



Official ITA Team Match Protest Summary

Division & Gender: Division I Women Date of Match: 2/25/17

Match: University of Alabama-Birmingham vs. Troy University

Team Protesting: University of Alabama-Birmingham

Ruling Committee: Division I Women's Southern Regional Ranking Committee

Protest Summary:

The ITA Women's Southern Regional Ranking Committee has thoroughly reviewed the protest statements submitted by Coach Tjia (UAB) regarding his match against Troy University on February 25, 2017, as well as the subsequent defense statement submitted by Coach Elsi (Troy).

The final ruling of the Committee is that Troy committed two ITA rules violations. The committee found that Troy violated **ITA Rule I.F.2** (*...All physically able players shall be listed in the line-up, page 4*) by placing an ill player in the lineup at #1 singles. The committee also found that Troy violated **ITA Rule I.F.3** (*...players must play in order of ability, Page 4*) by playing their #1, #2, and #3 singles players out of order. It is important to note that some on the committee felt that as many as 5 lines (#1-#5) could have been out of order as presented that day, but for this specific protest only lines 1-3 were challenged by the opposing coach. It is highly recommended that Troy re-order their lineup moving forward or face potential further protests.

The committee decided that as a result of the violations of ITA rules, the singles matches in question (lines 1-6 singles) shall be overturned and awarded to UAB, resulting in a 6-1 win for UAB. For ITA results entry purposes, individual singles matches were played in good faith and thus will be allowed to stand for individual singles and doubles ranking purposes. But the final result will be listed as a 6-1 win for UAB. It was also the committee's judgement that a letter of reprimand be sent to the Troy Head Coach as a result of these rules violations.

Please note that a coach has the right to appeal a protest ruling made by an ITA Regional Ranking Committee to the ITA National Ranking Committee as long as this appeal is submitted soon after notification (there are no appeals for ITA National Ranking Committee decisions). Please be aware that ITA policy does not permit coaches to contact committee members before or after a protest decision is made to question this decision or ask for additional information.