



# International Mounted Games Association Rules Committee

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## Rule Change Request Document

Name:	Mark Crowe
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Country:	Ireland / Chief Referee
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### Summary of Change Requested:

CR22 Deals with appeals and appeal cards. In practice appeal cards are seldom actually used. This proposal is to remove the requirement for using appeal cards and for a more pragmatic system where the referee manages the appeal and records the appeal outcome by the scorers on the relevant score sheet.

### Current Rule Book Wording:

CR22.1. Each Team/Pair/Individual is attributed the right to make an appeal against a refereeing or judging decision at the start of each session. An appeal can only be made about an incident in which the Team/Pair/Individual or their Trainer were physically involved. To facilitate this, the trainer of each Team/Pair/Individual is given a green coloured appeal card by the referee upon entering the ring. In the case where there is no trainer present, the card is given to (one of) the rider(s).

CR22.2. In order to make an appeal the trainer (or rider in the absence of a trainer) should stand on the penalty line in their lane and raise their appeal card. This can only be done after the referee has signalled the end of the relevant race and the official result has been given by the commentator. It must also be done before the flag has dropped to signal the start of the race following the official announcement of the result. If the appeal relates to the final race of a session, the appeal must be lodged before the Team/Pair/individual (or any part thereof, including the trainer) has left the arena.

CR22.3. Once an appeal has been made the referee approaches the person making the appeal who explains the decision against which they are appealing and the reasons for doing so. The referee takes the appeal card and reviews the decision. This may be done by reviewing official video footage or consulting with assistant referees. If the referee overturns the decision, the scores are amended and the appeal card is returned to the appellant in order to be used again. If the decision is upheld, the referee keeps the appeal card and that Team/Pair/Individual can make no further appeals for the duration of that session.

CR22.4. Before leaving the ring, all unused appeal cards must be returned to the referee.

### Suggested New Rule Book Wording:

CR22.1. Each Team/Pair/Individual is attributed the right to make an appeal against a refereeing or judging decision at the start of each session. An appeal can only be made about an incident in which the Team/Pair/Individual or their Trainer were physically involved. To facilitate this, **the referee manages the appeal with** the trainer of **the** Team/Pair/Individual **involved**. In the case where there is no trainer present, **the appeal is managed with** (one of) the rider(s).

CR22.2. In order to make an appeal the trainer (or rider in the absence of a trainer) should stand on the penalty line in their lane and raise their **hand**. This can only be done after the referee has signalled the end of the relevant race and the official result has been given by the commentator. It must also be done before the flag has dropped to signal the start of the race following the official announcement of the result. If the appeal relates to the final race of a session, the appeal must be lodged before the Team/Pair/individual (or any part thereof, including the trainer) has left the arena.

CR22.3. Once an appeal has been made the referee approaches the person making the appeal who explains the decision against which they are appealing and the reasons for doing so. The referee **verifies that they are making a formal appeal**. **The referee may consider the appeal** by reviewing official video footage or consulting with assistant referees. If the referee overturns the decision, the scores are amended and **the right to appeal in that session is retained**. If the decision is upheld, the referee **informs the trainer/Team/Pair/Individual** and that Team/Pair/Individual can make no further appeals for the duration of that session. **The outcome of the appeal is recorded on the scoresheet for that Team/Pair/Individual in that session.**

~~CR22.4. Before leaving the ring, all unused appeal cards must be returned to the referee.~~

Reason for Change Request:

To align the rule book with what is now normal practice at the majority of MGA / IMGA competitions.

**For Internal Use Only:**

Reference:	2024 - 01
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Submission Date:	13-03-2024
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Decision Date:	22-03-2024
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Votes	
Jens Martin	<b>In Favour</b>
Mark Crowe	<b>In Favour</b>
Margaret Welsby	<b>In Favour</b>
Robin Donnay	<b>In Favour</b>
Warwick Slade	<b>In Favour</b>
Alun Whitney	<b>In Favour</b>
Jake O'Connor	<b>In Favour</b>
Total In Favour:	<b>7</b>
Total Not In Favour:	<b>0</b>

Result:	Change Accepted
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Actual Adopted New Rule Book Wording:

CR22.1. Each Team/Pair/Individual is attributed the right to make an appeal against a refereeing or judging decision at the start of each session. An appeal can only be made about an incident in which the Team/Pair/Individual or their Trainer were physically involved. To facilitate this, **the referee manages the appeal with the trainer of the Team/Pair/Individual involved**. In the case where there is no trainer present, **the appeal is managed with** (one of) the rider(s).

CR22.2. In order to make an appeal the trainer (or rider in the absence of a trainer) should stand on the penalty line in their lane and raise their **hand**. This can only be done after the referee has signalled the end of the relevant race and the official result has been given by the commentator. It must also be done before the flag has dropped to signal the start of the race following the official announcement of the result. If the appeal relates to the final race of a session, the appeal must be lodged before the Team/Pair/individual (or any part thereof, including the trainer) has left the arena.

CR22.3. Once an appeal has been made the referee approaches the person making the appeal who explains the decision against which they are appealing and the reasons for doing so. The referee **verifies that they are making a formal appeal**. **The referee may consider the appeal** by reviewing official video footage or consulting with assistant referees. If the referee overturns the decision, the scores are amended and **the right to appeal in that session is retained**. If the decision is upheld, the referee **informs the trainer/Team/Pair/Individual** and that Team/Pair/Individual can make no further appeals for the duration of that session. **The outcome of the appeal is**

recorded on the scoresheet for that Team/Pair/Individual in that session.  
~~CR22.4. Before leaving the ring, all unused appeal cards must be returned to the referee.~~

Reason for Decision:

Change accepted exactly as proposed on the basis that the existing wording has never been put into practice effectively and this new wording is an accurate reflection of common practice.

Implementation Date:	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2025
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