

SECTION 5

SIMULATED EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMPETITION (SERC) EVENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

SECTION 5.....	0
5.1 INTRODUCTION	2
5.2 GENERAL CONDUCT AND EVENT CONDITIONS	2
5.3 DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT	2
5.4 SERC PERSONNEL RESPONSIBILITIES	4
5.4.1 SERC ORGANSIER	4
5.4.2 SERC ASSISTANT	4
5.4.3 SERC OFFICIALS	5
5.5 PREPARATION OF THE SERC EVENT.....	5
5.5.1 SERC EVENT PLANNING AND SAFETY	5
5.5.2 QUALIFYING AND ENTRY	5
3.5.3 SERC SEEDING.....	5
5.5.4 RECORDING AND AWARDS	6
5.6 GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR SERC	6
5.6.1 ADVANCE NOTICE OF CONDITIONS.....	6
5.6.2 CHANGE IN TEST CONDITIONS.....	6
5.6.3 GENERAL CONDITIONS AND EXPECTATIONS.....	7
5.6.4 LOSS OF POINTS	7
5.7 SECURITY AND LOCK-UP.....	7
5.8 COMPETITION START	8
5.9 PRINCIPLES OF RESCUE	9
5.10 VICTIMS, MANIKINS AND BYSTANDERS	10
5.11 PERFORMANCE OF CPR	10
5.12 CONCURRENT EVENTS	11
5.13 JUDGING AND MARKING	11
5.14 SCENARIO CHANGES.....	12
5.15 DISQUALIFICATION AND PENALTIES	13

5.1 INTRODUCTION

This section is designed to provide details on the Simulated Emergency Response Competition (SERC) conducted as part of the RLSSA Australian Pool Life Saving Championships (APLSC) but is also intended as reference for SERC events held outside the APLSC.

SERC competitions aim to highlight the importance that the Royal Life Saving Society places on effective rescue, CPR and first aid in drowning prevention and to provide the opportunity for participants to develop skills and understanding of these as an integral part of the sport of Pool Life Saving.

These SERC competition rules are written in such a way that they can be used for a “stand alone” event. Coaches, SERC judges and SERC Test designers are directed to [Appendix R](#) for more detailed practical or technical information.

As a part of APLSC this Section may need to be applied concurrently with other sections.

5.2 GENERAL CONDUCT AND EVENT CONDITIONS

RLSSA expects the highest standard of conduct from its competitors, officials, and members. It is important that competition, be conducted in the spirit of goodwill and sportsmanship.

Team management and competitors are responsible for being familiar with the competition schedule, and with the associated Rules and regulations that govern events.

All Participants should be aware of [Rule 1.21](#) which states: It is the Chief Referee’s responsibility to conduct a fair competition by ensuring that the Rules of this Handbook are applied consistently for all events and procedures of the competition. The Chief Referee will ensure that any violation of these rules will result in either a warning/disqualification of the competitor or team from that event or a correction of an unfair / unsafe procedure.

The General conditions of competition found in [Rule 4.1 and 4.3](#) also apply to the SERC events. These include:

- All participants of any competition are required to abide by and compete within the Rules and abide by the RLSSA Code of Ethics and Behaviour.
- All penalties, including those for serious offences, are open to Protest and Appeal.
- Competitors or teams who are deemed to have competed unfairly may be disqualified from an event or expelled from a competition. The SERC-O in consultation with the Chief Referee shall have absolute discretion in determining whether a competitor or team should be disqualified for serious misbehaviour or misconduct (refer to [Rule 1.20.1](#)).
- If an error by an official, results in a fault by a competitor, the fault of the competitor may be expunged.

5.3 DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT

The purpose of a SERC event is to test the ability of individuals and teams to make sound judgements about an emergency situation and rescue people in difficulty by effectively implementing those judgments in accordance with [Appendix R](#) and the current edition of the *RLSSA Swimming and Life Saving Manual*.

A test will be designed to involve a number of subjects (including bystanders) who will act in accordance with a briefing sheet describing the test, the instructions of the SERC Coordinator and the SERC Judges.

A test can be conducted in an aquatic environment or non-aquatic environment. A test conducted in an aquatic environment is known as a wet SERC and will usually include aids and equipment that could be found around an aquatic environment. A test conducted in a non-aquatic environment is commonly referred to as a DRY SERC.

At APLSC a team wet SERC competition and a specific CPR competition is conducted. RLSSA usually run dry SERC competitions in Lifeguard Challenges. While at APLSC only team wet SERC events will be held; SERC events can also be held for individuals or pairs and RLSSA recommend these competitions as a valid way to test an athletes' Life Saving skills (refer to [Rule 1.3](#)).

A brief explanation of a Dry SERC and its competition environment can be found in [Appendix R](#). For more information on conducting a dry SERC refer to the current *Commonwealth Championship Handbook* or current *ILS Competition Handbook*.

APLSC team SERC Tests will have a time limit of up to 2 minutes, as determined by the SERC Coordinator. The following test principles and procedures will apply to the SERC competitions.

- The Tests will involve simulated emergency incidents which will not be previously known to the competitors. Unless advised otherwise, competitors shall assume that the conditions in the designated competition area are 'as found'.
- The safety of the competitor/s and subjects are a priority in the setting of, and execution of, the SERC.
- The judging sheets will be constructed in accordance with the nationally approved protocol (refer to [Appendix R](#)).
- Judging emphasis will be on 'assessment in order of priority'. The priorities will be determined by the nature of the emergency and with reference to the current edition of the RLSSA Swimming and Life Saving Manual (refer to [Rule 5.9](#)).
- The same judges will mark the same aspects of each test.
- Every effort will be made to ensure that all competitors/teams in an event are presented with the same incident.
- In the event that the conditions of a SERC test are deemed to have changed during the conduct of the test, the SERC Coordinator and the judges will be informed as soon as possible, and the point score rationalised accordingly, if necessary.
- Teams with the highest score will be the winner of the event.
- Judges' scores are not subject to protest, although the conditions in which each SERC test has/will operate may be subject to protest and this may result in a change in scores allocated by judges.
- The recorders will review all judges' sheets and points/scores. If any anomalies are found these will be brought to the attention of the SERC Organiser and scores may be amended where necessary.

Note: APLSC SERC events may be held concurrently with CPR events. Refer to [Rule 5.12](#) for special marshalling procedures.

5.4 SERC PERSONNEL RESPONSIBILITIES

5.4.1 SERC ORGANISER

It is the sole responsibility of the SERC Organiser to prepare and run the SERC events.

Two (2) months prior to the commencement of APLSC, the SERC-O will:

- Create scenarios for each of the competitions (U16, U19 and Open).
- Liaise with Championship Organiser and the SERC Host Contact to ensure that all required equipment is available.
- Send scenarios to the Championship Organiser so competitor information can be circulated.
- Liaise with the SERC Host Contact to verify the volunteer requirements.

Prior to the commencement of the SERC events, the SERC-O will:

- Liaise with the Equipment Coordinator to ensure all equipment is in good working order.
- Liaise with the Championship Organiser to ensure the required scoring/judging sheets and other documentation have been printed and collated.
- Conduct the random draw for event seeding.
- Approve the spread sheet-based program used to collate the results for SERC and confirm:
 - All competitors and teams have been entered correctly according to the event draws.
 - Confirm that the formulae and links are operating correctly prior to entering results.
- Confirm the recording area is organised and the recording equipment are in good working order.
- Ensure event recorders are familiar with the recording protocols required, APLSC transfer of event results and relevant documentation.
- Provide a pre-event officials briefing.
- Provide a pre-event volunteer briefing.

After the conclusion of the SERC events, the SERC-O will:

- Submit all results to the Chief Recorder to be entered in the database for pointscore recording.

5.4.2 SERC ASSISTANT

A SERC Assistant is responsible for helping the SERC Organiser with preparation and execution of the SERC events including but not limited to proofreading all SERC documentation.

The SERC Assistant should also be confirmed six (6) months prior to the Championship commencement.

5.4.3 SERC OFFICIALS

Other officials required in the planning of any SERC event is an approved SERC reviewer and a Host STMO contact, both of whom should understand that their role requires complete confidentiality and that the specific details of any scenario should not be shared with others. Their main role is to assist the SERC-O by obtaining or organising the actors and equipment required for the SERC events. A description of their roles can be found in the SERC Protocol (refer to [Appendix R 11.1 to 11.4](#)).

5.5 PREPARATION OF THE SERC EVENT

5.5.1 SERC EVENT PLANNING AND SAFETY

When preparing any National Championship SERC event, the SERC Organiser (SERC-O) is required to follow the SERC Protocols in [Appendix R](#) which contains the RLSSA SERC planning guide and Scoring Matrix. The preparation of all scenarios and the conduct of SERC events should be in accordance with the RLSSA Risk Assessment tools and Hazard Analysis documentation provided by National Office.

Note: The use of live wires, actual chemicals or other evidence that could cause real danger to victims, competitors or the venue shall not be used.

5.5.2 QUALIFYING AND ENTRY

Competitors must hold the award required for the Age group division entered at the closing date for APLSC entries (refer to [Rule ???](#)).

Each team will be permitted to enter one team of four (4) members in the U16 and U19 events and, if time permits, 2 teams of four (4) members in the Open. If a team is unable to field a full SERC team, a team consisting of 2 or 3 members may be entered (refer to [Rule 1.18.6](#)).

LATE ENTRIES

Late entries may only be included after consultation between the SERC Organiser and the Chief Referee. Substitutions and withdrawals must be processed by the SERC Organiser who will ensure that the Chief Recorder is informed of all relevant information, changes and additional inclusions.

Once the competition has begun composite/invitation SERC teams may only be formed at the discretion of the SERC-O in consultation with either the Chief Referee or Championship Organiser and where their inclusion does not disrupt the event timing or compromise the running of the meet. The allocated start position will be after all eligible teams have competed.

3.5.3 SERC SEEDING

The start order of all SERC events is decided prior to the commencement of the Championships. The SERC-O and a neutral observer determined a random draw from the pool of entries.

Note: After the random draw some of the allocated positions may need be adjusted to allow for other Championship requirements such as competitors competing in concurrent events.

After APLSC has commenced, authority to approve an event re-seed draw rests with the SERC-O who will provide changed start lists to the announcer, Chief Referee, Chief Recorder and other officials as necessary.

5.5.4 RECORDING AND AWARDS

The SERC Organiser is responsible for the recording and results of SERC and passing those results on to the Chief Recorder to be entered in the database for pointscore recording.

A spread sheet-based program that is approved by the SERC Organiser will be used to collate the results for SERC.

As well as being stand-alone events where medals are awarded for the first three places, the SERC events are also part of the separate Interstate and Interclub point score Championships.

The point score calculations as described in [Rule 3.11](#) and [Rule 3.12.4](#) will be applied. Ties for Team Awards will be decided in accordance with the method described in [Rule 3.11.4](#).

5.6 GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR SERC

5.6.1 ADVANCE NOTICE OF CONDITIONS

A briefing sheet with specific event organisational details shall be distributed to teams at least 14 days prior to the start of the competition. This information will also be explained at the Team Briefing. The details will include:

- The designated competition and security area and how the competition area will be clearly defined.
- There shall be a clear indication of the location of both entry and exit points from the scenario.
- There shall be clear directions on how competitors should enter the security 'lock-up' and the personal belongings that may be taken into that area.
- Advice of any normal on-deck equipment or facilities such as water or land entry /exit points which may or may not be used when undertaking the SERC.
- Unless advised otherwise competitors shall assume that the conditions in the competition area are 'As found.'

Any specific safety requirements teams are to observe while participating either in the security area or competition area.

If there is any subsequent change to the briefing sheet information, then the SERC-O will organise an addition team briefing to explain the alteration to conditions.

5.6.2 CHANGE IN TEST CONDITIONS

The scenario may evolve (e.g., a weak swimmer becomes a non-swimmer) provided that that:

- There will be consistent timing when the change occurs.
- The change will be consistent for every test throughout the competition.

Where an official observes a change that was not scheduled, they shall report it to the SERC-O. If, in consultation with the Chief Referee it is determined that the observed changes materially altered the test conditions, they may adjust the judges' score for the affected part of the test.

5.6.3 GENERAL CONDITIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

- The order of teams shall be determined by a draw conducted by the Championship Organiser, in a method approved by the SERC-O in consultation with the Chief Referee
- To assist the organisers in determining if heats may be required, events may be initially marshalled the day before or at the start of the day the event is scheduled.
- Competitors must clearly show their intentions and actions to the judges when responding to the incident.
- Competitors shall treat and handle victims with care: verbal and physical abuse and rough handling of patients is unnecessary and inappropriate. Disqualification or points will be deducted for such abuse. This includes swearing at or in the vicinity of patients/judges.
- No personal belongings or equipment are permitted in the competition area (e.g., watches, jewellery, goggles, masks, fins).
- No mobile phones or electronic communication device of any kind will be permitted in the security/competition area.
- Competitors may wear corrective eyewear such as glasses and contact lens, provided the SERC Coordinator is notified of the intention to use such eyewear prior to the competitor entering lock-up/security. Loss of such eyewear shall not be grounds for protest or appeal. Corrective goggles or masks are not permitted.
- Team members must wear their team/club cap of any style (latex, silicone or cloth). Team captains may be required to wear a distinctive identifying cap provided by the organising committee. If a captain's distinctive cap is not provided, then team captains must wear the same caps as the rest of their team.
- A competitor shall not be disqualified if their cap is lost after the start of an event provided that officials can identify that the competitor correctly competed in the event.
- The test will start when the team enters the competition area. An acoustic and/or visual signal indicates the start and finish of the event.

5.6.4 LOSS OF POINTS

Competitors may only use the material and equipment available on the poolside and in the pool within the designated competition area.

- Teams that perform elements of the test outside the designated competition area will not be awarded points for the performance of those elements.
- A team that uses equipment not within the designated competition area, or which is within the designated competition area but which they have been formally advised is not to be used during a test, will not be awarded points for the elements of the test performed using this equipment.
- A competitor who verbally or physically abuses and/or rough handles an actor/official or roughly handles a manikin will have points deducted from their score. If their actions are deemed serious, they may be disqualified.

5.7 SECURITY AND LOCK-UP

An area of the competition venue will be designated as the security area for all SERC competitions. The security area includes the room / area where competitors wait for their turn

to compete (aka lock-up) and the passage from lock-up to the entry point into the competition area. The lock-up area is initially used to marshal competitors and at a designated time it is closed to all but competitors and officials.

Competitors shall report promptly to the lock-up/security area, at the designated time, before the start of the competition. A team, or team member, who is absent from lock-up at its close prior to the start of the competition shall be disqualified and not permitted to participate in the SERC.

Where a SERC event is held concurrently with a CPR event **Rule 5.12** will be followed.

Once the security area is closed:

- Teams are isolated in this secure “lock-up” area out of sight and sound of the competition area throughout the competition until the start of their test.
- Competitors will be briefed verbally and/or in writing before the start of the event by the SERC Co-ordinator.

The incident, actors, and any equipment shall be secret to spectators until the security area is closed.

During the movement of teams into their starting position officials must ensure that teams are not able to see any part of the test until the start signal is given.

Teams in lock-up are not permitted to see or communicate with anyone who is not also in lock-up. Any device that allows communication is prohibited.

Competitors should enter security wearing their swimming costumes and may also have other clothing necessary for personal comfort (i.e., to keep warm). At the discretion of the SERC Coordinator competitors may also take in hard copies of manuals or paper notes.

Upon completion of their test, teams must leave the competition area immediately and are not permitted to return to the security area.

After completing their test, a team may observe subsequent teams compete from the spectator area.

5.8 COMPETITION START

Where possible, a water polo countdown clock will be used as the acoustic start and timing device as it has a combined start and finish timing mechanism. If this type of device is not available, then a manual stopwatch must be used to time the event and the venue starting mechanism will be used for both the start and finish signal. AOE is not suitable to time the duration of SERC events.

One at a time, teams are escorted through the security area to their designated secure starting position. Following an acoustic and/or visual signal, the team shall move into the competition area where they are confronted with “victims” in various locations who need various types of assistance. Actors will begin their victim simulations immediately the acoustic starting signal is given, and/or as the team enters the competition area. At the acoustic signal competitors use their discretion to respond to the victims in any appropriate manner they wish, within the time limit.

5.9 PRINCIPLES OF RESCUE

Unlike lifeguards who often work as part of well-trained teams in controlled aquatic environments, lifesavers must be prepared to respond appropriately in unexpected emergencies without benefit of specialised equipment, back-up, or established procedures and communications systems. In such circumstances, the personal safety of the lifesaver is paramount at all times, and this shall be reflected in the judges' marking sheets.

Given the circumstances in which the SERC operates, it is expected that SERC competitors will respond as a coordinated group of four individual lifesavers under the direction of an identifiable team leader.

It is important to note that the event is not a test of the imagination abilities of the competitors. The setting and the conditions in the competition area should therefore be as they are found by the competitors on entering the area, i.e., they should be realistic and appropriate to a still water environment. It is not expected that all victims will be able to be landed in the time allowed but it is expected that they will be made safe.

It is important that competitors clearly show their intentions and actions to the judges.

In responding to the emergency, the competitors are required to be concerned with:

- Self-preservation of the rescuer
- use of the correct 'principles of rescue'
- correct priority in dealing with casualties
- a maximum number of casualties made safe
- care in handling casualties
- appropriate use of aids and other available help
- gaining information (e.g., number of casualties, skills of the bystanders)
- taking control and showing leadership
- Perform appropriate rescues
- Appropriate after care

Competitors are expected to demonstrate good techniques, judgement and their ability to establish control of the situation.

As a team, competitors are also expected to demonstrate effective communication and leadership skills when acting as a co-ordinated unit. They should be alert to changes in the situation and adapt their plan of action to respond to such changes.

When carrying out a rescue competitors must remember:

- Rescue from a position offering greatest safety to oneself,
- The management of rescue principles,
- Approach victims with extreme caution,
- Avoid direct personal contact with conscious victims.

When judging SERC, the officials expect to be able to easily observe the above expectations through the competitors' actions and communication. In brief they expect to see the competitors managing the situation by:

- Mobilising the mobile
- Securing the safety of those in imminent danger
- Recovering and applying CPR to those in need of continuous care
- Communicating effectively

For Competitors to successfully complete a SERC they should be familiar with the Principles of Rescue, Emergency Care and the technique outlined in the RLSSA Life Saving and Water Safety Manual, a summary of which is provided in [Appendix 0](#).

5.10 VICTIMS, MANIKINS AND BYSTANDERS

Victims shall be role-played by actors who present different problems necessitating different types of assistance. Victim types may include non-swimmers, weak swimmers, injured swimmers and unconscious victims as well as those requiring first aid. Competitors may also be confronted by resuscitation manikins in the role of a victim as well as bystanders, either on land or in the water as swimmers, not requiring assistance. Competitors shall treat manikins as nonbreathing, pulseless victims. A bystander is a person who is not in immediate danger. Where CPR is required then competitors must follow the procedures outlines in [Rule 5.11](#) below.

5.11 PERFORMANCE OF CPR

If a competitor leaves a victim (manikin or live actor) after diagnosis when CPR is required, or after CPR has commenced, then their actions will be deemed to indicate that CPR has ceased unless somebody else (team member or actor) has been directed to continue CPR.

In the interests of safety, a competitor **MUST** use the following principles when dealing with an unconscious SERC victim.

The following CPR requirements apply for manikins and live actors.

MANIKINS

- All manikins are assumed to be unconscious and non-breathing.
- CPR is required to be demonstrated in accordance with current CPR Guidelines. This includes actual breaths and compressions.
- Time point allocation is awarded when the manikin's face surfaces above the water's surface. Additional points for appropriate rescue actions such as 2 rescue breaths, landing of patient will be allocated as appropriate.

LIVE ACTORS

- If after diagnosis the competitor decides that CPR is the appropriate action, then **only simulated** CPR should be demonstrated.
- Simulated CPR on a live victim **MUST NOT** include any pressure applied to the actor's chest.

- A live actor who becomes unconscious on pool deck during a test will need assessment and should be deemed not breathing if their action/inaction indicates they are unresponsive.
- Any live actor who becomes unconscious in the water during a test will be deemed to be unconscious and not breathing for the remainder of the test and requires CPR to be simulated in accordance with the parameters set out above.

5.12 CONCURRENT EVENTS

Where possible at Australian Pool Life Saving Championships SERC and CPR events are run to maximise the time available to conduct all events in an efficient manner (refer to **Rule 1.5**). To run these events concurrently all effort is made to ensure that there is a free movement of competitors between one event and the other; however, sometimes competitors may be required to present themselves for 2 events at the same time.

Competitors are permitted to compete in both SERC and CPR events and officials will ensure that this is accomplished with little or no interruption to either event. If competitors find themselves in this situation and subject to the venue capability, the Chief Referee in consultation, with the SERC and CPR Co-ordinators will ensure the control and movement of competitors does not compromise either event.

Note: SERC marshalling takes precedence over CPR.

The following will apply when the SERC and CPR competition are run concurrently:

- If a competitor is already in the CPR marshalling area when their SERC event is called, they MUST advise the CPR Marshal who will make arrangements to release the affected competitor(s) to SERC marshalling. The marshals (both SERC and CPR) may determine time is available for the competitor to undertake the CPR before entering SERC lock-up.
- If competitors have not competed in the CPR event prior to competing in SERC, then they must return to the CPR area immediately after they have competed in SERC.
- Competitors can only be removed from SERC lock-up to compete in a CPR event with the approval of both the CPR and SERC Co-ordinators after consultation with the Chief Referee. If a competitor is taken from, or returned to, SERC lock-up they must be accompanied at all times by the Chief Referee or the CPR Co-ordinator or their designated representative official.

In ensuring the smooth running of SERC and the CPR Competition concurrently, the following is expected by competitors and teams:

- The competitor/s must not leave the CPR marshalling area without the prior permission of the CPR marshal; and
- The other team members in SERC marshalling (or a team official if all team members are affected) must inform the SERC marshal which team members are in CPR marshalling.

5.13 JUDGING AND MARKING

Judges will be appointed to a specific aspect of each test to ensure that the subjects act consistently and in accordance with the appropriate characteristics as described in the current edition of the RLSSA Swimming and Life Saving Manual.

The marking sheets shall be prepared using the RLSSA Protocol ([Appendix R](#)) with one judge marking the entire scenario while other officials judge the individual victims. A judge shall be assigned to a victim, or group of victims, and assess all teams in that part of the scenario for the entire competition. If possible one judge per victim is recommended.

Before the competition start, judges shall be briefed on the situation scenarios, scoring procedure, and marking priorities. Individual judges will consult with their designated actors to ensure that they will portray their assigned victims effectively (refer to [Appendix R](#)).

Early and accurate recognition of the victim's problem(s) is the essential first step to success in this competition. Successful recognition is closely related to the quality of the victim simulation and staging of the incidents.

The marking system used in this competition allows judges to use their Life Saving knowledge and scoring skill in assigning marks and provides for a competitor offering an appropriate but unanticipated rescue response.

In allocating marks, judge(s) consider the following:

- victim type
- victim's distance from safety
- equipment available and used
- speed of assessment
- priority given
- quality of action/task
- victim care

Scoring shall reward the competitors' accurate assessment of which victims take priority.

This will usually be done by the allocation of points for the speed in which the victim is reached.

Specific aspects of the scenario are be weighted to provide higher scores for a rescue performance requiring a greater degree of skill and judgement. There are two methods by which this may be achieved, either by direct or indirect weighting. The APLSC SERC events are designed using the RLSSA SERC protocol ([Appendix R](#)) which allows for direct weighting by designating the maximum points which a judge may award for each victim. The alternative indirect weighting method is where the weighting is secret to both judges and competitors and is dealt with by the recorders. This method may also be used at APLSC but only with the prior approval of the RLSSA National Sports Committee (refer to the *ILS document – SERC Guidelines*).

5.14 SCENARIO CHANGES

Where an official observes a change to either scenario conditions or an actor's performance they shall report it to SERC-O as soon as possible. If, in consultation with the Chief Referee it is determined that the observed changes materially alter the test conditions, they may adjust the judges' score for the affected part of the test (refer to [Rule 5.2](#) and [Rule 5.3](#)).

If an error by an official, results in a fault by a competitor, the fault of the competitor may be expunged.

5.15 DISQUALIFICATION AND PENALTIES

Points for deductions are provided in [Rule 5.6](#) for:

- Using non-designated equipment;
- Performing elements of the test outside the competition area;
- Physical abuse or rough handling of patients/officials/manikins that does not result in disqualification.

In addition to the General Rules outlined in [Section 1](#) and [Rules 4.1 to 4.11](#), the following behaviour may result in disqualification:

- Receiving outside assistance, direction, or advice.
- Team members or spectators providing or attempting to provide outside advice, assistance or direction.
- Taking any telecommunication device into the security area/lock -up.
- Taking any unauthorised equipment or personal belongings into the security area/lock -up.
- Using any equipment not provided as part of the competition.
- Competitors who verbally or physically abuse an actor or official.
- A competitor or team absent from the marshalling.
- Team members deliberately attempting to gain an advantage by disregarding the rules, the directions of officials or briefing material/information issued to them prior to the start of the SERC.

Note: Only the Chief Referee, in consultation with the SERC-C may disqualify a competitor for misbehaviour such as wilful disobedience or misconduct.