



22 July 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR SWISS TOROS SOFTBALL CLUB

FROM: ESSL Sports Director

SUBJECT: Response to Official Protest

1. On 7 Jul 2021, your organization submitted an official protest for the contest held in Munich (DE Game #18). In this protest, you state your displeasure in the way this game was handled and ultimately executed.
2. During the course of the game, the batting order of Swiss Toros (home team) came into question by the visiting team. While not specified in the MOI, the home team was to keep the book and ensure scorekeeping responsibilities (mentioned in the coaches chat by the Head Umpire). This does not prevent the visiting team from doing the same. Upon further review, it was noted that the Toros lineup was out of order and had been allegedly so for the past four innings. This led to the Tournament Staff deciding to grant a “forfeit” in favor of the visiting team.
3. As ESSL Sports Director, I provided advice to the board on the nature of this protest and its validity. This was brought up to me after a decision had been made for the game in question. According to USA Softball Rule 7, Section 2 D, a batter found to be out of order will not warrant a forfeit for the team. This scenario is not one of the penalties discussed under the aforementioned rule.
4. DECISION: We grant a partial protest overturn to your organization. After determining that the judgement to call a forfeit was in procedural error, we decided to do our best in correcting the matter. Unfortunately, the tournament had already concluded and participants departed. The ESSL has decided to vacate the loss of DE Game #18 and award Swiss Toros Softball the average points of the top four teams. $(8, 9, 11, 13\text{pts}) = 41 / 4 = 10.25\text{pts}$. Result is rounded down to the nearest point (10pts). Overall record for the Toros will also be adjusted to show 4 Wins/ 3 Losses.
5. As ESSL Sports Director, I offer my sincerest apologies in this undesirable situation. We do not presume or perceive the Toros as a “cheating” team. On the contrary, your organization has been vital to the success of this league, its growth, and competitiveness. While not ideal, we hope that this serves a reasonable compromise to the situation at hand. We will continue to work on improving and hope that you remain an active participant of our organization.

EMMANUEL SANTILLAN
Sports Director, ESSL