



IRV Complaints Manual 2026

This Manual describes the procedure for handling protests that are submitted to challenge the difficulty score of a gymnast competing at a World Championships event.

IMPORTANT: All protests must be submitted ONLINE within 10 minutes of the difficulty score being made known.

1) The IRV appoints a **Main Responsible Person (MRP)** to receive notification of an incoming Online Protest.

2) Before the start of competition, it is necessary to inform delegations (during the competition meeting) about how to submit an Online Protest. [An Online Protest starts with the payment fee of EURO 50.]

3) All protests will be processed by a **Complaints Committee** consisting of the following people:

- **IRV Judging Officer**
- **Head Judge**
- **Difficulty Judge(s)**
- **Competition Officer**
- 3 members of a **Supervisory Complaints Panel**

(NB: The MRP can be a member of the Supervisory Complaints Panel, but does not have to be.)

In case of a protest, the judging officer, head judge, difficulty judges and competition officer are the ones to discuss and decide about the protest received.

The members of the Supervisory Complaints Panel must be present during the discussion to confirm that the received protest is processed in a fair manner and that any doubt should be interpreted in favour of the gymnast.

4) The MRP is responsible for ensuring that the IRV appoints members of the Supervisory Complaints Panel for each competition session as follows:

a) One member of the Executive Board: _____

eMail _____ mobile _____

b) One member from the local organising committee: _____

eMail _____ mobile _____

c) One independent person: _____

eMail _____ mobile _____



4) The MRP must inform members of the Complaints Panel about their job: ***Their job is to confirm that the received protest is processed in a fair manner and that any doubt should be interpreted in favour of the gymnast.***

5) The MRP must inform all the above-mentioned people about where to meet when an online protest is received.

6) **Workflow and Task Definition:**

a) On receiving an online protest, **MRP** _____

informs

- the **Judging Officer** and the **Competition Officer**

- all members of the supervisory **Complaints Panel**

b) The **Judging Officer** informs the **Head Judge** in question.

c) The **Head Judge** informs the **Difficulty Judge(s)** in question.

All the above (**including the MRP**) meet at the designated place (see point 5 above) as soon as there is a natural break in the competition flow. This will be announced by the speaker or the **MRP**.

8) **A protest is decided by:**

- Judging Officer, Competition Officer, Head Judge, Difficulty Judge(s)

The processing of the protest is monitored by:

- Supervisory Complaints Panel

In case of equal opinions for and against, the MRP has the final decision-making authority.

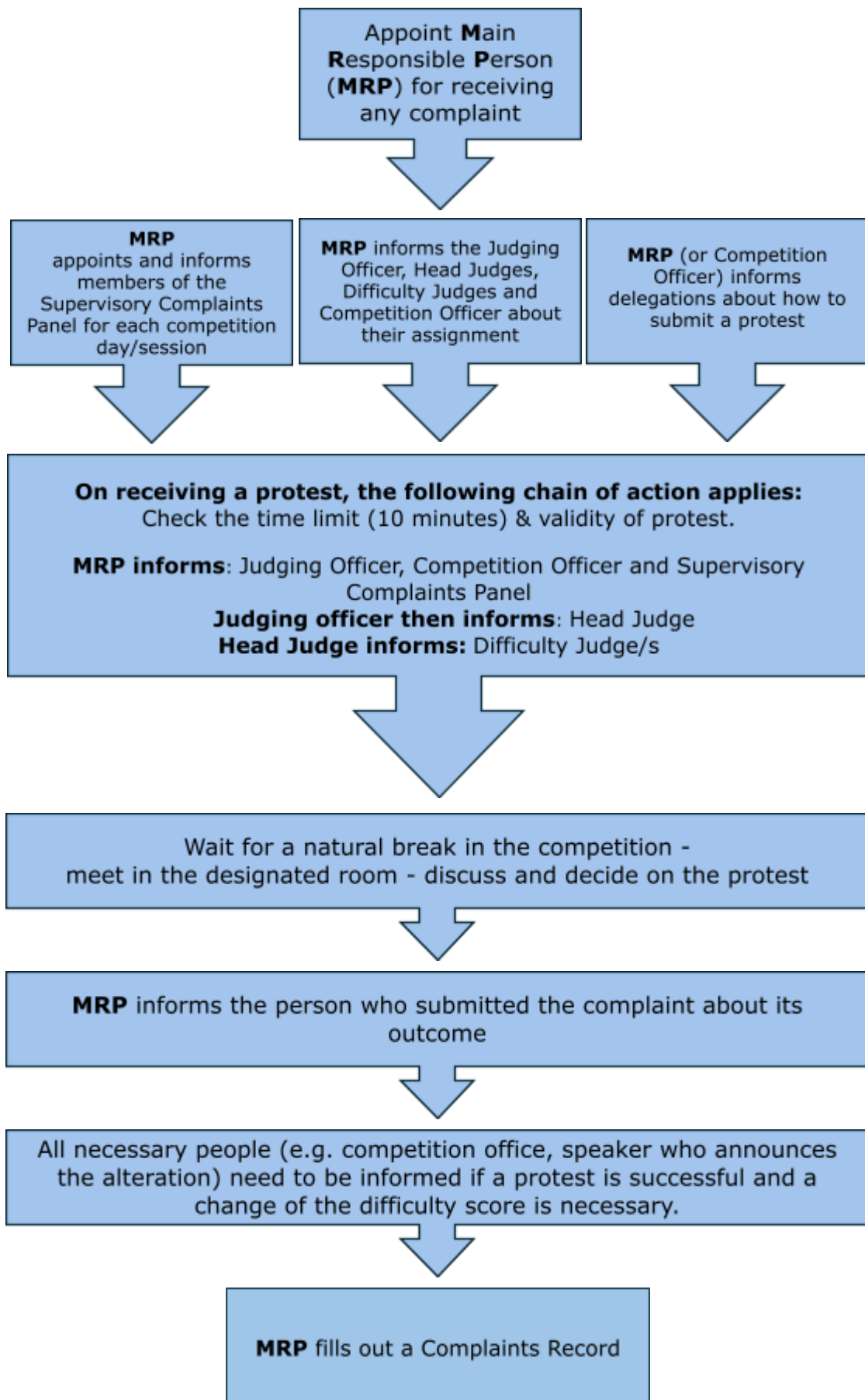
9) The **MRP** informs the person who submitted the protest about the outcome of the discussion in the quickest manner possible before completing the Complaints Record.

10) All necessary people (e.g. competition office, speaker who announces the alteration) must be informed if a protest is successful and a change to the difficulty score is necessary.

11) **MRP** fills out the Complaints Record.



Workflow





Complaints Record

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------|
| Date | | |
| Country | | |
| Person submitting the protest (delegation leader or coach) | | |
| On behalf of (gymnast's name) | | |
| Competition | | |
| Discipline | | Starting No. |
| Protest received | | |
| Protest discussed by | Competition Officer: Judging Officer: Head Judge: Difficulty Judge: | |
| Protest monitored by the Supervisory Complaints Panel | Member of IRV ExBoard: Local Organiser Representative: Independent Person: | |
| Outcome of discussion | | |
| Protest successful | Protest rejected | |
| By signing, I confirm that the Complaints Manual has been adhered to. | | |
| <hr/> | | |



Online Protest Form

Protests are to be made in writing (and within 10 minutes after the difficulty score is displayed at the end of the routine in question).

Protests against **execution and artistic impression scores are not accepted.**

A **deposit of € 50** is payable at the beginning of the process. If the protest is successful, the deposit will be returned. Scan the QR code below to access the payment page and submit an online protest:





After paying the deposit, you will be directed to an Online Protest Form where you will be asked to provide the following information:

- Protest submitted by: *Name of delegation leader or coach*
 - Protest handed in on behalf of (**delegation**): *Name of country*
 - Who does this complaint affect (**gymnast's name**)? *Name of gymnast*
 - Competition Category
 - Discipline
 - Semi-Final or Final
 - Describe **reason/s for complaint** (in short, but as accurate as possible):
-

Response to the person who submitted the complaint

After a decision has been made, an email will be sent immediately to the person who submitted the complaint. This email will contain the information below.

Decision:

- Protest **successful**
- OR
- Protest **rejected and brief explanation of rejection**

By sending this email, the MRP confirms that the Complaints Manual has been adhered to.