

EDF Protest & Punishment Regulations

Version 1.5 (08-05-2019)



1. Definition and Goal

The EDF Protest Committee deals with after-event protests that are brought in if nations feel that rules about the honor code, code of conduct and fair play have been broken (rule 17 of the EDF Rules and Regulations). The goal of the installment of the committee and the setup of the protest and punishment regulations is to reduce the amount of cheating in all EDF events as well as the upholding of the general code of conduct.

This specifically includes:

- Cheating / not honoring Fair Play
- Code of Conduct (f.i. physical violence, verbal abuse, sexual harassment, etc.)

2. Protest & Appeal Committee

2.1 Protest Committee

The committee consists of 6 people consisting of members from different nations; no 2 members of the same nation can be part of the committee. Committee members are voted in by Congress on recommendation from national organization representatives. Committee members will be voted in for a 2-year period.

2.2 Appeal Committee

In addition to protests, there will also be an appeal system. The EDF Executive Council will function as the Appeal Committee. An appeal case will be provided to the EDF Executive Council which will review the whole case and will decide if it is a valid. If a Protest Committee decision is deemed valid by the Appeal Committee, the nation in question will lose their right to appeal for 1 year.

3. Protest Regulations

3.1 Timeframe

The Protest & Punishment Committee deals only with after-event-protests about rule 17. Protests during a tournament or a match are handled by referees and/or tournament directors and are regulated separately by the EDF Rules and Regulations.

The earliest that a protest can be made is the day when all the video footage of an EDF event is made public and available to the committee. The deadline / cutoff date of when a protest can be made is 1 month after the publication of all video footage was made available.

3.2 What can be protested about?

Nations can only protest rule 17; misbehavior within matches where they were directly involved.

3.3 Who can protest?

Protests need to be reported by an official representative of the national organization of a country (manager, board member, etc.).

3.4 Who can you protest against?

Nations can make a protest towards individual nations or nation/s + individual player/s.

3.5 Who do you need to make the protest to and how?

- A national representative can report a protest to any member of the EDF Protest and Punishment Committee.
- The protest needs to be in writing. Via E-Mail, FB or other digital Media.

3.6 What does the protest need to include?

- Nation that is protesting
- Nation against
- Specific game or games where misbehavior occurred in the protesters' opinion (including the exact times of when the incidents occur if in video footage)
- Statements from players/coaches/persons of interest in that particular game
- Statements from further witnesses (spectators)
- Any further details that may be of interest

3.7 Investigation

After receiving a protest, the EDF Protest Committee will start an investigation. This includes reviewing the matches in question as well as gathering statements from the involved people.

3.8 Decision making process

If cases arise where members of both the Protest Committee and the Appeal Committee (EDF Executive Council) involve their own nations, they will be excluded from all aspects of the relevant cases. This means that 4 to 6 people will vote on each case.

Members of the Protest Committee will review all material that the investigation has provided (video & statements) individually. After each member of the Committee has reviewed the case, they will meet, discuss in detail and decide the outcome of the case.

Making a decision needs a 2/3 majority in the committee.

- 6 people => 4/6
- 5 People => 4/5
- 4 people => 3/4

IMPORTANT: Applying punishments is solely up to the Protest Committee, except if level 2 punishments are chosen. If this is the case, the EDF Executive Council will automatically review that decision and will need to approve level 2 punishments.

4. Punishment Regulations

4.1 Overview

Punishments can be selected from the possibilities that are listed below where the EDF Protest Committee deems appropriate. Selecting individual player punishments as well as team punishments is possible.

4.2 Player Punishments

4.2.1 Level 1 punishments individual players

- Warning
 - If a previously warned player is protested against again, this will lead to harsher future punishments if the protest is deemed valid

- Match ban
 - o Range: 1 to 6 matches

4.2.2 Level 2 punishments individual players

- Exclusion from EDF events
 - o Range: 6 months - 2 years
- Exclusion from all EDF events for an indefinite period

4.2.3 Additional Information

Player bans are valid for all nations that a player may be eligible to represent

4.3 Team/Nation Punishments

4.3.1 Level 1 punishments teams/nations

- Warning
 - o If a previously warned team/nation is protested against again, this will lead to harsher future punishments if the protest is deemed valid
- Playing with less players for a certain number of matches in the next EDF event
 - o 5 or 4 players instead of 6 per match
 - o Range: 1 to 6 matches
- Opponents starting with automatic additional set-points in the next EDF event
 - o Range: 2 to 10 Set points
 - o Range: 1 to 6 matches
- Match bans (automatic forfeit of an entire match) in the next EDF event
 - o Range: 1 to 2 matches
- Fines
 - o Range: 20€ to 500€
 - o Not paying fines automatically leads to Level 2 punishments

4.3.2 Level 2 punishments teams/nations

- Cancellation of the entire team result
 - o If the results lead to a qualification of another tournament, the qualification spot will be automatically cancelled
- Losing qualification-rights in the next EDF event, regardless of the achieved result
- Exclusion from the next EDF event
 - o Range: 1 to 3 events
- Exclusion from all EDF events for an indefinite period