

Protest Procedure - USAV 5.1.2.1

The coach may handle the protest procedure for any age level; the team or game captain is encouraged to participate for educational purposes.

The coach is not permitted to cross the court to speak with the 1st referee. The 1st referee may leave the stand to address a coach near the team bench, if necessary, when a certified professional 2nd referee is not assigned to the match.

Judgement calls are not able to be protested.

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The coach or game captain may ask for an explanation on the application or interpretation of the Rules, and also to submit the requests or questions of his/her teammates.

- a. If an explanation of an application or interpretation of a rule is not satisfactory to the game captain, he/she must immediately indicate his/her disagreement and file an official protest prior to the authorization of the next service.
- b. If the disagreement with the referees' explanation involves the last point of the set, the official protest must be recorded within the first 60 seconds of the timed interval between sets. If the final point of the match is disputed, the protest must be recorded within the first 60 seconds after the final point of the match is scored.
- c. The protest is ruled upon by the Championship Committee either immediately or prior to the start of the next set. It is advisable to have an assigned Protest Committee available to rule upon a protest as soon as possible to the first service following the protest. (In Arizona, the Protest Committee would be the Lead Referee at the site). Such action should preclude playing the match over from the point of protest if the protest is upheld.

Protests considered by the 1st Referee (Protest or Tournament Committee) include:

1. misinterpretation of a playing rule,
2. failure of the 1st referee to apply the correct rule to a given situation,
3. failure to charge the correct penalty-sanction for a given fault, or
4. a scoring discrepancy

Protest facts recorded on the score sheet include the:

1. score of the set at the time of the protest,
2. players and positions at the time of the protest,
3. player substitutions and team substitutions made up to the protest,
4. team time outs taken up to the protest,
5. situation that caused the protest, and
6. signatures of the scorer, captains and the 1st referee, indicating the facts are correct.

