



How to File a Protest

When you have a question about a rule or incident, go to the tournament manager for information. You also will want to check the *USBC Playing Rules & Commonly Asked Questions* which might answer your question or direct you to file a protest. You can find the USBC Playing Rules on BOWL.com or the tournament manager might have an available copy.

How to file a proper protest...

You can express your protest verbally, but you **must** follow up with a written protest, including the date of the protest and give it to the tournament manager. Writing "I protest" on a napkin or recap sheet is not a proper protest. A protest must have details as to what rules were broken and how.

Protests must be filed in writing in a timely manner:

- **Adult Tournaments** - Within 72 hours of the infraction, or prior to tournament prizes being paid, whichever occurs first.
- **Youth Tournaments** - Within 72 hours of the infraction.

What happens after a protest is filed?

Tournament management investigates any rule violations and will make a ruling. Afterward, those involved are informed of the decision in writing. The decision stands unless it is appealed further and overturned by the local association or USBC.

What if I disagree with tournament management's decision?

You may file a written appeal to your local association or USBC. Should you decide to file an appeal with the local association, that decision may be appealed to USBC.

Appeals must be filed in writing in a timely manner:

- **Adult Tournaments** - Within 10 days of notification of tournament management's decision.
- **Youth Tournaments** - Within 72 hours of notification of the decision.

