

# Complaint/Protest Example

In the World Championships Relay, the teams finished in the following order:

1. Team A
2. Team B
3. Team C

But Team B runners were heard to say that they wanted the jury to disqualify Team A because the Team A 3<sup>rd</sup> leg runner had been seen crossing a forbidden area

- **If they ask how to proceed, what should Team B be advised to do?**

The organiser receives a Complaint from Team B saying that Team A should be disqualified because their runner crossed a forbidden area

- **Should the Organiser consult the Senior Event Adviser?**
- **Should the Organiser question the Team A 3<sup>rd</sup> leg runner?**
- **Should the Organiser consult the jury for their opinion?**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> leg runner of Team A admits that he crossed the forbidden area. After due consideration, the organiser agrees with the Complaint and disqualifies Team A, making Team B the winners.

Team A feel they should not be disqualified. They say they have a new compelling argument which proves that they should not be disqualified. They say that they want to put in an “appeal” to the jury.

- **If they ask how to proceed, what should Team A be advised to do?**
- **Should the jury be consulted?**

Team A submit a complaint saying that they should not be disqualified because it was unclear from the map that the area was not allowed to be crossed. The Organiser turns down the Complaint on the grounds that the map is clear enough. Team A still feel they should not be disqualified.

- **What should Team A be advised to do?**

A Protest is received from Team A. The jury assembles.

- **Who should chair the jury?**
- **One of the jury members is a member of Team A's federation – should that jury member stand down?**
- **Can the organiser be present at the jury meeting?**
- **Can the jury interview the Team A 3<sup>rd</sup> leg runner?**
- **Who can vote at the jury meeting?**

Team A's protest is upheld by the jury so they are reinstated as the winners.

Team B then ask the SEA if they can protest about this decision.

- **What should Team B be advised to do?**