

Rule 123

1. **Protests**

Protests based on alleged violation of rules may be lodged provided that they are not forbidden by this or another rule. The Referee decides upon all protests. Protests must be filed with the Referee in writing and within the stated time limit. At the same time 100 Swiss Francs or other convertible currency to the same value must be deposited with the Referee.

2. **Persons entitled to file a protest**

Protests may be lodged only:

- a) by a competitor, (team captain in Synchronized Skating), or competitors entered for the competition concerned or a Team Leader accredited for the competition concerned;
- b) with the approval of such competitor, competitors, Coach (for Speed Skating only) or Team Leader, by members of the committee organizing the competition or by official representatives of those Members or affiliated clubs that have entered competitors.

3. **Time limits for filing protests**

- a) Protests concerning the participation of a competitor must be filed before the competition starts. If an immediate decision cannot be reached, the competitor is permitted to start, but the announcement of the result and the distribution of the prizes shall be deferred until a decision has been reached;
- b) Protests concerning the composition of the panel of Officials must be filed within one hour of its announcement;
- c) Any other protests, except cases covered by subparagraph d) below, must be filed with the Referee immediately, however, not later than 30 minutes after the completion of the competition concerned. Completion of a competition (for this purpose only) means end of the last race of all races for a single distance in Speed Skating, end of the last heat/qualifying round or of the last of a series of heats/qualifying rounds, or all four quarter finals or of the last of both semi-finals or of the final for a single distance in Short Track Speed Skating, and end of any single segment (Short Program / Free Skating / Compulsory Dance / Original Dance / Free Dance) of a Figure Skating competition;
- d) Protests against incorrect mathematical calculation may be filed until 24 hours after the completion of the competition concerned. (See also paragraph 4. A. (iii) below). If the Referee is not available in person at the site or hotel, the Protest shall be sent by fax or email to the ISU Secretariat which will forward it to the Referee concerned;

4) Protest restrictions

A. Figure Skating

- i) No protests against evaluations by Judges and the Technical Panel (Technical Controller, Technical Specialists, Data Operator, Replay Operator) of Skaters' performances are allowed;
- ii) Protests against results are permitted only in the case of incorrect mathematical calculation. A wrong identification of an element or of a level of difficulty, although it results in a lower or higher score, is a human error and not an incorrect mathematical calculation;
- iii) However, if the Referee learns:
 - a) prior to the beginning of the award ceremony or prior to the official announcement of results if there is no award ceremony, that a human error relating to a wrong data input by the Data Operator occurred, the Referee may correct the error provided that the Technical Controller, both Technical Specialists and the Data Operator all agree that there was an error;
 - b) within 24 hours after the award ceremony that an incorrect mathematical calculation occurred, the Referee may correct the calculation even without a protest provided that the Technical Controller, both Technical Specialists and the Data Operator all agree that there was such an incorrect calculation. If such correction requires corrections of the final placements of the Skaters, the corresponding medals and/or awards shall be changed accordingly;
 - c) If the situation under paragraph a) and b) arises the Referee shall make a short record in writing which has to be signed by all the Officials concerned.

B. Speed Skating

Protests against results are permitted only in the case of incorrect mathematical calculation.

C. Short Track Speed Skating

No protests are allowed against a Referee's or Starter's decision concerning disqualification or non-disqualification for violation of any of the general and individual racing rules described in Technical Rules 297 and 298.

5. Referee's decision

- a) The Referee shall decide upon any protest in writing and as soon as possible. The Referee shall deliver such decision to the person filing the protest or shall arrange such delivery. Copies of any protest and Referee's decision shall be forwarded to the ISU Secretariat;
- b) if a protest is filed:
 - i) after the time limit or
 - ii) which is not allowed by the Rules,the Referee shall dismiss the protest in writing with reference to the applicable rule but without dealing with the merits of the claim;
- c) In cases not covered by subparagraph b) above, the Referee shall briefly state reasons for his decision;
- d) In Speed Skating and in Short Track Speed Skating the Referee may at his discretion, prior to his decision on the protest, review the replay of the official ISU digital replay, if the Referee deems it to be relevant and if readily available. This does not apply to attempts to protest in Speed Skating that are excluded above in paragraph 4) B, and to attempts to protest in Short Track Speed Skating that are excluded above in paragraph 4) C;
- e) The Referee's decision upon a protest is final and there is no appeal against such decision except in cases specified in Rule 124;
- f) The Referee may at his discretion decide to officially announce to the public any protest filed and in such case also his decision upon the protest. Such announcement should, if possible, be made before or within 30 minutes after the completion of the competition concerned (see definition for "competition" for this purpose under paragraph 3.c) above).

Rule 124

1. Appeals

An appeal may be made to the Council only against decisions which concern the eligibility of a competitor, the incorrect calculation of the result, or the composition of the panel of Officials and only in cases where these Regulations or the Constitution relating to the afore-mentioned subjects have been contravened.

2. Every appeal against a decision of the Referee must be submitted to the Council of the ISU within 30 days from the issuance of the decision.

3. Appeals do not have the effect of deferring the decision.

4. Appeals may be lodged only by those entitled to lodge protests (see Rule 123, paragraph 2).