

FIS NORDIC COMBINED GUIDELINES FOR JURY WORK

(Version June 2020)

1. Preparation for the Jury

The basis for all decisions made by the Jury is the ICR and in considering infractions to the rules the Jury has to take into consideration the specific circumstances of the issue in question. The guidelines are meant to be used by the Jury to improve the work and consistency of the decisions and to ensure that the sanction is appropriate to the infraction. They are advice to the Jury on how the ICR is interpreted in the most common cases. For all cases and infractions the Jury should follow the same decision process described in these guidelines.

The TD must make sure that all the other Jury members know these guidelines and they should be used as a part of the preparation in the Jury meeting before the competition starts.

2. Decision process and decision chart

When something happens during a competition, the Jury has to first decide whether it's a race incident or whether it is due to an infraction of the rules. Race incidents happen frequently in our competitions and should be considered as "no case" by the Jury.

When the Jury considers that one (or more) athlete made a mistake the first things to consider is the gain for the offender and/or the consequences for the offended competitor(s).

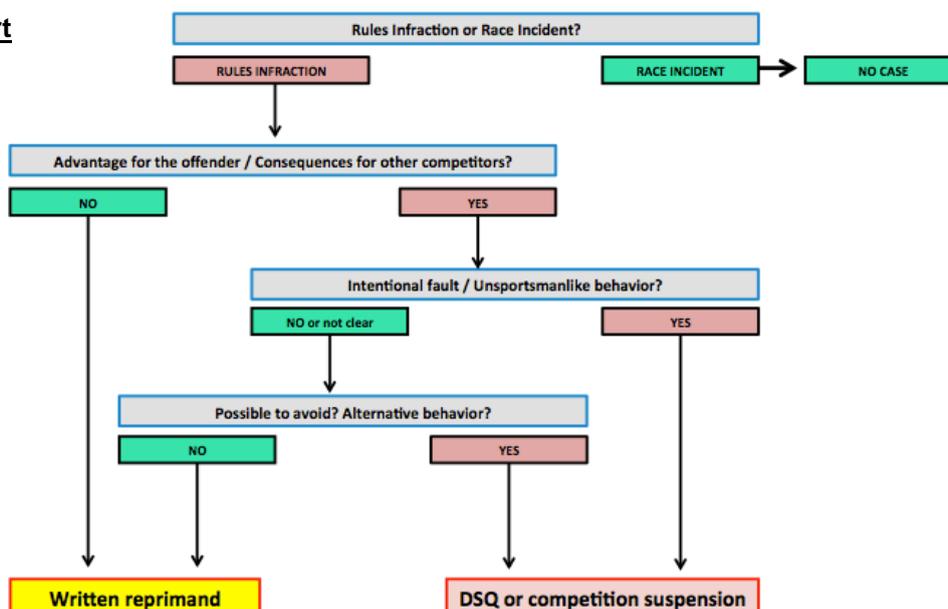
If there is no advantage for the offender the sanction should be a written reprimand.

If another competitor's race has been impacted, the Jury should consider whether the incident affected the impacted competitor's final result. If there is no impact on the final result, the sanction should be a written reprimand / monetary fine.

If the gain for the offender is sufficient, the Jury should decide if the infraction was intentional or not. An athlete can only be sanctioned with a disqualification if he / she clearly shows unsportsmanlike behavior, acts grossly negligently, ruthlessly and/or clearly with intentionally.

However, deciding whether something was intentional is difficult. If the intention is not clearly apparent, the Jury should consider if the offender had the possibility to avoid the incident or not. No alternative behavior will be considered as mitigating circumstances and the sanction should be a written reprimand. Disqualification or Competition Suspension will be the appropriate sanction if the Jury believes that the athlete had the opportunity to act in a different way.

Decision chart



3. Disqualification

ICR 223.3.3

Competitors shall only be disqualified if their mistake would result in an advantage for them with regard to the end result, unless the Rules state otherwise in an individual case.

A fault impacting the final result or a fault compromising the security of the other competitors should be sanctioned with a **DSQ** (out of the final result list).

4. Mitigating circumstances

In some very specific and exceptional cases, disqualification can be too hard as a sanction and a written warning could be a message to an athlete that their technique or behavior is on the borderline. This can be:

- Against younger or non-experienced competitors that should get the chance to be educated
- In cases where the Jury and the organiser can be blamed for unclear track setting.

5. Other sanctions

- **Verbal reprimand:** should be used only to inform a competitor that their behavior is on the borderline (ICR 223.3)
- **Monetary fine:** infraction to the commercial markings rules, minor course discipline infractions for team staff and industry (ICR 223.3)
- **Withdrawal of accreditation:** when someone is interfering with an athlete in competition during feeding or coaching, intentionally or by accident. Other discipline infractions and unsportsmanlike behavior. (223.3)

6. Evidence material

Every sanction must be substantiated by evidence material such as video, pictures, testimony of Jury members or competition officials.

7. Procedural Guidelines (ICR 224):

1. The Jury is required to consider all relevant evidence.
2. Witnesses to testify also video recordings /TV pictures (224.5).
3. Consider any mitigating and aggravating circumstances.
4. Prior to the imposition of a penalty the person accused of an offence shall be given the opportunity to present a defense at a hearing orally or in writing (except in cases of reprimands and withdrawal of accreditation) (ICR 224.7).
5. The athlete may be accompanied by one accredited person according to her /his choice at the hearing.
6. Sanction appropriate to the offence.
7. All Jury decisions must be recorded in writing (competition secretary) and shall include:
 - The offence alleged to have been committed
 - The evidence of the offence
 - The rule(s) or Jury directives that have been violated
 - The penalty imposed
8. The persons sanctioned must be informed that they have the right of appeal.
9. Written Penalty decisions must be sent to the offender, the offenders NSA and FIS (223.7).
10. All sanctions shall be recorded in the TD Report (223.8).
11. All penalties shall be recorded in the TD Report (223.9).