

## MAKING A PROTEST OR COMPLAINT

Due to the significant commitment of time and resources required for the League's investigation of protests and complaints, a non-refundable administrative fee of £250 [*Of this £200 will be refunded if the protest or complaint is upheld*] is required to be remitted to the League prior to the commencement of any investigatory proceedings, however this may be refunded if blame, fault, or wrongdoing can be proven against the person or club being complained against.

All protests and complaints must be submitted via email using the correct pro-forma. This can be downloaded from the league website.

Email: [administration@yplncricket.co.uk](mailto:administration@yplncricket.co.uk)

### Rule 12.5 - Protests & Complaints

- I. Any club lodging a protest [other than a disciplinary issue] against another club or other issue should send such protest to the Disciplinary Officer only by email within 24 hours of the end of the match unless there are exceptional circumstances, together with the administration charge of £250 required via BACS to the League bank account. Of this £200 will be refunded if the protest or complaint is upheld.
- II. Any club or individual wishing to lodge a formal protest or complaint regarding another club, its officials, players, or spectators is required to submit written forensic evidence prior to the initiation of any investigative proceedings.
- III. A mere email indicating a participant's desire to file a complaint will not suffice. The complaint must be supported by relevant evidence and/or statements to be considered by the Disciplinary Officer.
- IV. Clubs, or any other parties making a complaint, are required to designate a single individual as the official point of contact between themselves and the league.
- V. In the case of a dispute, representatives of the club, or clubs, concerned will be eligible to attend the hearing but will not be able to vote.
- VI. All protests & complaints will be considered by a panel put together by the Disciplinary Officer or appointed Deputy.
- VII. Unless there are exceptional circumstances all hearings will be via 'zoom'.
- VIII. Where a protest or complaint fails there will also be a further charge to cover expenses.
- IX. Under no circumstances should any other person attempt to communicate with the league, or any other parties involved in the matter, unless prior consent has been obtained from the Disciplinary Officer or their designated representative.
- X. Clubs have a right to appeal to a further independent panel appointed by the Disciplinary Officer or appointed Deputy.
- XI. There will be a minimum administration charge of £250 for any appeal. Of this £200 will be refunded if the protest or complaint is upheld.
- XII. Expenses will be charged in addition to the administration charge.
- XIII. The Management Board may call on any club to produce their DBS Register, Meeting Minutes, Cash Book, Team card, Photocard Government ID, or other items to prove the bona-fides of any player against whom a protest has been made.

XIV. Protests and complaints are categorised as administrative matters. In instances where a hearing is necessary, including in the case of an appeal hearing, the panel must consist of a Chairperson and at least two additional members.

- The League reserves the sole and absolute discretion in determining whether such reimbursement is warranted.
- The League reserves the right to impose sanctions upon any party bringing forth a complaint if, in the League's reasonable judgment, such complaint is deemed frivolous, malicious, or brought without reasonable grounds (hereinafter referred to as "vexatious").
- The sanctions available to the League, which are not limited to the following, may include, but are not necessarily limited to, the imposition of monetary fines, the reduction of league points accrued, or a mandate compelling the club in question to submit an application for readmission to the League for the subsequent season.
- This enumeration of potential sanctions is illustrative only and does not preclude the League from pursuing other remedies or actions deemed appropriate under the circumstances and pursuant to the League's governing regulations.
- If a complaint is substantiated, the respondent (whether a club or individual) shall be subject to disciplinary proceedings unless it can be resolved by the Disciplinary Manager.
- The specific forum for such proceedings, being either an administrative panel or a disciplinary panel, shall be determined by the nature and severity of the infraction alleged in the upheld complaint.