

DISPUTE RESOLUTION UNIT



What is the Dispute Resolution Unit (DRU)?

DRU oversees the administration of dispute resolution services to athletes and other members of National Governing Bodies (NGBs) and Internally Managed Sports for grievances under the USOPC's jurisdiction to ensure the complaints are heard in a timely and fair manner. DRU is part of USOPC Legal.

DRU ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



General Administration

Manages the overall processing of complaints including receipt, review and acknowledgement of grievances, scheduling and logistics for hearings, communicating with panel and parties, storing submissions and overseeing case management and tracking.



Informal Resolution

Communicates with parties and relevant individuals in certain complaint proceedings to informally attempt to resolve the dispute in a satisfactory manner.



Hearing Panel Support

Supports hearing panels by providing education about the process, answering questions, storing case filings and relevant documents, offering guidance to inquiries and serving as legal counsel (except in Section 8).



Stakeholder Guidance

Provides guidance to impacted stakeholders to ensure clarity of grievance processes as well as outlining rights and protections.



Case Management

Oversees general case management, stores submissions, tracks cases, publishes awards and orders on USOPC.org and provides reports and updates to the USOPC Board, committees or other groups as appropriate.

Types of Grievances

DRU supports the following types of grievances:

- Section 8
- Section 9
- Section 10
- Section 11
- Background Checks
- USOPC Athlete Safety
- Games/Delegation Events
- NOC/NPC Events
- Olympic & Paralympic Training Center Access
- Internally Managed Sports
- Other review panels

AUTHORITY & GOVERNANCE



Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act (the Act):

Mandates the swift and equitable resolution of:

- Disputes involving NGB compliance matters
- Opportunity to participate issues
- Games related disputes



USOPC Bylaws:

Outlines specific procedures to support the USOPC's obligations under the Act and designates DRU to administer the complaint proceeding.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Lucy Denley | DRU Associate Director
lucy.denley@usopc.org

DRU@usopc.org
www.USOPC.org