

UW-Whitewater Intramural Sports

Protest Policy

This policy, along with other rules, policies and procedures related to Intramural Sports program structure and facilitation can be found in the IM Sports Participant Handbook

Disputes & Protests

Any team member may dispute any component of their individual/team Intramural Sports experience. This includes sharing opinions, thoughts, suggestions and feedback as well as inquiring about any perceived inaccuracies. All applicable team captains must be involved in the reversal of a recorded result or rendered decision at the discretion of administrative staff (some circumstances may apply; especially if the situation in-question involves a decision that is clear and obvious).

Only team captains should be initiating protests. Protests must be related to:

- Participant or Team Eligibility
- Rule Interpretation and Application
- Scoring
- Sportsmanship/Conduct Standing
- Disciplinary Decision
- Recorded Result

Judgment

Officials' judgment is not subject to protest. Examples include, but are not limited to (complete/incomplete pass, foul/no foul, goal/no goal, etc.). It is understood officials' judgment may come in to question, however participants are expected to respect officials and their decisions at all times. In the event an officiating decision is clearly incorrect, supervisor and administrative staff have the authority to overrule the on-field/court decision, as long as the decision in-question was observed. Decisions may also be overruled if the opposing team acknowledges an error in judgment has been made. Judgment, in all cases, is to be considered final.

How to Protest

To officially file a protest, a team captain must either:

- Call the on-site supervisor over to the team bench area and clearly state the intent to protest mid-contest (i.e. as soon as the situation in-question occurs). This should be considered similar to a "review" in professional sports. The on-duty supervisor will record the current state of the contest and consult all necessary rules and resources available in an effort to render an immediate decision.
 - If the situation is upheld, the team in-question is to be charged a timeout or face the applicable penalties, as outlined by the activity-specific rules.
 - If the situation is overturned, the protesting team will not be charged a timeout and will not face any penalty. The contest will resume at its point of interruption with the corrected situation documented.
 - In the event the rendered decision is not accepted or if an outcome cannot be rendered in a timely manner, the contest will continue to its completion under protest. Administrative staff will review the protest. If the protest is upheld, the results of the contest will be recorded as indicated on the submitted scoresheet. If the protest is overturned, administrative staff will work with both teams and applicable staff to reschedule the contest to resume at the point of protest and the contest will be replayed as appropriate under activity-specific rules
- Notify administrative staff of the team's intent to protest, which may include [submitting an online protest form](#). This is to be done via email, phone or in-person. The notification must take place within 24 hours of the initial protest. All other protest procedures, as outlined above, will be applied as determined necessary by administrative staff

Protest Review & Decision

Administrative staff will review protests that are not resolved at the site of competition. Reviews will take precedence of most Intramural Sports business given time parameters that may exist. Once the protest review takes place, a decision will be rendered and all impacted parties will be notified of the decision. The rendered decision should include rule and/or handbook reference to serve as proof of how the situation applies and is to be considered final.

Any Intramural Sports staff member, both administrative and on-site, reserves the right to refuse a protest if the protest is made in an unprofessional/unsporting manner. Teams and individuals are expected to act professionally during and after times of protests. Administrative staff reserves the right to forgo all established general and activity-specific rules, policies and procedures in the event a protesting team and/or individual acts in an unprofessional/unsporting manner.