



## Appeals Policy

Policy number	EV-001	Version	1.0
Approved by SIA Directors	31 May 2021	Scheduled review date	2026
Date Reviewed	7 June 2024	No amendments required	

### Introduction

The purpose of Schools in Action (SIA) is to coordinate school sporting events in Australia so that all students can experience the excitement and pride of representing their school in sport. SIA is committed to providing school sporting events that are fair and equitable.

During competition disputes can arise. These will first be considered via the protest / dispute / judiciary process detailed in the Event Regulations. At times, individuals and/or schools may believe that a decision made during the protest / dispute / judiciary process has not been fair or equitable. In this instance, schools can appeal to an Appeals Committee.

### Scope

This policy outlines the process for applying to an Appeals Committee to appeal decisions made by a Protest / Dispute / Judiciary Committee during competition at SIA events.

### Policy Statement

Schools are only able to appeal decisions made by a competition Protest / Dispute / Judiciary Committee process if:

- An error of law has occurred.
- The decision of the Protest / Dispute / Judiciary Committee is so unreasonable that no equivalent group acting reasonably could have come to that decision having regard to the evidence before it.
- The classification of the matter by the Protest / Dispute / Judiciary Committee was manifestly excessive or inadequate.
- The sanction imposed by the Protest / Dispute / Judiciary Committee was manifestly excessive or inadequate.

## Procedures

The procedures are only to occur should a school wish to appeal a decision of the Protest / Dispute / Judiciary Committee during an SIA event.

1. The school is to advise the Competition Manager in writing within two (2) hours of the Protest / Dispute / Judiciary Committee decision that an appeal is to be lodged. The appeal must be consistent with at least one of the four allowable reasons defined in the Policy Statement above. Schools will either appeal on behalf of a team or an individual. An individual is not allowed to appeal a decision.
2. The Competition Manager is to advise either of the Directors of SIA. The Director will convene a meeting of the Appeals Committee to be held as soon as possible.

The Appeals Committee will consist of at least three (3) members:

- a. One of the SIA Directors (who will Chair the Appeals Committee)
- b. A National / State Sporting Organisation appointed person
- c. A School Principal or an independent third person with an Education background

The Appeals Committee may invite other knowledgeable parties to advise where required.

3. The school is to lodge a \$500 deposit with SIA prior to the Appeals Committee convening. Half of the deposit is refundable if the appeal succeeds.
4. The appeal shall be considered by the Appeals Committee who will call witnesses as they see fit.
5. The decision of the Appeals Committee will be final.

## Authorisation



Deneille Sutton - Director



Michael Grant - Director