



SINGAPORE TAEKWONDO FEDERATION RULES GOVERNING APPEALS

Singapore Taekwondo Federation
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1. DEFINITIONS

In these Rules, the following expressions shall, except where the context otherwise require, have the following meanings:

“Affiliate”	means club and club members as described in the Constitution of “Associate affiliates” STF;
“Appeals Committee”	means the Appeals Committee as set out under the Constitution;
“Appeal Panel”	means a panel appointed by the Chairman of the Appeals Committee pursuant to these Rules to hear and determine any appeal;
“Appellant”	means any person, affiliate or Member who has made an appeal under these Rules and includes the STF;
"Board"	means the Board of the STF;
“Constitution”	means the Constitution of the STF;
“Disciplinary Committee”	means the committee as constituted by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee pursuant to the STF Disciplinary Rules to hear and rule on the charges against an Accused;
"Disciplinary Committee”	means the Sub-Committee appointed by the Board pursuant to the Constitution to deal with any breach, infraction, infringement or misconduct of any Member, player, official, umpire, coach, anyone with authorisation from STF in particular in respect of conduct pertaining or relating to a match, competition or other event which is organised and/or sanctioned by the STF;
“WT”	means the World Taekwondo (International Federation);
“Secretary General”	means the Secretary General of the STF;
“Panel”	means the Panel as constituted by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee or of the authorised Selection Committee to hear anyone accused of any breach, infringement or misconduct; or to decide on selection of athletes and coaches for participation in any competition;
“Member”	means an Affiliate, Associate affiliate, Club, Athlete, Coach, Volunteer, Corporate Member or Member as defined in the STF Constitution;
“Qualified Person”	means a qualified person as defined in the Legal Profession Act;
“Respondent”	means a person, Member, and includes the STF, who is the adverse party in an Appeal brought by an Appellant;
" Rules"	means the Rules Governing Appeals;
"STF"	means the Singapore Taekwondo Federation;

“STF Notice Board” means the notice and/or display boards installed around the STF premises containing notices and/or information for Members and the public.

2. CONSTRUCTION

- 2.1 The headings in the Rules are for ease of reference only and shall not affect the interpretation or construction of the Rules.
- 2.2 A reference to a Rule is to the Rules herein.
- 2.3 Unless the context otherwise requires:
 - 2.3.1 words in the singular include the plural, and vice-versa; and
 - 2.3.2 words importing any gender include all genders.

3. OBJECTIVE OF THE APPEALS COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The Appeals Committee is established to consider formal appeals against decisions on Team Selection or Discipline made by the Selection Committee and / or Disciplinary Committee from the STF Stakeholders. This includes matters relating to such decisions made by the STF Board, but shall not include such decisions already made at any General Meeting.
- 3.2 The Appeals Committee shall convene solely for the purpose of reviewing the decision of the Selection Committee or Disciplinary Committee.

4. COMPOSITION OF THE APPEALS COMMITTEE

- 4.1 The Board shall appoint an Appeals Committee which shall comprise
 - 4.1.1 a Chairman who may be an Independent Board Member; and
 - 4.1.2 any number of persons as the Board shall determine from time to time.
 - 4.1.3 Any person whom the Chairman wishes to include for the specific purpose of hearing an appeal, that may exceed the number of persons the Board determines
 - 4.1.4 A secretariat, which could be members of the STF secretariat staff, so determined by the Chairman. The secretariat would facilitate the work of the Appeals Committee and shall have no decision authority.
- 4.2 The Appeals Committee may meet for the purposes of its business, adjourn and otherwise regulate the conduct and determine the procedure of its meetings and business as its members may think fit. The Appeals Committee may make decisions at meetings or by resolutions circulated in writing or by electronic mail.

- 4.3 Any question arising out of any meeting of the Appeals Committee shall be determined by a majority of votes by members of the Appeals Committee. The Chairman of the Appeals Committee, in the case of equality of votes, shall have the casting vote. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final.
- 4.4 The quorum for a meeting of an Appeals Committee shall be not less than half of its current members.
- 4.5 All members of the Appeals Committee must not have any conflict of interest with any parties involved and must not have been involved in the deliberation and decisions of the Selection Committee and / or Disciplinary Committee or anybody whose decision is under consideration. If the Chairman recuses herself or himself due to conflict of interest with a particular matter, the Board is to appoint another person as Chairman for the particular matter.

5. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 5.1. The Appeals Committee shall convene when a Member does not accept the decision of the Selection Committee or Disciplinary Committee and wishes to have the case heard and ruled by the Appeals Committee. The scope of matter shall be limited to those that concerns selection of athletes, coaches and officials for competition or discipline, the decisions having been first made by the relevant committees. In the case of disciplinary matters, the appeal may be against the findings of the Disciplinary Committee or against the penalty imposed; or both.
- 5.2. The Appeals Committee have the prerogative to review all relevant evidence, and interview any related persons, so that it may come to its decision to its best ability. Its decision is final, and the same matter shall not be subject to further appeal.
- 5.3. The Appeals Committee shall be empowered to come to one of the following conclusions:
- 5.3.1. The appeal is allowed and the decision of the Selection Committee or the Disciplinary Committee is overturned. The Appeals Committee shall rule on the case accordingly.
- 5.3.2 The appeal is unsuccessful and dismissed. The decision of the Selection Committee or the Disciplinary Committee shall stay.
- 5.3.3 To remit the matter with such directions as it thinks fit for re-hearing and determination by the earlier decision-making body, particularly in view of new information and / or evidence that was presented to the Appeals Committee was of the opinion that the Selection Committee or the Disciplinary Committee have had no chance to consider, direct for the case to be re-considered by the Selection Committee or the Disciplinary Committee.
- 5.3.4 To vary the decision and/or penalty in such a manner as it shall think fit, including the power to increase, decrease or remit any penalty included in such decision. It could make such

further or other order as it thinks fit, including such sanctions and/or penalties as set out in the Rules.

6. APPEALS PROCEDURE

- 6.1 Any member who have been subject to the decision of the Selection Committee or the Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter the Appellant) may appeal against those decision (including the penalty imposed by a Disciplinary Committee). Any such appeal shall be made and conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Rule.
- 6.2 Any Appellant may, within seven (7) working days of being formally informed of the decision of the Selection Committee or Disciplinary Committee, require the relevant committee to specify in writing the findings of fact leading to the decision and the reasons for the decision (the “Grounds of Decision”) if the same has not already been done. A fee of Dollars Seventy-Five (\$75.00) must accompany such request or such amount that may be the prescribed fees as the Board may decide from time to time
- 6.3 The Appellant must lodge a Notice of Appeal formally in writing with the Secretary General and Chief Executive Officer be copied within fourteen (14) working days of receiving a copy of the Grounds of Decision, failing which the appeal shall lapse. Together with the Notice of Appeal, the Appellant shall also lodge with the Secretary General and Chief Executive Officer be copied the following:
 - 6.3.1 a statement of the grounds of appeal; and
 - 6.3.2 if a request is made to present any fresh evidence to the Appeal Committee, particulars of such evidence and of the reasons why it was not presented earlier to the Selection Committee or Disciplinary Committee; and
 - 6.3.3 particulars of any fact or circumstances which do not appear from the statement or accompanying documents upon which the Appellant is seeking to rely.
- 6.4 The Chairman of the Appeals Committee shall convene the Committee comprising a minimum of three (3) persons, to hear any appeal under these Rules. If the Chairman of the Appeals Committee is not available, the President of STF shall appoint a member of the Appeals Committee to act as the Chairman. Any decision in writing signed by the Chairman shall be valid and effectual as a decision of the Appeals Committee. No member of the Appeals Committee shall have taken part in any previous proceedings relating to the same matter. Its decision shall be final and binding on all parties concerned.
- 6.5 The Appeals Committee may hold preliminary hearings for the purpose of:
 - 6.5.1 deciding any request to present fresh evidence;
 - 6.5.2 giving any other directions or orders which it considers necessary for the conduct of the proceedings; and the Appeals Committee may at any time extend or abridge all or any time limits governing appeals and may permit amendments to documents lodged by the parties on such terms as it thinks fit.
- 6.6 No fresh evidence shall be presented to the Appeals Committee without its permission. Save in exceptional circumstances, no such leave shall be given.

- 6.7 The Appeals Committee may conduct the hearing in such a manner and at such times as it considers desirable and/or suitable. It may require the appellant or any related parties to make representation at the hearing. If any party fails to attend the hearing, the Appeals Committee may proceed in their absence. The Appeals Committee shall not be bound by any enactment or rule of law relating to the inadmissibility of evidence in proceedings before any court of law.
- 6.8 The Appeal Panel shall not be bound to allow an appeal on the ground of misdirection or wrong evaluation of evidence, unless in the opinion of the Appeal Panel, substantial injustice, including a miscarriage of justice, has thereby been occasioned.
- 6.9 Where the appeal is successful the fees paid may be refunded to the Appellant at the discretion of the Appeal Panel.

7. SANCTIONS AND PENALTIES

- 7.1 Disciplinary sanctions and penalties which may be imposed by the Appeals Committee shall be consistent with the powers and role of STF which include but not limited to:
- 7.1.1 a verbal caution;
 - 7.1.2 a stern warning by way of a formal Letter of Warning.
 - 7.1.3 suspension of rights under STF of any duration.
 - 7.1.4 censure / ban from events and activities of STF of any duration.
 - 7.1.5 removal of any privileges, awards, belts, or honour previously bestowed by STF.
- 7.2 The Appeals Committee, in consultation with President STF, may impose any other disciplinary measures not listed above but specified in the World Taekwondo's Disciplinary Actions and Appeals Code (16 Nov 2021).

8. GENERAL

- 8.1 The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on all parties affected by the said decision, determination and exercise of discretion and shall not unless the Rules otherwise provide be challenged or capable of being challenged appealed against, rescinded, quashed or called in question in any court of law. For the avoidance of doubt, the said decision, determination and exercise of discretion shall not be subject to certiorari, prohibition, injunction or any form of judicial review for any reason (whether related to issues of jurisdiction, constitution of the Panels / Appeals Committee, compliance with procedures, natural justice or otherwise) in any court of law.
- 8.2. In the event there is any dispute or difference relating to or in connection with the interpretation of the Rules or the decision of any Inquiry Panel or Selection Committee, or Disciplinary Committee, Board and/or the Appeals Committee, the said dispute or difference shall be referred to and determined by the Board whose decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

— THE END —