

## **RULES POLICY**

### **PROTEST POLICY**

- (A) OWHA member teams may file a protest on any OWHA sanctioned game.
- (B) Matters that may be protested are:
  - (1) a game official's interpretation of a rule which in the opinion of the aggrieved team may have given the opposition team a distinct advantage.
  - (2) an improperly registered, an unregistered, ineligible or a suspended player or team official participating in a game or being on the player's bench during a game.
- (C) Time allowed for filing a protest:  
A protest must be filed within 48 hours of the starting time of the game in question.
- (D) To protest a team must:
  - (1) (a) with respect to protest relating to the interpretation of a rule, notify the referee verbally of the protest before, during, or at the end of the game, before they leave the ice,  
**OR**  
(b) with respect to an improperly registered, unregistered, ineligible, or suspended player or team official, notify the OWHA office within 48 hours of the start of the game.
  - (2) prepare the protest in writing.
  - (3) file the protest with the OWHA Office.
  - (4) accompany the protest with a \$200.00 protest fee, refundable if protest is upheld.
  - (5) deliver or send by email a copy of the protest to the protested team and notify the OWHA at [protests@owha.on.ca](mailto:protests@owha.on.ca) within 48 hours.
- (E) Within 5 business days of a protest being filed, the OWHA Chairperson shall set a date for hearing the protest. The hearing date will be no more than 10 business days after the filing date.
- (F) The OWHA Chairperson shall notify all parties to the protest as soon as the hearing date is set. This notice shall inform the parties of the time, place and date of the hearing.
- (G) To defend against a protest a team must:
  - (1) prepare a rebuttal in writing.
  - (2) file the rebuttal with the OWHA Chairperson within 48 hours of receiving the protest.
- (H) If the protest is based on a game official's interpretation of the rules, the team against whom the protest is filed need not defend against the protest. The protest committee will hear the matter on the strength of the protest submission, with both teams and the game officials present.
- (I) Protests at Provincial Championships must be dealt with at the time of the protest.