

2023 AMG Sport Disputes & Appeals Policy

As at 14 June 2023

Policy Objective

The aim of this policy is to outline the process for Australian Masters Games (AMG) competitors and/or team officials to appeal a sport dispute and/or appeal decision passed down by the Sport Convenor.

This policy also provides the necessary rights and processes for AMG competitors and/or team officials, therefore excluding any need for appeals or legal action with statutory bodies external to AMG.

For issues of a non-sport manner please refer to the AMG Code of Conduct.

Policy Key Principles

1. AMG competitors and/or team officials have the right to dispute and/or appeal the result of a fixture/match/event in accordance with the rules of the sport.
2. AMG competitors and/or team officials also have the right to a subsequent appeal to AMG should they believe the appeal process enacted within the rules and processes of the sport was flawed in its administration or management.
3. Disputes and/or appeals resulting from sport officials' (referees, umpires, judges) on field rulings or interpretation of the rules will not be accepted by the AMG Appeals Committee.

Procedures/Processes

1. A competitor and/or team official must first lodge a dispute and/or appeal to the sport involved via the appointed Sport Convenor or delegated person within the structure of the sport's competition. If the dispute and/or appeal is related to a competition rule or regulation of the sport, the confirmed regulations and rules of the sport will be adhered to and the standard disputes and/or appeals process for the sport will take place (*contact the Sport Convenor for further clarification on rules, regulations, and sport specific dispute and appeal guidelines*).
2. In the instance of a dispute/appeal process being undertaken at a sport, the following steps are to take place:
 - a. Sport Convenor to contact their relevant AMG Sport Coordinator or in their absence the AMG Head of Sport & Operations to advise AMG of the details and time of a sport dispute and/or appeal decision.
 - b. At this time the AMG Sport Convenor is to also notify AMG if the decision of a dispute and/or appeal has been accepted or the competitor and/or team official wishes to lodge an appeal to AMG.
3. If a competitor and/or team official wishes to appeal the dispute and/or appeal decision, the final avenue is to lodge a subsequent appeal with AMG. The AMG Appeals Committee will only accept appeals which relate to policies or rules which overlap or intersect with the AMG Registration Terms and Conditions, AMG Code of Behaviour and other relevant Games policies and procedures which can be found on the Australian Masters Games Website.
4. The competitor and/or team official must lodge an appeal in person at the Games Accreditation Centre Help Desk and complete the following steps:
 - a. Appeal must be lodged in writing on an AMG Sport Dispute Appeal Form (available from the Sport Convenor/Games Accreditation Centre Help Desk) with all relevant dispute and/or appeal process documentation attached.
 - b. Appeal must be lodged with a \$100 AUD administration fee (to be paid via card only). A receipt will be provided for the lodgement of the administration fee. In the event that the appeal is successful, the full amount of \$100 AUD will be refunded.

- c. Appeal must be lodged no later than four (4) hours after the decision is handed down by the Sport Convenor.
5. The following conditions also apply to the lodgement of an AMG appeal:
- a. If the Sport Convenor decision has been made outside of the Games Accreditation Centre Help Desk operating hours, it must be lodged within one (1) hour of the Games Accreditation Centre Help Desk re-opening the following day.
 - b. Upon receipt of an AMG Sport Dispute Appeal Form, the AMG will record the time and details of the appeal.
6. Following the lodgement of an AMG appeal, the competitor and/or team official appealing the Sport Convenor decision will then be informed if the appeal has been approved for further action. The date, time, location of the appeal hearing and who the AMG Appeals Committee will consist of, will be advised to the competitor and/or team official within four (4) hours of lodging their request.
- a. AMG will form the Appeals Committee with the view to provide a fair and open opportunity for appeal.
 - b. The Appeals Committee members will be independent and unbiased from the sport issue and the individual competitor/team concerned with the appeal.
 - c. The decision of AMG shall be final and binding. No party shall have any further appeal rights which shall include, but not be limited to, the appeals division of UniSport or to any state court or other judicial authority.
 - d. The appellant must bear the costs of the proceedings unless AMG determines otherwise.

Related Documentation

- AMG Sport Dispute Appeal Form
- AMG Sport Agreement

Related Policies

- AMG Registration Terms and Conditions
- AMG Code of Behaviour