



## HOCKEY MANAWATU INCORPORATED PROTEST PROCEDURE

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### **Protests**

If a team wishes to lodge a protest in relation to a completed fixture, then this must be indicated on the match scorecard by writing 'Under Protest', or any other words to indicate that a protest is to be submitted. The full nature of the protest must then either be included on the scorecard (if space permits), written on a separate piece of paper and attached to the scorecard, or submitted in writing to the HMI office by the 5.00 p.m. of the next business day following the completion of the fixture. The full name and contact phone number of the person making the protest must be included on the scorecard, the attached piece of paper or the written submission. Only teams involved in playing the match are entitled to make a protest. *(Protests regarding umpiring decisions cannot be heard. Protests of a technical or procedural nature can be heard).*

Protests will be considered by the relevant HMI match committee. The relevant committee is permitted to gather whatever information is deemed necessary to assist in determining the outcome of the protest, and will endeavour to hear the protest within 14 days of the disputed match and will notify the teams and clubs concerned within 48 hours of reaching that decision.

### **Right of Appeal**

The process for any appeal of a decision made by the relevant HMI committee will be as follows:

1. The appellant must submit in writing to the HMI office the aspect of the 'Rules & Regulations' of a specific HMI competition being appealed and/or the interpretation of those 'Rules & Regulations' being appealed and the basis for the appeal;
2. The full Council of Clubs will consider the appeal, gathering whatever information is deemed necessary to assist in determining the outcome of the appeal, and will notify the teams and Clubs involved within 48 hours of reaching that decision;
3. If the teams involved are not satisfied by the outcome of the appeal, they are entitled to make a secondary appeal to the HMI Operations Manager. The decision made by the Operations Manager will be final.

### **Discretion**

In any situation where the interpretation and/or application of HMI policies is unclear, the HMI Operations Manager shall have the authority to interpret and adjudicate on the appropriate interpretation and application, with the 'spirit of the game' to be the guiding principle in reaching a reasonable decision in the best interests of the sport.

### **Penalty**

The relevant HMI match committee has the ability to impose a penalty as they see fit and may include a monetary penalty on the Club involved.