



**TRIATHLON**  

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**AUSTRALIA**

# **Race Competition Rules**



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## **Version August 2008**

The original (source) document for these Race Competition Rules is the electronic version, which can be found on Triathlon Australia's website ([www.triathlon.org.au](http://www.triathlon.org.au)). Follow the icon (TA Technical) and go to the page 'rules and procedures'. The web based document acts as the official (authorised) reference document and is maintained based on authorised amendments in accordance with recommendations by the Triathlon Australia Technical Committee, which are accepted by the Triathlon Australia Board.

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## Authority

The Triathlon Australia Technical Committee (TATC) 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.

Any difficulty in the interpretation or application of these Race Competition Rules (RCR) should be referred through Triathlon Australia (TA) to the Chair of the TA Technical Committee without delay.

## Reference

This document is to be read in conjunction with the TA Policy Document that can be found on the Triathlon Australia website [www.triathlon.org.au](http://www.triathlon.org.au) .

## Purpose

The TA RCR are intended to:

- a. Create an atmosphere of sportsmanship, equality and fair play;
- b. Optimise safety and protection;
- c. Emphasise ingenuity and skill without unduly limiting the competitor's freedom of action;
- d. Penalise competitors who seek to gain an unfair advantage; and
- e. Endorse the principle that triathlon is an **individual** sport and encourage **individual** performance and initiative.

## **Modifications**

These rules will apply to all events that fall within the jurisdiction of TA. To that end, and notwithstanding paragraph 2, throughout these RCR, unless otherwise specified, the term 'triathlon' is used in its generic form to imply any of those events.

It is important to know the intent and purpose of a rule so that it may be intelligently applied in a given situation. A competitor must not be permitted an advantage not intended by a rule, nor to place the health or welfare of themselves or others in jeopardy. To implement this philosophy, many of the rules are written in general terms. This practice minimises the necessity for a multiplicity of rules and provides the Technical Officials with ample authority to adapt their application of the rules to fit conditions. Technical Officials must base their determination on whether an advantage, not intended by the rules, has been gained or health or welfare has been jeopardised.

## **Exceptions**

These TA RCR will be applicable to all events sanctioned by TA or its' affiliated state/territory associations and are to be implemented by the relevant state or territory body as appropriate. Where the TA RCR conflict with the laws of the jurisdiction in which the event is to be held, those laws will override the TA RCR to the extent of the inconsistency, and competitors must be notified of the implications of these laws as early as possible and not later than prior to the start of the event. Exceptions for special circumstances in a particular event may only be gained from TA with prior approval. A request for an exception to these Rules must be made in writing to the Chair of the TATC through the state or territory association to whom the application has been submitted or is being submitted.



## **Special Rules**

A race Technical Delegate may approve the addition of special rules for a particular race, provided that:

- a. Each additional special rule is made available in written form and is announced to the participants before the event; and
- b. Each additional special rule and the reasons for its inclusion are advised to the Chair of the TATC before the day on which the event is to be conducted. The Chair of the TA Technical Committee may invalidate the incorporation of an additional special rule only on the authority of the TA Board.

## **Unauthorised Exceptions or Additions**

The unauthorised exception to or addition of a race competition rule will prevent an event from being sanctioned and will invalidate a sanction, which has already been granted to an event. This could result in legal complications, particularly in the case of accidents during the event and in subsequent requests for approval from state/territory and/or municipal authorities to use roads and waterways. Insurance authorities have also warned that claims made under such circumstances may be considered invalid.

## **Rule Changes**

These RCR may be changed from time to time by the Board of TA in its absolute discretion. Any such rule change shall be advised in writing to the affiliated state/territory associations at least 14-days before it is to take effect.

## Penalties

The following types of penalty may be applied for a rule violation:

### Time Penalty

This is a penalty for a rule violation to be served at a designated area (Penalty Box) on the course in lieu of a Stop-Start Penalty. The duration of the penalty will vary according to the segment of the race in which the violation occurs.

Cycle Course Distance	Time Penalty
=<20kms	2-minutes
20.1kms to 40kms	3-minutes
40.1kms and above	5-minutes

For **Aquathlon** and the **Swim** and **Run** segments the Technical Delegate and/or Race Referee should discuss with the Race Director as to whether a time penalty should apply in these segments. If a time penalty is to apply it will be 2-minutes for an Aquathlon or an event with a cycle course distance =<20kms; for events with a cycle course distance >20kms it will be 3-minutes.

### Stop-Start Penalty

This is an on the spot penalty served with a Technical Official either on the spot where the violation occurred or in a Penalty Box. The competitor must:

- (i) Stop with the Technical Official (either on the course or in the Penalty Box);
- (ii) Listen to and acknowledge any verbal warning by the Technical Official; and



- (iii) Proceed when the Yellow Card has been withdrawn and it is safe to do so (on the course) or the Technical Official advises to do so (Penalty Box).

### **Disqualification**

This is a penalty awarded by the Race Referee on personal observation or as a result of a report made by a Technical Official or a finding by the Race Competition Jury. This penalty removes a competitor as a finisher from the results of an event.

If a competitor receives two (2) or more Yellow Card violations on the Field of Play i.e. transition, swim, bike and run, during an event the competitor may continue to race but could expect the Race Referee to confirm a disqualification ruling. The violation may require either a time penalty or Stop-Start Penalty to be served.

### **Notification of Penalties**

A Technical Official should carry out the following actions when issuing a rule violation to a competitor:

- (a) Gain the attention of the competitor;
- (b) Confirm with the competitor their race number;
- (c) Show the competitor a Yellow or Red Card and inform the competitor of the rule violation; and
- (d) Advise the competitor what action needs to be taken i.e. either (1) perform an on course Stop-Start Penalty in the presence of the Technical Official or (2) proceed to the Penalty Box and serve either a time penalty or a Stop-Start Penalty in the presence of a Technical Official.

Where a Technical Official believes a competitor has either unintentionally committed a rule violation or is about to commit a rule violation, a Technical Official should carry out the following actions to issue a **Warning** to a competitor:

- (i) Gain the attention of the competitor;
- (ii) Confirm with the competitor their race number;
- (iii) Do **NOT** show a card to the competitor; and
- (iv) Advise the competitor what action he/she must take and the reason why.

Where a **Red Card** has been shown to a competitor the Technical Official **must** inform the competitor to continue racing as the Race Referee will rule on the violation at the completion of the event.

Where the Race Referee's ruling on a violation is to disqualify a competitor the Race Referee must post the ruling (competitor race number and rule violated) on the **Penalties Notice Board** which is to be displayed in a prominent location that competitors will have access to at the finish e.g. the athlete recovery area. The Race Referee may wish to personally meet with a disqualified competitor to discuss the ruling but this is not a mandatory requirement. Penalties not posted within one hour of the last competitor finishing the event are invalid.

A Technical Official must complete a **Violation Report** for the Race Referee when they either issued a Red Card to a competitor or they were unable to advise a competitor in person of a rule violation.



## General Rules

These are applicable across the entire course

1. Competitors must:
  - a. Practise good sports conduct at all times;
  - b. Be responsible for their own safety, the safety of their own equipment and be considerate of the safety of others;
  - c. Be responsible for understanding and following the TA RCR;
  - d. Obey traffic regulations and instructions from race officials;
  - e. Treat other competitors, officials, volunteers and spectators with respect and courtesy;
  - f. Not use abusive language;
  - g. Be responsible for keeping on the designated event course. If leaving the course for any reason the course must be re-entered at the same point;
  - h. Wear a Speed Suit for the entire event if it is worn in an event where wetsuits are not permitted. The Speed Suit must remain over both shoulders at all times with only the zipper able to be undone for heat relief;
  - i. Not wear, use or carry items deemed to be a hazard to self or others e.g. a hard cast, jewellery, glass/metal containers or electronic and entertainment devices such as, but not limited to, mobile phone, mobile disc players, MP3 players or 2 way communication devices;

- j. Not use unauthorised equipment;
- k. Not **obstruct** or **interfere** with the forward progress or jeopardise the safety and welfare of another competitor or race official or spectator or member of the public;
- l. Not accept assistance from anyone other than an authorised race official;
- m. Not leave equipment or discarded articles of equipment anywhere on the course, except at the approved dedicated locations;
- n. Withdraw immediately from the event if deemed by the event medical personnel that they appear to present a danger to the health or welfare of either him/herself or another person;
- o. Not cause offence to others through deliberate acts of nudity, or personal toilet which might be seen or noticed in public; and
- p. Report to the Penalty Box to serve a time penalty for a rule violation after being issued with a Yellow or Red Card and instructed to do so by a Technical Official.

Failure to comply with any of the above will result in the competitor receiving one of the forms of Penalty previously described.

- 2. It is **not** mandatory for a Technical Official to either indicate to a competitor that a rule violation will be reported or give a warning prior to issuing a penalty or reporting a rule violation.



3. A competitor may complete the event if a Technical Official has indicated that he/she will be reported for a rule violation.

## **Swim Course Rules**

4. A competitor may use any swimming stroke for propulsion through the water, tread water or float.
5. A competitor may stand on the bottom or rest by holding an inanimate object such as a buoy or stationary boat. However, a competitor may not make use of either the bottom or inanimate objects to make forward progress.
6. In an emergency, a competitor should raise an arm overhead and call for assistance. Once assistance is rendered beyond the provision of an inanimate object on which to rest, the competitor must retire from the competition.
7. The temperature limits for the use of wetsuits and maximum time to be in the water for the varying swim distances are as follows:
  - a. - Elite, Under-23, Open and Junior competitors

<b>Distance</b>	<b>Forbidden Above</b>	<b>Mandatory Below</b>	<b>Maximum Time</b>
Up to 1500m	20° C	14° C	30 mins
1501m – 3000m	23° C	15° C	1 hour 40 mins
3001m and above	24° C	16° C	2 hours 15 mins

b. – Under-19 and Age Group competitors

<b>Distance</b>	<b>Forbidden Above</b>	<b>Mandatory Below</b>	<b>Maximum Time</b>
Up to 1500m	24° C	14° C	1 hour 10 mins
1501m – 3000m	24° C	15° C	1 hour 40 mins
3001m and above	24° C	16° C	2 hours 15 mins

8. A competitor must wear the swim cap if provided by the race organisation. For aquathlons or other multi-swim events the wearing of the swim cap if provided is compulsory for the first swim leg and optional in subsequent swim legs.
9. Any artificial propulsion device, e.g. fin, sock, glove, paddle or flotation device except a wet suit, is prohibited.
10. Any wet suit with a thickness exceeding 5-millimetres at any point is prohibited.
11. The wearing of wet suit pants of any length without a wet suit top is prohibited.

### **Bicycle Course Rules**

12. A competitor must obey traffic laws unless otherwise directed by a race official.
13. A competitor, whether mounted on the bicycle or dismounted, is not permitted to have a bare torso at any time while on the bicycle course of the event.
14. A competitor is not permitted to make any forward progress on the bicycle course without the bicycle and all its component parts.



15. Bicycle helmets are compulsory and must be approved by a national accredited testing authority recognised by a national federation that is an affiliate of the ITU.
16. An alteration or addition to any part of the bicycle helmet including the chin strap, or the omission of any part of the helmet, including an outer cloth cover, is prohibited.
17. The bicycle helmet must remain securely fastened on the head of a competitor at all times once the bicycle is removed from the bicycle rack, while on the bicycle course and until the bicycle is replaced on the bicycle rack.

A competitor observed on the bike course with a bicycle helmet not judged to be securely fastened will receive a **Helmet** violation and be required to serve either an on course Stop-Start Penalty with the Technical Official or proceed to a Penalty Box and serve a Stop-Start Penalty with a Technical Official.

***Rules 18 to 24 inclusive apply to non-drafting events only***

18. A competitor not keeping to the left of the cycle lane when not making a pass on another competitor, motorcycle or vehicle will receive an **Illegal Position** violation. Road conditions will be assessed before issuing a violation.
19. A competitor passing on the inside [left hand side] of another competitor will receive an **Illegal Pass** violation (*Diagram 3*).
20. A competitor who has completed a pass and established the right of way and is not passing another competitor, motorcycle or vehicle and who fails to move safely and immediately to the left of the cycle lane will receive a **Blocking** violation. Road conditions will be assessed before issuing a violation.

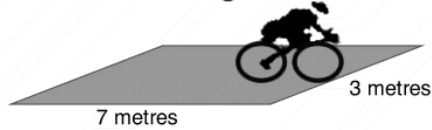
21. **Drafting** off another bicycle or motor vehicle or motorcycle is forbidden. A competitor is deemed to have been passed once the leading edge of the front wheel of the passing bicycle has moved in front of the leading edge of the front wheel of the bicycle being passed.
22. **Bicycle/Motorcycle Draft Zone**
- a. The bicycle draft zone is a rectangle 7-metres long and 3-metres wide that surround every bicycle competitor and every motorcycle on the bicycle course. The front edge of the front bicycle and motorcycle wheel defines the centre of the leading 3-metres edge of the rectangle (*Diagram 1*).
  - b. The draft zone of a competitor may not overlap the draft zone of another competitor or motorcycle unless the rear competitor is in the process of passing the forward competitor or the forward motorcycle. (*Diagram 2*).
  - c. When passing, once the rear competitor's draft zone overlaps the forward competitor's draft zone or a forward motor cycle draft zone, the rear competitor is allowed a maximum of 15-seconds to pass the forward competitor or forward motor cycle. (*Diagram 4*).
  - d. At every instant during the overlapping of draft zones, the rear competitor **must be seen to be gaining** on the forward competitor or the forward motorcycle.
23. A competitor's draft zone may overlap the bicycle draft zone of another competitor or a motor cyclist in the following circumstances subject to the judgment of a Technical Official:



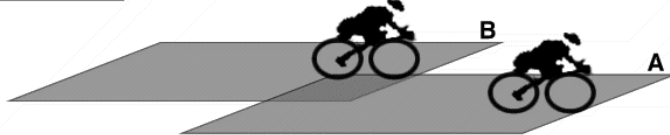
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- a. In passing the forward competitor or motor cyclist and AT ALL TIMES progressing through it but for a period of no longer than 15-seconds;
- b. For safety reasons;
- c. For an aid station;
- d. For entrance to or departure from a transition area; and
- e. In making an acute turn.

**Diagram 1** Distance of Drafting Zone for ALL Competitors

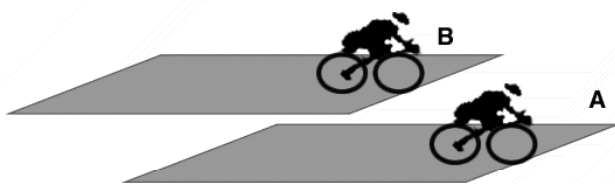


**Diagram 2** Drafting



**A** has overtaken **B** and **B** is now drafting the lead cyclist **A**. **B** must drop out of **A**'s draft zone before attempting to re-pass **A**. **A** must move to the Left Hand Side of the road when safe otherwise **A** can be called for blocking. **B** can only overtake **A** on **A**'s Right Hand Side.

**Diagram 3** Blocking



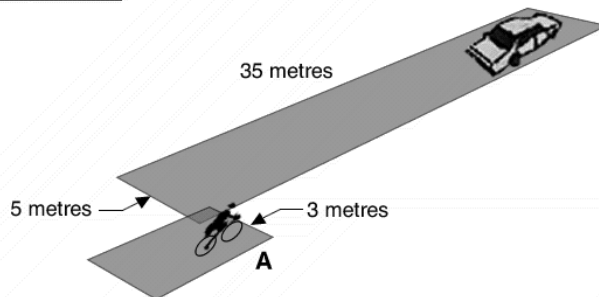
**A** and **B** are maintaining adequate separation between each other, even though they are abreast to one another. **B** is not drafting **A** in this instance. **A** however, is now in a BLOCKING position. If **A** remains out to the Right Hand Side, **A** will receive a blocking penalty.

**Diagram 4** Drafting and Not Drafting



**A** and **B** are maintaining adequate separation. **C** is not attempting to pass **B**. **C** is drafting **B**. **A** and **B** are not drafting.

**Diagram 5** Vehicle Draft Zone



**A** is travelling at the same speed as the vehicle. **A** is drafting. **A** must move to the Left Hand Side of the road otherwise **A** can also be called for blocking.



24. Once passed a competitor must within 15-seconds drop back out of the draft zone of the passing competitor before attempting to re-pass.

25. **Vehicle Draft Zone**

- a. The vehicle draft zone is a rectangle 35-metres long by 5-metres wide that surrounds every vehicle on the bicycle course (*Diagram 5*). The centre of the front edge of the vehicle defines the centre of the leading 5-metres edge of the rectangle.
- b. The driver of any race participation vehicle is responsible to ensure that this zone is not overlapped by the draft zone of a competitor.
- c. The competitor is responsible to not overlap the draft zone of a forward non-race vehicle unless passing it, in which case the competitor has 90-seconds to overtake the vehicle and during that period the competitor must always be gaining on the vehicle.

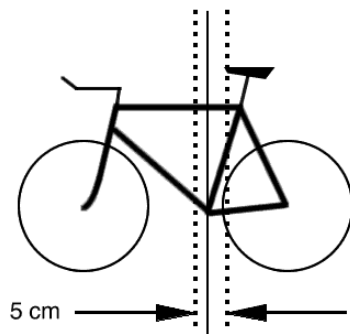
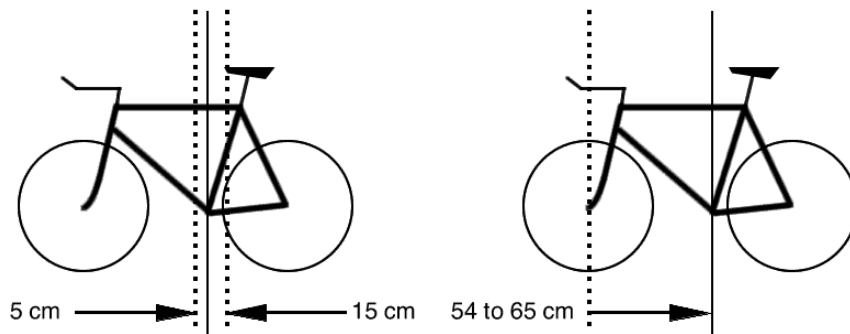
26. **Bicycles** must have all of the following characteristics:

- a. No more than two metres long and 75-centimetres wide;

**Note:** ITU rule for World Cup and World Championships events for Elite, Under 23 and Junior competitors is 50-centimetres wide.

- b. Measure at least 24-centimetres from the ground to the chain wheel axle;

- c. A vertical line touching the front most point of the saddle will be no more than 5-centimetres in front of and no more than 15-centimetres behind a vertical line passing through the centre of the chain wheel axle (*Diagram 6*), and a competitor must not have the capability of adjusting the saddle beyond these lines during competition;
- d. Measure no less than 54-centimetres and no more than 65-centimetres between a vertical line passing through the centre of the chain wheel axle and a vertical line through the centre of the front wheel axle (*Diagram 7*). Exceptions may be given only by the Technical Delegate for the bicycles of very tall or very short competitors;

**Diagram 6** Saddle Fore-Aft Position**Diagram 7** Front to Centre Distance

- e. Fairings which reduce air resistance are prohibited;
- f. The front wheel may be a different diameter from the rear wheel but must be of spoke construction;
- g. Disk wheels or covers are allowed on the rear wheel only, however this provision may be changed by the Race Referee in the interests of safety (e.g. in the case of the potential for high winds);
- h. No wheel may contain mechanisms which are capable of accelerating it;



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- i. Handlebar ends must be plugged, tubular tires securely glued, headsets tight and wheels true;
- j. There must be an operational brake on each wheel;
- k. Forward facing brake levers are illegal on all bicycles. This applies to brake levers on standard curved handlebars, cow horn and aero bar mounted brake levers; and
- l. In draft legal events (not Long Distance) for Elite, Under-23 and Junior competitors the following ITU rules will apply:
  - (i) Only traditional drop bars are permitted;
  - (ii) Clip-ons will be permitted provided they do not extend more than 15-centimetres beyond the front wheel axle and they are no longer than the brake levers foremost line;
  - (iii) Straight forward facing clip-ons must be bridged and must not carry forward facing brake levers;
  - (iv) No forward facing bar or gear shifters are allowed on the end of the clip-ons. The only exception will be grip shifters; and
  - (v) Elbow pads are permitted.

### **Run Course Rules**

27. A competitor may not crawl.
28. A competitor may not run with a bare torso or without shoes on any part of the run course of an event.

## Transition Zone Rules

29. The following apply:

- a. A competitor may only have a bare torso when moving from the swim exit to their bicycle rack or moving from their bicycle rack to the swim entry, the latter in a multi swim event;
- b. A competitor must mount and dismount the bicycle at the respective designated mounting and dismounting zones;
- c. A competitor must at all times rack his/her own bicycle only at their designated bicycle rack location and leave it in a stable position;
- d. A competitor must at all times place all their equipment at their designated bicycle rack location; and
- e. A competitor must not interfere with another competitor's equipment but where accidental interference occurs the offending competitor must replace the equipment to its former position and state.

## Protests

If a competitor has a concern regarding a violation and/or disqualification (DQ) they must contact either the Race Referee or Technical Delegate. If they wish to lodge a Protest they must do this with the Race Referee within the time limit explained in coming paragraphs.



A competitor may file a protest with the Race Referee provided that the action protested has not previously been reported by a Technical Official and ruled upon by the Race Referee.

A protest cannot be made on a judgment call by a Technical Official.

**30. Protest Concerning the Course**

A protest that the course does not conform to the requirements of the Sanctioning Authority, or is unsafe, must be made in writing to the Race Referee at least 24-hours before the start of the race.

**31. Protest Concerning Eligibility**

A protest concerning the eligibility of a competitor must be made in writing to the Race Referee. The affected competitor may compete.

**32. Protest Concerning Equipment**

A protest concerning a competitor's equipment being in violation of the conditions set out in these Race Competition Rules must be made in writing to the Race Referee no later than 30-minutes after the protesting competitor's finish time.

**33. Protest Against Another Competitor or an Official**

A protest against the actions of another competitor or official carried out before, during or after the race must be made in writing to the Race Referee within 30-minutes of the protesting competitor's finish time. Such a protest may be submitted only if the protesting competitor claims that the action of the alleged offender was detrimental to the performance of the protester.

**34. Protest Concerning Timekeeping**

A protest concerning an error in timing must be made in writing to the Race Referee within 30-minutes after the posting of the unofficial results. A state or territory association may protest an error in timekeeping in the official results of a national or

international championship event within 30-days after the competition, in writing, to the TA Board through the TA Technical Committee.

### **Consideration of a Protest**

35. A protest will not be considered unless:
- a. The protest is submitted to the Race Referee within the time laid down in the foregoing paragraphs;
  - b. The protest is accompanied by an Protest Fee of \$100.00 for all events unless the sanctioning authority imposes a lesser fee, and which will be refunded only if the protest is upheld; and
  - c. The protest is submitted in writing, preferably on a TA Race Protest Form which may be obtained from the Race Referee.

### **Appeals**

A competitor may file an appeal with the Technical Delegate, or STTA representative if a Technical Delegate was not appointed, against a ruling of the Race Referee provided that the decision appealed against has not previously been the subject of an appeal and ruled upon by the Competition Jury.

An appeal cannot be made on a judgement call.

### **Consideration of an Appeal (to the Race Competition Jury)**

36. An appeal against a decision will not be considered unless:



- a. The appeal is submitted to the Technical Delegate within 30 minutes of the Race Referee's decision being formally advised;
- b. The appeal is accompanied by an Appeal Fee of \$100.00 for all events unless the sanctioning authority imposes a lesser fee, and which will be refunded only if the appeal is upheld; and
- c. The appeal is submitted in writing, preferably on a TA Race Appeal Form which can be obtained from the Technical Delegate.

## **Appeal to the TA Board**

37. A competitor whose appeal is dismissed by the Race Competition Jury (RCJ) may appeal to the TA Board.
  - (a) The only ground of appeal available to an aggrieved competitor following determination by the RCJ is that the procedure relating to appeals set out in Rule 36 of the TA RCR was not properly followed and/or implemented;
  - (b) Any appeal under this section must be lodged with the CEO of TA within 48-hours of receipt by the aggrieved competitor of the decision of the RCJ;
  - (c) Appeals under this section must be in writing stating precisely the ground of appeal relied upon by the aggrieved competitor;
  - (d) The timetable and procedure for any appeal to the TA Board will be set by the President of TA or his/her nominated representative. Such timetable and procedure shall take into consideration the need for expediency and finality in regard

to race results in addition to any other matter deemed significant by the President (or nominee) in the circumstances of the appeal;

- (e) When considering whether the ground of appeal has been made out the TA Board will disregard any technical breach of the rules that in their opinion had no bearing on the outcome of the appeal to the RCJ or merits of the competitor's appeal to the RCJ; and
- (f) Any appeal to the TA Board against the decision of the RCJ must include a fee of \$500.00 made payable to Triathlon Australia which is non-refundable should the appeal to the TA Board be dismissed.



## **Definitions**

### **Appellant**

A competitor submitting an appeal.

### **Aquathlon**

The term recognised by the ITU, TA and the ASC for a sport of individual character and motivation which combines swimming and running skills in continuum. The TA term for a run-swim-run competition.

### **Assistance**

Any attempt by an unauthorised or unofficial source to help or to stabilise a competitor.

### **Bicycle Course**

That part of the race route over which it has been defined in the race brief that the bicycle is to be ridden, walked or carried. The bicycle course commences at the Bicycle Mount Zone and concludes the Bicycle Dismount Zone.

### **Duathlon**

The term recognised by the ITU, TA and the ASC for a sport of individual character and motivation which combines bicycling and running skills in continuum. The TA term for a run-ride-run competition.

### **Elite**

Elite category competitors for National events are those who hold a professional membership, which in Australia includes Triathlon Australia membership.

**Finisher**

A competitor who completes the entire race course within the rules and crosses the finish line, with any part of their body.

**Interference**

A deliberate block, charge or abrupt motion which impedes another competitor.

**Judgement Call**

Any assessment of events, circumstances or the race environment by a technical official. For the avoidance of any doubt a judgement call is, but is not limited to, a determination that a competitor is guilty of drafting, blocking, illegal position or gaining an unfair advantage.

**Open**

Open category competitors can hold any level of TA membership.

**Pass**

When one competitor's bicycle draft zone overlaps another competitor's bicycle draft zone, makes continual forward progress through that zone and passes within a maximum period of 15-seconds. A competitor cannot pass another competitor on the Left Hand Side in a non-draft legal event.

**Penalty Box**

A designated area on the course where competitors may be required to serve either a time penalty or a Stop-Start Penalty for a rule violation.

**Race Referee**

A Technical Official who is responsible to the Race Technical Delegate to hear and make final decisions on all rules violations reported by Technical Officials and on all protests.



## **Results**

The timed finish positions of all competitors after violation reports have been ruled on, protests and appeals have been heard, and penalties have been awarded.

## **Run Course**

That part of the race route over which it has been defined in the race brief that the competitor is to run or walk. In triathlons and aquathlons, the run course commences at the exit from the Transition Zone boundary and concludes at the finish line. In Duathlons, the first Run Course commences at the start line and finishes at the entry to the boundary of the Transition Zone; the second Run Course commences at the exit from the Transition Zone boundary and concludes at the finish line.

## **Sanction**

A permit issued by the authority of TA for the conduct of a national championship, or a race of a national race series, or for an international event staged in Australia, and by a state/territory association, through the authority delegated to it by TA, for all other events. The issue of such a permit is a declaration by the sanctioning authority that plans for the event have been thoroughly inspected and provide the greatest potential for the conduct of a safe and fair event.

## **Sports Conduct**

The behaviour of a triathlete during competition. Previously referred to as 'sportsmanship', good sports conduct is interpreted as fair, rational and courteous behaviour, while bad sports conduct is any behaviour on the part of a competitor which is judged to be unfair, unethical or dishonest, a violent act, intentional misconduct, abusive language, intimidating behaviour, or persistent infringement of the rules.

### **Stop-Start Penalty**

A method of imposing a brief delay on a competitor who is assessed by a technical official to have infringed the rules.

### **Swim Course**

That part of the race route over which it has been so defined in the race brief. In triathlons and aquathlons, the swim course commences at the start line and concludes at the entry to the boundary of the Transition Zone.

### **Technical Delegate**

A Technical Official who is qualified by TA as delegated to state/territory associations, who is responsible for ensuring that all aspects of the TA Race Competition Rules and Race Operations Procedures are fulfilled in preparation for, during, and after the event. Where appeals are lodged, the TD is responsible for convening and chairing the Race Competition Jury. The TD will normally be responsible for conducting or overseeing the conduct of race sanctioning.

### **Technical Official**

Accredited race officials who are qualified by TA as Technical Officials delegated to state/territory associations, and are appointed to be responsible for observing, assessing and reporting on the performance of competitors in a sanctioned event in relation to TA Race Competition Rules (Race Officials), and those who consider and rule on violation reports and protests (Race Referee) and appeals (Race Competition Jury).

### **Torso**

That section of the body extending from the base of the neck to the base of the sternum.



### **Transition Zone**

A location within a defined boundary which is not a part of the swim course, the bicycle course or the run course and within which each competitor is allocated an area for the storage of individual items of clothing and equipment.

### **Triathlon**

A sport of **individual** character and initiative which offers a combination of swimming, cycling and running skills in continuum.

### **Violation**

A rule infringement which results in the awarding of a penalty.