

Proposed Change to Eastern Zone Protest Rules
for consideration by the Eastern Zone – September 2007

Current language:

Zone Protest:

“A meet jury will adjudicate any protest including issues of conduct which may occur in the meet venue. All protest must be in writing. Protest regarding eligibility as stated in Rule 102.11 (2007 rulebook) will not be accepted from anyone other than the Team Manager or his/her designee. The Meet Jury will consist of the Meet Director, the Meet Referee and depending on the session in which the protest originated, an athlete, a Coach and a Team Manager appointed by their LSC when a Meet Jury is called according to the following:

Session:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Switch
Athlete:	AD	AM	CT	ME	MD	MR	MA	NE	NJ	NI	PV	VA	
Coach:	AM	CT	ME	MD	MR	MA	NE	NJ	NI	PV	VA	AD	
Team Mgr:	CT	ME	MD	MT	MA	NE	NJ	NI	PV	VA	AD	AM	

If the designated LSC is an interested party to the protest, Meet Jury representation will be made by the next disinterested LSC in rotation. Any member of the Meet Coordination Committee may provide support to the Meet Jury as an Ex-Officio member at the Meet Director’s discretion”.

PROPOSAL: (AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEET)

Within **thirty (30) days** *fifteen (15) days* after the conclusion of the meet, when the Meet Jury is no longer active, any members of a LSC Zone Team that participated in the meet may protest the eligibility status of an athlete who participated in the meet. (Members of the Zone Team shall be one of the following, the coaches, the team managers, and or athletes). The protest shall be submitted in writing to the Zone Directors, and shall be accompanied by a \$100 check payable to the Eastern Zone Account, (which shall be refunded if the protest is upheld). The Zone Directors, with the Technical Committee Chair, shall research information pertaining to the athlete’s eligibility based on information provided in the protest and any other relevant information that comes to their attention. The documentation of their research shall be signed and dated. (Signed communication may include e-mail communication that shows the current e-mail address of the sender and date.)

The Zone Directors shall designate the individual or individuals that may be one of the zone directors, their representative, or the Technical committee Chair to contact those individuals likely to have knowledge of the situation. This shall normally include, but need not be limited to the athlete whose eligibility is being challenged, the Club Coach, Zone Team Coach and Team Manager of the Zone LSC team whose athlete is being challenged, the Meet Referee, and the Meet Director. This shall be done in order to assemble all information relevant to making a determination to complete the researched information that is documented and dated

The Zone Directors will then call a special meeting of the Meet Coordination Committee that consists of the Two (2) Zone Directors, the Technical Committee Chair, the Meet Coordinator Committee chair, the zone Officials' Chair and the Athlete Representative. The Meet Coordination Committee meeting shall be held at the next Eastern Zone meeting that is scheduled closest to the conclusion of the Eastern Zone Meet.

If the decision is that the athlete was eligible to compete no further action will take place. If the decision is that the athlete was ineligible to compete the athlete will be disqualified from all the events entered and any relays on which the athlete participated will be disqualified. Leadoff leg relay events shall be retained as Official Times unless the athlete swam the lead. The meet will be re-scored and re-posted. The new awards will be the financial responsibility of the LSC involved. The distribution of the re-posted awards will be made to each LSC for their distribution to their individual swimmers that are affected. The decision of this committee will be sent when made by e-mail to the General Chairman of the eastern zone and provided to all at the next scheduled Easter Zone Meeting.

The decision of the Zone Committee (Meet Coordination Committee) may be appealed by the LSC involved or by the athlete in writing to the National Board of Review within 30 days of the notice.