

## Volleyball Alberta – Competition Protest Procedure (updated March 16, 2022)

A captain may only legally protest AN ERROR IN APPLYING A RULE OR RULE Interpretation.

Only the following circumstances may be protested:

- a) an improper decision by the referee who did not apply the rules or regulations correctly;
- b) an improper decision of the scorer who made a mistake on the rotational order or on the score.

**THE REFEREE'S DECISIONS REGARDING PLAYING ACTIONS (I.E. BALL HANDLING FAULTS OR A MISCONDUCT) ARE NOT OPEN TO PROTEST.**

### Timing

A protest must be launched immediately following the decision in question (prior to another rally being authorized or awarded). If a subsequent rally is authorized or awarded (including a point awarded due to a sanction), the ability to protest is forfeited.

A protest concerning a decision made during the last rally of a set/match needs to be submitted prior to the team leaving the playing court.

### Process

1. The captain lodges the protest to the First Referee. The game is temporarily paused during the protest process.
2. The coach of the team lodging the protest must place a \$100.00 cash bond (or a signed cheque payable to Volleyball Alberta) on the score table as the captain lodges the protest (if the money is not on the table immediately the game will resume, and the protest will not be heard).
3. The First Referee will confirm with the Scorer that a protest has been lodged, and that the money is on the score table before calling the Tournament Staff. The coach should write down the basis for the protest.
4. The Tournament Staff will collect the \$100.00 bond upon arrival at the court.
5. The Tournament Staff will convene a Jury. The Jury will decide the outcome of each protest. A Jury will consist of three individuals from the following list:
  - i. Referee Supervisor,
  - ii. Referee Mentor,
  - iii. Volleyball Alberta Staff,
  - iv. Representative assigned by Volleyball Alberta staff.
6. The Jury will determine whether the request to protest is valid.
7. If the protest is not valid, the **\$100.00 bond will be forfeited** in whole, and the match will resume.
8. If the protest is valid, the bond will be returned, and the jury will either accept or refuse the protest prior to the resumption of play.

### Important Notes:

- a. The jury may discuss the protest by phone and do not have to be present to make a ruling.
- b. The jury's decision is final.
- c. Play is immediately resumed following the jury's decision.
- d. Sanctions may be put in place if a team is abusing the protest procedures.