### 4.40 State Tournament Protests

4.41 To lodge a protest at one of the state tournaments, a coach must adhere to the following regulations:

 (a) Submit to the tournament ombudsman in writing (either handwritten or typed and sent via email) a document titled PROTEST with the following information enumerated:

 (1) PROTESTOR: Coach’s name, school, date, and time

 (2) VIOLATION: List here the specific by-law you believe has been violated

(3) EXPLAINATION: Short explanation of who has violated this by-law and why you believe the by-law has been violated along with any other pertinent information you believe the ombudsman may need to present to the executive committee

(4) DESIRED RESOLUTION: Explain here what you would like to see happen as a result of this perceived violation and why this would be the justified course of action.

(b) Upon receipt of the protest, the ombudsman will conduct any research and interviews necessary in an attempt to gather all pertinent information regarding the perceived violation and then present the protest to the Executive Committee for review.

(c) After the Executive Committee reaches a decision regarding the perceived violation in the protest, the ombudsman will reply to the protestor in writing with a document titled PROTEST RESOLUTION with the following information enumerated:

1. OMBUDSMAN: Coach’s name, school, date, and time
2. RESPONSE TO PROTEST: Here will be the Executive Committee’s affirmation or negation of the by-law violation along with an explanation of said response.
3. RESOLUTION: Here will be the Executive Committee’s action regarding the protest.

(d) Protests of the Executive Committee’s action taken regarding a protest will not be entertained. All decisions by the Executive Committee should be considered the final say on the matter.

(e) If a coach is unhappy with the response to the protest, he or she is encouraged to add to the Spring Meeting agenda any unresolved issue(s) the coach believes need to be discussed/reviewed.

(f) Protests made at state tournaments will be made available to the GFCA membership to review and discuss at the Spring Meeting. They should be attached to the formal agenda and disseminated with the Spring Meeting agenda via email.