



TISCA Water Polo Championship Protest Procedures

The coach of either team may file a protest during the game or after the game, within the time limits specified below. A coach may file a protest after the referees have signed the scoresheet, provided that the referees are informed of the protest before five minutes have elapsed after the conclusion of the game and the written protest is completed by 15 minutes after the conclusion of the game. Protests may be lodged only for misapplication of the rules, equipment malfunction or errors in recording information or other desk errors, including timing errors. Judgment calls are not subject to protest. Differences of opinion of the referees shall not serve as a basis for protest or appeal.

NOTE: Examples of misapplication of rules include, which can be protested, include:

- a. A player of the team not in possession of the ball is excluded for 20 seconds and enters improperly during the extra-player period of time. The referee excludes the player for 20 seconds and continues play. This is protestable as the rules requires a penalty shot in this situation in addition to the exclusion.
- b. A player interferes with the taking of a penalty shot. The referee excludes the player for 20 seconds and retakes the penalty shot if missed. This is protestable as the player should have been excluded for the remainder of the game.
- c. The desk waves in an excluded player who has not reached the re-entry area. The referee awards a penalty foul. This is protestable as the referee should have corrected the desk error.

NOTE: Examples of judgment calls of the referees, which may NOT be protested, include:

- a. The referee signals that a direct shot on goal scores. The decision of the referee that the shot was taken correctly cannot be protested.
- b. A player initiates a drive. The referee calls no foul on the defense. The coach cannot protest later than the player was held or sunk at that time.
- c. The goalkeeper is excluded and a field player enters the goal and blocks a shot. The referee allows play to continue. The coach cannot protest later claiming that the player really had two hands up, even though the player blocked the ball with only one hand.

INTERPRETATIONS:

In game Protests – If a coach wishes to protest during the course of a game, the coach should approach the referees as soon as possible after the event occurred at the next normal stoppage of play, without taking the advantage away from either team, and inform the referee of the rule or event the coach is protesting. If the referees agree that the protest is not for a judgment call and that they can handle the protest at that time, the referees will rule on the protest immediately. If the protest is upheld, the game will be replayed with the clocks reset to the point of the event protested. The coach must file a brief written description of the protest after the game, signed by the referees, in order to have a written record of the protest (attached to scoresheet). If the event is not protested at the time it occurs during the game, it may still be protested at the conclusion of the game (see below).

Post Game Protest - The coach wishing to protest after the game must inform the Head Referee (or designee) within 5 minutes of the conclusion of the game and must make turn in a formal written protest within 15 minutes of the close of the game, outlining the problem. Once signed, the Head Referee (or designee) will determine if the protest is valid (misapplication of the rules v. judgment call. The Head Referee (or designee) will then immediately notify the opposing coach and convene the TISCA Water Polo Competition Committee for the State Championship or the Region Coaches Committee for the Region Championship. In addition, the Head Referee (or designee) may use his/her discretion in replacing other members of the Committee that are either not available, or disqualified due to the protest. The Committee will review/discuss the protest, speak with all involved parties, decide to uphold/not uphold the protest, and the next steps of action to continue the tournament. The decision made by the committee is final for the purpose of the tournament.

1. ***If the protest is upheld by the Committee***, the game shall be replayed from the point of the event protested. The written protest with the decision must be attached to the scoresheet. This serves as the official record of the protest. All coaches involved must be informed of the reason for denial.
2. ***If the protest is denied by the Committee***, the game result will be final and the tournament will move forward. The written protest with the decision must be attached to the scoresheet. This serves as the official record of the protest. All coaches involved must be informed of the reason for denial.



TISCA Water Polo Championship Protest Form

The coach wishing to protest after the game must inform the Head Referee (or designee) within 5 minutes of the conclusion of the game and must make turn in the below formal written protest within 15 minutes of the close of the game, outlining the problem. Please fill out the form completely or the written protest will not be accepted.

Event: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Game (Team v. Team): _____

Coach's Name: _____

Coach's School: _____

Referees Involved: _____

Written Protest: *please explain the event in detail in the space provided below. If needed, please use a second sheet to properly explain the situation.*

Coach's Signature: _____