

9.18.4 VAR (Video Assistant Referee) in the Final

- a) Whenever the use of a VAR (Video Assistant Referee) technology is applied during a Final, in case an athlete disagrees with a Referee's decision regarding a "LOST," target, before the next athlete fires, he/she must act immediately by raising an arm, saying "VAR" and requesting the use of VAR to resolve the protest.
- b) Likewise, a coach or a team official (who is assigned a seat in the FOP), can initiate a VAR protest before the next athlete fires, by informing the Jury in Charge and showing the "VAR" card. The Jury in Charge must then attract the attention of the Referee and initiate a VAR protest with the help of electric or pneumatic sound signal. At the same time the Jury in Charge must brief the announcer in order to provide information to the spectators.
- c) After a VAR protest, the Referee must immediately command 'STOP', temporarily interrupt the shooting, face the spectator's area and make the outline of a rectangle, indicating a video screen, in order to show that the protest must be verified with the use of VAR.
- d) The VAR must be verified by the Jury-in-charge of the Final and the second Jury Member of the Final Protest Jury, who must examine the slow-motion images and resolve the protest. During this time, the Referee must not leave the FOP and must wait for the final decision.
- e) In case the Finals Range is equipped with a display screen, then, the Video images of the disputed clay target may be openly displayed to ensure transparency.
- f) After examination of the video images and after a final decision has been reached by the Jury-in-charge and the second Jury Member of the Final Protest Jury, they must immediately communicate the decision to the Referee.
- g) The Referee must then announce openly the decision saying 'HIT' or 'LOST' and using also the appropriate hand signal (for 'HIT' or for 'LOST'). He must then continue the Final without delay.

- h) The decision on a VAR protest is final and cannot be appealed.
- i) During each stage of the Final (Squad 1, Squad 2 and the Medal Match) or any eventual shoot-off, an athlete or his/her team official/coach are allowed to request the use of VAR, a maximum of two (2) times under the conditions stated in j) and k) below:
- j) In case the first "VAR" protest is accepted (meaning that the decision of the Referee has been changed from "Lost" to "Hit"), then the second "VAR" protest can be requested (as per rule) without any additional conditions.
- k) In case the first "VAR" protest is denied (meaning that the decision of the Referee has not been changed from "Lost" to "Hit"), then a second "VAR" protest can be requested (as per rule) but if denied again (meaning that the decision of the Referee has not been changed from "Lost" to "Hit"), then the athlete, apart from the lost target, will be penalized with one (1) additional target which will be deducted from the last hit (or next hit) target.
- l) The use of VAR can be requested also by the Referee individually, in cases where he/she has doubts whether a target was "HIT," or "LOST".

In such cases the Referee can, but not obliged to, take in consideration the opinion of the side referees. While obtaining the evaluation of the outcome of the shot by the side referees, the Referee must not move from his position. The opinion of the side referees must be conveyed with the use of a flag or a hand signal, as well as with any other form of visual communication.

- m) The use of VAR can be requested also by the Jury in Charge of the Final in cases where he/she has doubts whether the Referee took a right decision on a "HIT" or "LOSS" target, provided that no protest was initiated for the same target by the athlete or his coach/team official.

In such cases, the Jury in Charge of the Final must attract the attention of the Referee and request VAR verification with the help of an electric or pneumatic sound signal, immediately after the result regarding a particular target or double has been announced by the Referee and before the next athlete fires.

Note: non-VAR PROTEST regulations can be found in Shotgun Rule 9.17.