



# ERUC – Annual seminar

## 31 March 2026

### Agenda:

- Welcome to new umpires and retirements and trainees.
- Update from ERRC & NUC
- Rules of Racing 2026
- Improving consistency across the region – ‘Umpiring Champions’
- The Start, When & How to Warn, Coordinating Umpire, Resolving Appeals
- Scenarios



## ERUC – ‘Champions’ of umpiring skills

The Start: *Andrew Blit & Jo Cotgrove*

Warning – *When & How: Gavin Dods & Sam Simons*

Coordinating Umpire: *Ian Donald & Sarah Leatham*

Resolving Appeals: *Dave Porter & Jay Milne*



# Receiving and Handling Racing Appeals

Consistency and fairness

TEAMWORK | OPEN TO ALL | COMMITMENT

# Some more notes on Coordinating Umpire

- The Co-ordinating Umpire is **not**:
  - Race Control
  - Programme Controller
  - Race Committee Chair (they are different roles and must be distinct to allow for the next stage of protest if nothing else)
  - Organising Committee Chair
  - Someone you see to sort out your problems!
- Can help deal with protests by identifying the umpire concerned and then managing the hearing. Note: the Co-ordinating Umpire duties still need to be carried out while this task is done.
- The Co-ordinating Umpire can be proactive and doesn't need to wait for a crew to protest before passing on anything relevant to either the Finish Judges or the RCC.

# Who hears the Appeal?

- Although it is often the Coordinating umpire or the judges that receive an appeal both roles still needs to be done for following races so another umpire could be called upon.
- All umpires at a competition should be ready and able to hear a race appeal.

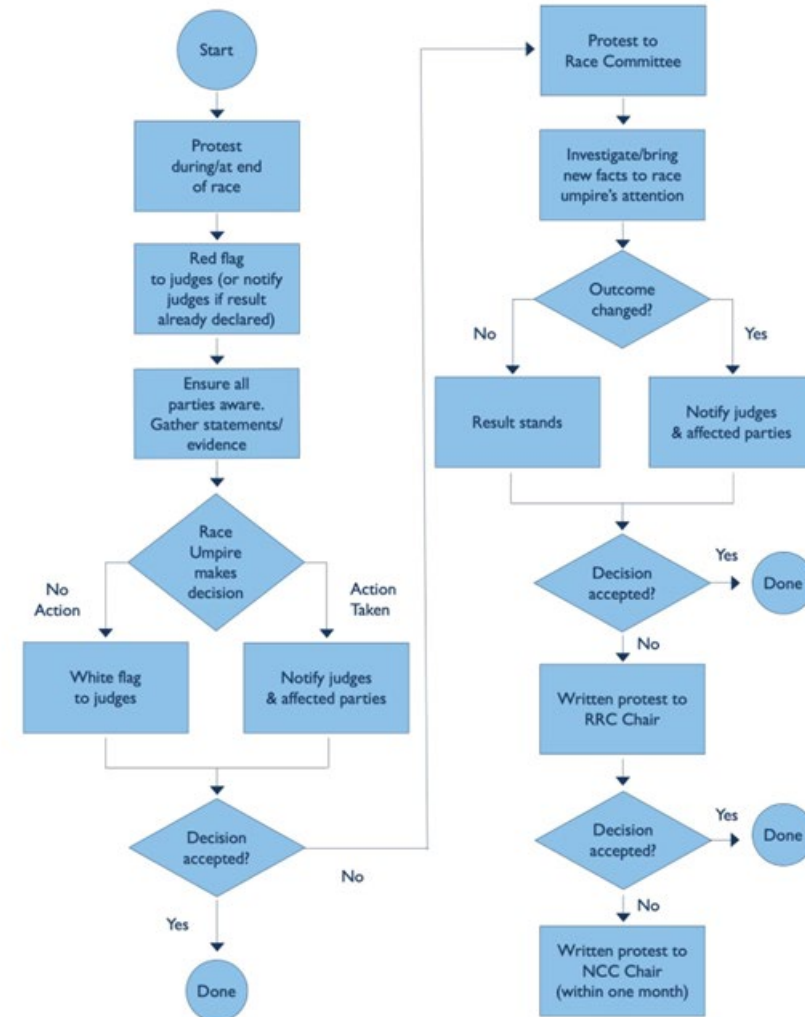
# Where does the appeal come from?

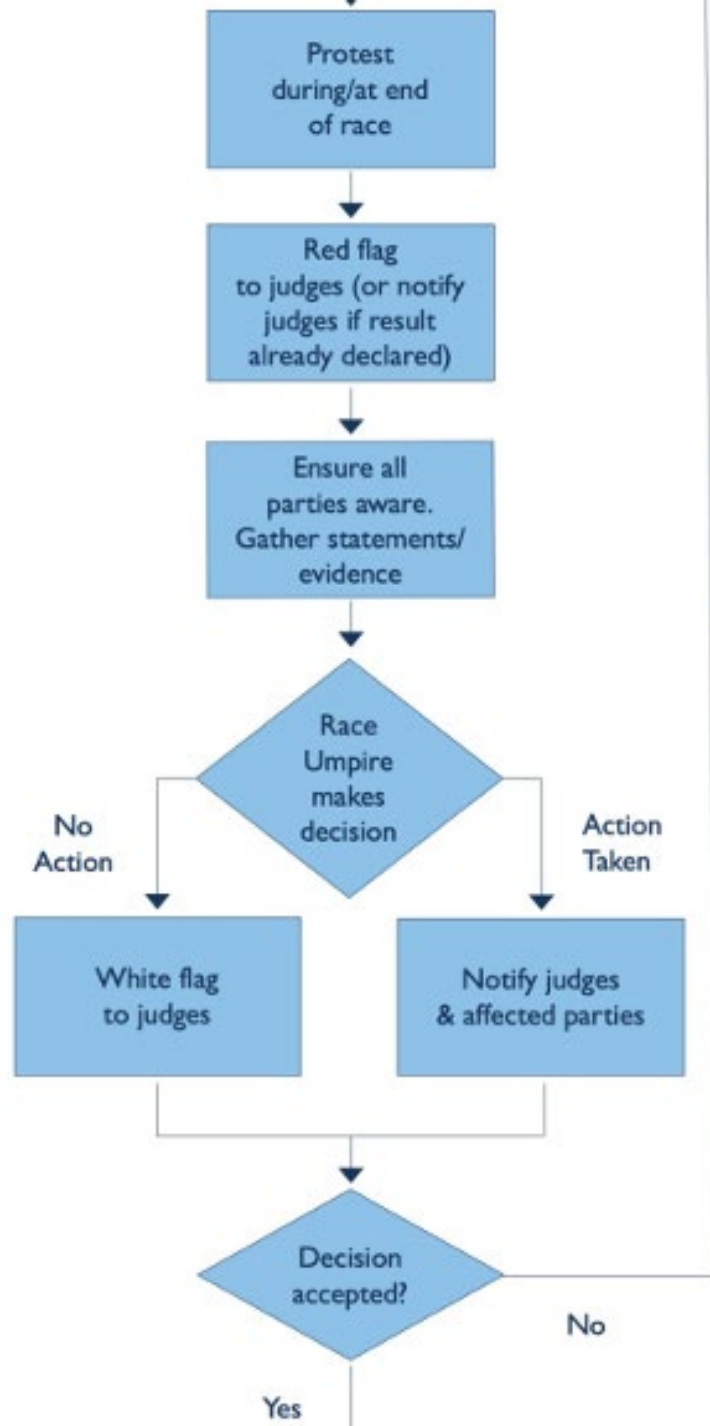
- Often directly after a race or even during, signaled with a raised hand.
- Particularly for junior events often from a crews coach on their behalf.
- Occasionally immediately from a crew and then further perspectives from a coach upon landing.

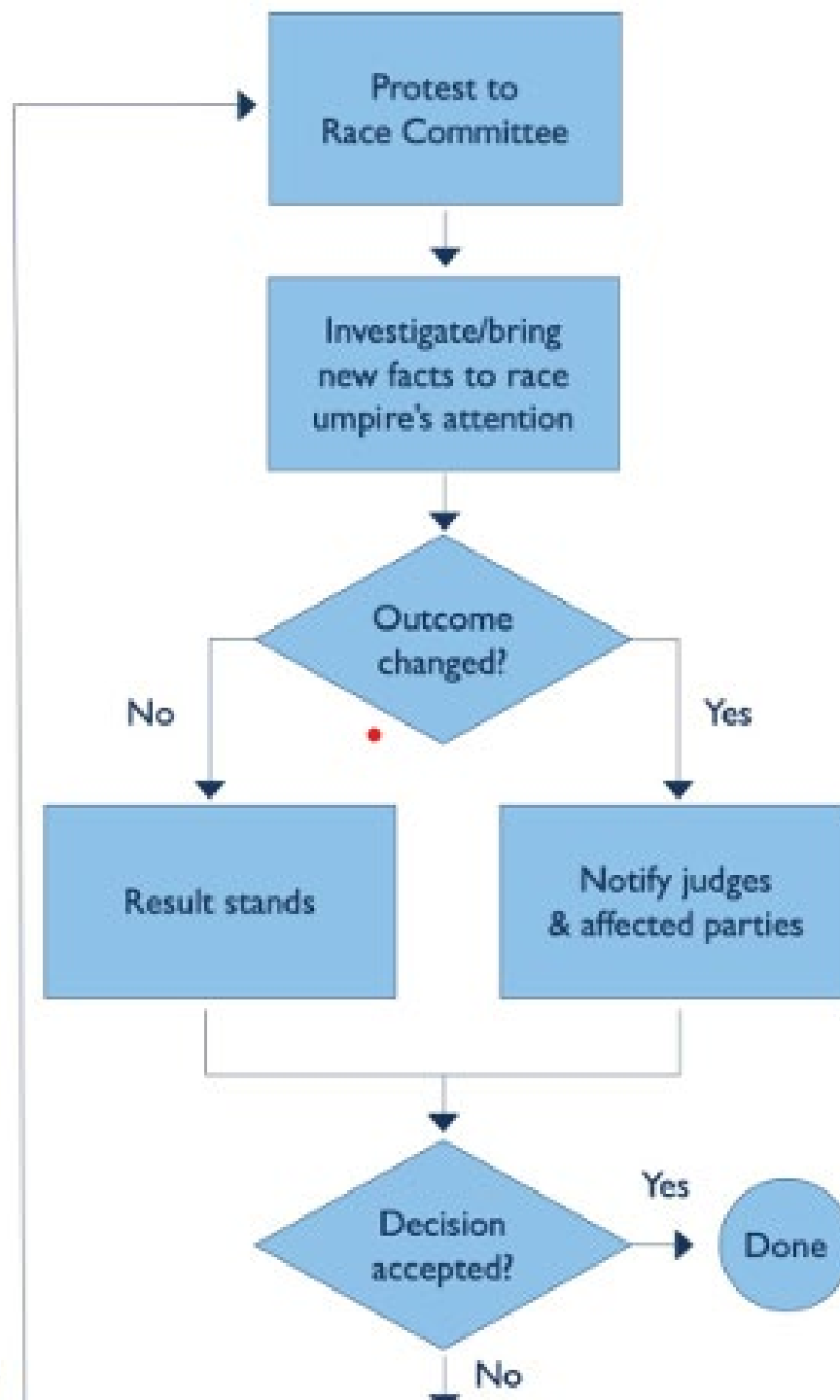
According to the flow chart dealing with appeals is simples!

But this doesn't always reflect real life.

## Handling Protests Race Protest







# Who makes the decision?

- Only the umpire in whose jurisdiction an incident occurs can make or reverse a decision.
- When considering actions to take, the umpire must consider what constitutes fair and equal racing.
- The best decision is one that restores fairness and an opportunity to win/proceed.

## So, what is your role if you are hearing the appeal?

- You should ensure that relevant facts are collected together and passed on as appropriate. However, the individual Race Umpire is the person who makes a specific decision.
- You can help the race umpire by reminding them of the options available.
- You can help an umpire assess how much advantage was gained.
- You can share other comms with them e.g. from the judges or the start.
- **Do NOT** make the decision for them, you will not have seen what they saw.