

Protesting a Game

Protests shall be considered only when based on the violation or interpretation of a playing rule, use of an ineligible pitcher or the use of an ineligible player. No protest shall be considered on a decision involving an umpire's judgment. – **Rule 4.19(a)**

Good Faith

All Little League officials are urged to take precautions to prevent protests. When a protest situation is imminent, the potential offenders should be notified immediately. **Example:** Should a manager, official scorer, league official, or umpire discover that a pitcher is ineligible at the beginning of the game, or will become ineligible during the game or at the start of the next inning of play, the fact should be brought to the attention of the manager of the team involved. Such action should not be delayed until the infraction has occurred. However, failure of personnel to notify the manager of the infraction does not affect the validity of the protest. – **Rule 4.19(f) Note 2**

Rule Protests

Protests made based on rule violations or interpretations should be made as follows:

- 1) The protesting manager shall immediately, and before any succeeding play begins, notify the umpire that the game is being played under protest. – **Rule 4.19(c)(1)**
- 2) Following such notice the umpire shall consult with the other umpire(s). If the umpire is convinced that the decision is in conflict with the rules, the umpire shall reverse that decision. If, however, after consultation, the umpire is convinced that the decision is not in conflict with the rules, said umpire shall announce that the game is being played under protest. – **Rule 4.19(c)(2)**
- 3) The umpire should immediately request the presence of the Board Member on Duty (BMOD) and notify the BMOD of the protest. Time should be stopped while the umpire briefs the BMOD regarding the protested situation.
- 4) The BMOD should mark the book at the exact point in which the protest was made.

Ineligible Pitcher or Ineligible Player Protests

Protests made due to the use of an ineligible pitcher or an ineligible player may be considered only if made to the umpire before the umpire(s) leave the field at the end of the game. Whenever it is found that an ineligible pitcher or ineligible player is being used, said pitcher shall be removed from the mound, or said player shall be removed from the game, and the game shall be continued under protest or not as the protesting manager decides.