

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA CLASSIFICATION PROTEST REQUEST

Who can protest or appeal against EA Classification?

Any athlete who has undergone a Classification Assessment and has received an outcome can lodge a protest or appeal against the decision made by the classification panel.

The Protest Process

All Athletes with impairment who intend to protest a Para-Equestrian classification assessment result must proceed through the protest procedure as outlined below:

<p>Step 1.</p>	<p>Athlete applies to EA requesting an appeal against a Classification decision following the outcome of assessment.</p> <p>The application <u>must</u> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The athlete’s full name and identifying particulars of the Grade and profile being protested • The details of the protested decision and/or a copy of the protested decision • An explanation as to why the protest has been made and the basis on which the protesting party believes that the protested decision is flawed. Reference to specific rules alleged to have been breached is encouraged. • Any documents and other evidence in support of the protest; and • The signature of the party making the request <p>All documentation provided must be legible.</p>
<p>Step 2.</p>	<p>Upon receipt of a National Level protest, Equestrian Australia will review the Protest and determine if the protest will be accepted or dismissed.</p> <p>A protest may be dismissed, at Equestrian Australia’s discretion, where it does not comply with protest requirements including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The protest has been submitted without all necessary information; • The protest is an allegation without evidence. <p>If the Protest is dismissed, Equestrian Australia must notify the protesting party in writing as soon as is practical. Any Protest Fee will be forfeited.</p> <p>If the Protest is accepted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equestrian Australia will notify all relevant parties of the opportunity for any subsequent protest evaluation.
<p>Step 3.</p>	<p>The protested Athlete’s grade will remain unchanged pending the outcome of the protest, but the protested Athletes grade status will be changed to Review, effective immediately. In the instance of an Athlete with a vision impairment, if the Athlete holds classifications across two or more sports, then the Athlete’s Sport Class Status will be amended to Review (R) with immediate effect across all sports that the Athlete holds a classification for.</p>

Step 4.

A Protest Panel will be appointed to review the protest as soon as reasonably possible. This may be a Protest Panel at the current competition, the next competition or Athlete evaluation opportunity.

Conduct of National Level Protest Evaluations

A Protest Panel will be appointed by Equestrian Australia in a manner consistent with the provisions for appointing a Classification Panel in the PA Classification Standard: Athlete Evaluation. In addition, a Protest Panel will not include any person who:

- was a member of the Classification Panel that made the Protested Decision; or
- conducted any component of Athlete Evaluation in respect of the Protested Athlete within a period of 12 months prior to the date of the Protested Decision; unless an alternate process is otherwise agreed by the protesting party and Equestrian Australia.

Equestrian Australia will notify all relevant parties of the time and date for the Athlete Evaluation that will be conducted by the Protest Panel. The Athlete will be permitted to compete under their protested class until such time as the protest can be heard.

The Protest Panel will conduct the new Athlete Evaluation in accordance with the PA Classification Standard: Athlete Evaluation. The Protest Panel may refer to the Protest Documents and other Classification records when conducting the new Athlete Evaluation.

The Protest Panel will allocate a Grade and designate a Grade Status. All relevant parties will be notified of the Protest Panel's decision as soon as possible following the Athlete Evaluation.

Equestrian Australia will specify in its Classification Rules (or relevant sport technical rules) the consequences to results and prizes of an Athlete changing Sport Class after a Protest.

The decision of a Protest Panel in relation to a Protest is final. There will be no opportunity for the Athlete to make another Protest against the initial protested decision. However, the decision of a Protest Panel may be appealed if the requirements set out for Appeals in this Standard are met. This does not preclude protests of future classification decisions being made.

Completed forms must be submitted via email to michelle.battams@equestrian.org.au

EA Classification Request Form

Athlete Details - Please fill in electronically or print clearly using black pen.

Last name:			
First name:			
Date of Birth:			
Address:			
State:		Post code:	
Email address:		Mobile:	
Grade and profile allocated:			

Please provide an explanation as to why the protest has been made, and the basis on which the protesting party believes that the protested decision is flawed. Reference to specific rules alleged to have been breached is encouraged.

Please attach any documents or other evidence in support of the Protest.

Name:			
Signature:		Date:	