Manager may choose to appeal the rejection to the Jury of Appeal (Jury).

- The Jury of Appeal (Jury) shall be appointed by the Artistic Swimming New Zealand Board before the event.
- The Jury will consist of knowledgeable representatives from a range of competing Nations/Regions
- The Jury is not to include the Referee, a Judge, or a Technical Controller from the event.
- Each Member shall have one vote except if a conflict of interest applies (including an Athlete from their country or related party, including but not limited to daughter, son, niece, nephew or partner).
- In the case of conflict of interest, the affected Jury member is allowed to speak, but not to vote.
- The decision of the Jury is final.

The Jury should consider the referees' decision with a significant degree of respect. The Jury's job is not to make a decision of their own, but to make a decision on whether the appellant has presented clear evidence that the Referee's decision was made arbitrarily, irrationally, or in abuse of the discretion afforded to the Referee. The test shall be recognised as a high test for an appellant to overcome.