

2016 MINUTEMAN CLASSIC PROTEST ARTICLES

Article I. Protests:

Section 1.01 The UIC at the softball complex will rule on all protests regarding the application of rules of play.

Section 1.02 Protests will not be considered if based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of the umpire.

Section 1.03 Protests may only involve the interpretation of a rule or player rating.

Section 1.04 A Protest Committee will rule on all protests with the exception of rules of play.

Article II.

The Protest Committee will hear and rule on all protests other than those related to the application of the rules of play.

Section 2.01 Composition - The Protest Committee shall consist of complex UIC and complex Fields Director with a Tournament Co-Chair(s) or designated representative as chairperson.

Section 2.02 Protest Committee members must be present and available to hear protests at the assigned time and place as determine by the Co-Chair.

Section 2.03 Convening the Protest Committee – When a protest is filed, the Chair or designated representative will convene the Protest Committee to hear and rule on the protest.

Section 2.04 Protest Committee business shall only be discussed with other Protest Committee members.

Article III.

The Protest Committee Chairperson will be a Co-Chair or designated representative.

Section 3.01 The Protest Committee Chairperson will facilitate the procedure for protesting a player or team.

Section 3.02 Once a protest has been filed, the Protest Committee Chairperson will assemble members of the Protest Committee to hear and rule on the protest.

Article IV. Filing a Protest:

Section 4.01 Protests may only be filed by an opposing team's Manager.

Section 4.02 A rule of play protest must be filed before the next pitch legal or illegal to the Umpire. All rulings will stand once a legal or illegal pitch has been thrown.

Section 4.03 Player rating protest will only be accepted during round robin play.

Section 4.04 When filing a protest, the protesting team must identify the player(s) being protested and the specific basis for the protest including the questions of the Player Ratings Guide that are being challenged, if any.

Section 4.05 A player rating protest will only be accepted only if the player(s) being protested is alleged to be two (2) or more points above the rating for which he or she is listed on the team's registration.

Section 4.06 A protest fee of \$200.00 cash must also be posted at the time of the filing of the protest.

Section 4.07 The game umpire will notify a Co-Chair or designated representative.

Section 4.08 At the time of the protest, the Co-Chair or designated representative will notify the teams' Managers.

Section 4.09 After a protest is filed, the game will continue.

Section 4.10 Protest forms and fees must be completed and turned over to a Co-Chair or designated representative IMMEDIATELY after the completion of protested game. If this action is not complete in a timely manner the protesting manager will forfeit his/her right to protest.

Article V. Player Rating Protest Fees:

Section 5.01 During pool play the ratings protest fee is \$200.00.

Section 5.02 If a player rating protest is upheld, the protest fee is returned.

Section 5.03 If a player rating protest is denied, all fees are nonrefundable.

Article VI. Hearings:

The Protest Committee will hear the arguments of both teams in order to rule on a protest.
Section 6.01 During pool play, the Protest Committee will rule on protests as quickly as possible but, in any event, prior to the determination of seeding for double elimination play.

Section 6.02 All individual player ratings from the current year (2015) shall be made available by the protested manager for all Protest Committee hearings.

(a) The Protest Committee chairperson will begin the proceedings by explaining the protest hearing procedures to each team's Manager.

(b) The protesting party will begin the hearing by explaining the basis for the protest and presenting evidence to support the protest.

(c) After the protesting party has presented its case, the protested party will be afforded the opportunity to present evidence to rebut the protesting party's argument.

(d) The votes will be tallied and the parties will be informed of the Protest Committee's decision.

Article VII. Penalties:

Section 7.01 If a protest results in a player rating change:

(a) The protested team will be declared the loser of the protested game and the opponent is named the winner of the game, and

(b) The protested player is eliminated from the Minuteman Classic, however,

(c) The protested team will be allowed to continue playing in the Minuteman Classic if the new total team rating still falls within the parameters for the division in which they are competing WITHOUT the removed player.

(d) Determinations of the protest committee or UIC are FINAL and not eligible for appeal.

Article VII.

Section 8.01 Minuteman Classic Co-Chairs reserve the right to alter and/or change the protest process to preserve the integrity of the Minuteman Classic and the Beantown Softball League. Any changes will be communicated to the managers in a timely manner.