

Common Panel Selection Processes

A review of existing appeal policies of sport organizations reveals that appeal panels can take several shapes and sizes. Here are some of the typical panel selection processes inventoried by the SDRCC.

1. Predefined Panels:

- a. By name or function: the organization relies on a list of pre-determined appeal panel members, for example Mr. John Smith, Ms. Clara Jones, Mr. Will Stone, or the Vice-President, the CEO and the Athlete Representative of the sport organization;
- b. By representation group: the panel must be comprised of, for example, one coach, one athlete, and one board member (without specifying which ones).

2. Panels Selected by Parties:

- a. By consensus, parties name their panel, sometimes from a list of potential members;
- b. The appellant and the respondent each appoint a panel member, then both panel members select a third member by consensus to preside the panel.

3. Ad hoc Panels:

One pre-determined individual within the organization (for example, the case manager, the Executive Director, the President, etc.) is responsible for selecting the panel at his/her own discretion. Some appeal policies may still provide some guiding principles to this person in selecting the panel members, without necessarily being prescriptive.