

FLOMA Policy

Policy on FLOMA Tournament Tribunals

Criteria of Eligibility for Tribunal

Decisions made by judging teams are subject to review by a Tribunal, ONLY when those decisions meet one or more of the following eligibility criteria:

- A coach/team believes that the judging team has misinterpreted one or more general problem rules and/or one or more rules specific to the Problem;
- A coach/team believes that the judging team has misapplied one or more general problem rules and/or one or more rules specific to the Problem.
- A team believes that a penalty has been mis-assigned in a way which exceeds the intention of the specific penalty in the problem or program guide.

Procedures for Requesting and Conducting Tribunals

1. Within 30 minutes after the completion of a team's long-term performance, the Head Judge will provide the raw, long term score (not including the style score) to the Coach of the team, with the exception of the first four competing teams. In those cases and in those cases only, the raw long-term score shall be provided no longer than 90 minutes after the completion of the team's performance.
2. The Head Judge shall note the time each Coach receives the raw long term score on the Score Form.
3. The Coach shall have 30 minutes from the receipt of the long-term score to seek clarification or information from the Head Judge.
4. The Head Judge shall gather the information/clarification content from necessary sources and in consultation with the Problem Captain both will meet with the Coach to provide further clarification. This meeting will take place at the earliest convenience of the Problem Captain and Head Judge considering other Tournament obligations of the Coach. The Problem Captain will note the time of the meeting on the score sheet.
5. If the issues are not satisfactorily resolved, the Coach must complete the "Request for Tribunal" form. The form shall require the Coach to identify the specific contested issues; these issues must meet one or more of the Criteria of Eligibility for Tribunal outlined above. This form must be submitted to the Problem Captain within 30 minutes of the completion of the discussion with the Head Judge and Problem Captain (Step 4).
6. The Problem Captain will collect all scoring sheets, comments, and clarifications from the Judging Team.
7. Upon receipt of the completed "Request for Tribunal" form, the Tournament Director shall appoint and convene an appropriately constituted Tribunal as soon as possible. The Tribunal shall consist of the Tournament Director, a Problem Captain of the Problem involved and one other individual who is a FLOMA Board member. To assure an objective review of the issues, the Tournament Director shall take into consideration any potential conflicts of interest and, in appointing the Tribunal, may substitute a FLOMA Board member for any of the Tribunal members. In the event that more than one Tribunal must be convened at the same time, the Tournament Director will substitute a FLOMA Board member for him/herself.
8. The Tournament Director shall contact the Coach and inform him/her of the scheduled time and location at which the Tribunal will convene. The Problem Captain shall request the Coach to convene his/her full team at a designated location near the site of the Tribunal, to be readily available for consultation if needed. Further, the Tournament Director will direct the Coach to select one team member representative to the Tribunal, in the event one is required.
9. The Tribunal shall convene, in private, to review the issues/concerns identified on the "Request for Tribunal" form.

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10. The Tribunal will request the Coach to join them to present orally his/her arguments. The Coach may request that a representative of the team accompany her/him. If there is more than one Problem Captain for the problem, both Problem Captains may be present at this time, although only one can be part of the Tribunal.
11. The Tribunal will gather whatever information is needed to make a fair and informed decision. The Tribunal may request that the appropriate Head Judge join them to answer any questions and provide information. At the sole discretion of the Tribunal, the questioning of the Head Judge may or may not be in the presence of the Coach and team representative.
12. After all relevant information has been obtained, the Tribunal will convene in executive session. Decisions will be reached by vote; the decision need not be unanimous.
13. The full Tribunal shall inform the Coach and team representative, in person, of the results of the Tribunal. The Tribunal shall outline the reasons for the decision. There shall be no discussion or argument at this point; the purpose is to assure that the Coach and the team know of the decision and the reasons for it.
14. The Tribunal will complete the "Decision of the Tribunal" form, after informing the Coach/team of its decision in person. A copy of the form will be mailed to the Coach following the Tournament.
15. The decision shall be communicated immediately to the Scoring Room by the Problem Captain
16. The decision of the Tribunal shall be final and binding.

Time Limits Final for Coaches and Teams

Time limits are provided to insure timely resolution of Tournament Issues. To insure the efficient conduct of the Tournament, the FLOMA Tournament Director reserve the right to extend any time limit which are provided for in this policy. Any reductions in time limits will be clearly communicated to Coaches and noted in writing on the team score sheet. Regardless of circumstance, time limits for coaches/teams must be strictly followed.