



850 Ridge Avenue  
Suite 301  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
Office: (412) 321-8440  
Fax: (412) 321-4088

---

The following is the result of the Texas Tech University (TTU) protest of their three non-conference games scheduled for Week 11 (2/14-2/15) against the University of Texas – San Antonio (UTSA).

All three games protested by TTU for UTSA's violation of NCBA Rule 23.02.0, in which UTSA did not notify TTU that they were not going to play the scheduled non-conference seven or more days prior to first pitch.

**Requested Action** – Forfeiture of games

**Protest:**

TTU is protesting all 3 of their officially scheduled non-conference games against UTSA that were scheduled for the weekend of 2/14 and 2/15. UTSA was allegedly in violation of NCBA rule 23.02.0

**23.02.0** Should a team cancel a scheduled non-conference game fewer than 7 days prior to the originally scheduled start time, a forfeit shall be issued unless the team being cancelled upon is able to find another opponent to replace the cancelled game.

TTU stated in their protest form the following:

“WE SCHEDULED A NON-CONFERENCE SERIES WITH UTSA IN NOVEMBER. THE SERIES WAS CONFIRMED BY BOTH TEAMS AND ADDED ON TO THE NCBA WEBSITE. THEREFORE IT WAS OFFICIAL. I CONTACTED MARK LEBLANC THEIR TEAM CONTACT OR PRESIDENT JANUARY 12 TO CONFIRM. THEN AGAIN FEBURARY 10 TO MAKE SURE THE 3 GAME SERIES AT UTSA WAS STILL ON. BOTH TIMES HE CONFIRMED “YES IT WAS.” MY TEAM AND I TRAVELED TO SAN ANTONIO FRIDAY. MADE IT IN TO SAN ANTONIO AROUND 6:30 PM. I GOT A TEXT MESSAGE FROM MARK AT 7PM STATING THEY HAD TO CANCEL THE WEEKEND BECAUSE THEY COULDN'T PULL TOGETHER ENOUGH PEOPLE AND WOULD RATHER NOT PAY FOR UMPIRES. BASICALLY WE DROVE ALL THE WAY DOWN TO UTSA JUST TO BE STOOD UP.”

“I TRIED EVERY AVENUE TO CONVINCING THEM TO PLAY WITH THE GUYS THEY HAD AND I WOULD GIVE THEM SOME OF MY GUYS. THAT WAY WE COULD STILL PLAY EVEN THOUGH IT WAS GOING TO BE 3 FORFEITS. THEY DECLINED THAT OPTION STATING MY GUYS HAVE OTHER COMMITMENTS AND DO NOT WANT TO PLAY. THIS UNORGANIZATION BY UTSA HAS COST MY CLUB FINANCIALLY. WE ASKED THEM TO REIMBURSE US FOR THE GAS MONEY IT TOOK TO GO FROM LUBBOCK TO UTSA AND BACK, BUT THEY DECLINED TO HELP US OUT.

AFTER THEY CANCELLED ON US, WE WERE ABLE TO COORDINATE WITH TEXAS AND NEBRASKA TO GET TWO GAMES IN. WE DROVE FROM SAN ANTONIO TO AUSTIN SATURDAY TO PLAY THE TWO GAMES WITH TEXAS AND [\*SAN ANTONIO\*].”

\*Nebraska\*

**Defense:**

In response to these protests, UTSA officer, Mark LeBlanc stated the following:

“WE ARE GOING THROUGH A PRETTY ROUGH TRANSITION THIS YEAR, WE CHANGED PRESIDENTS AS WELL AS PLAYERS JUST UP AND QUITTING ON US. I DID NOT PLAN ON HAVING TO CANCEL THE WEEKEND BUT LAST MINUTE PULL OUTS KEPT US FROM COMPETING. WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TO GO ON, WE HAVE LIMITED FUNDS DUE TO THE LOW NUMBER OF PLAYERS. WITH THAT BEING SAID I ACCEPT FULL (sic) RESPONSIBILITY AND WHAT EVER PENALTIES THAT COME OF THIS. I JUST WANT TO MOVE PAST THIS UNFORTUNATE EVENT SO I CAN PLAN FOR OUR UPCOMING GAMES.”



850 Ridge Avenue  
Suite 301  
Pittsburgh, PA 15212  
Office: (412) 321-8440  
Fax: (412) 321-4088

---

**Investigation:**

The NCBA contacted all the officers from the UTSA club baseball team including their advisor regarding this protest. All take full responsibility for this and any discipline that is assessed.

**Ruling:** Protests upheld, but only one 9-0 forfeit victory will be awarded to TTU regarding the scheduled non-conference games against UTSA. Reason being, NCBA Rule 23.02.0 states, “Should a team cancel a scheduled non-conference game fewer than 7 days prior to the originally scheduled start time, a forfeit shall be issued **unless the team being cancelled upon is able to find another opponent to replace the cancelled game.**”

TTU was able to replace two out of the three UTSA games against other opponents. TTU was able to play the University of Texas and the University of Nebraska.

**Additional Discipline:**

-UTSA will be placed on probation for the remainder of the 2015 season.

-UTSA will be forced to forfeit \$100 from their Performance Bond, as stated in NCBA Rule 23.08.0, “For every UNPLAYED Conference or Non-Conference game against another NCBA Division I opponent that is forfeited, \$100 is deducted from the team’s performance bond and that money is used to supplement the regional playoff budget of the region that the forfeiting team is affiliated with.”

-After the NCBA receives documented fuel receipts, UTSA will assume financial responsibility for TTU’s round trip fuel expense due to NCBA rule 23.05.0, which states, “In the event that a home team should forfeit any NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game to the visiting team; the home team is required to inform the visiting team via telephone of their intent not to play at least 48 hours in advance of the predetermined start of the first game.” Additionally, NCBA Rule 23.06.0 states, Should the home team not provide the visiting team with sufficient notice to cancel their transportation and/or lodging arrangements for the game(s) in question, the home team assumes financial responsibility for the payment of those transportation and/or lodging costs should any cancellation fees be incurred.”

**Christian Smith**  
**VP of Baseball Operations**  
**National Club Baseball Association**