F. - DISCIPLINE and ACBL CODE OF DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

Section 1 - Code of Disciplinary Regulations

1.1 The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is a living document.

1.1.1 See the *Code of Disciplinary Regulations* and the *Unit and District Disciplinary Proceedings* on the ACBL website.

1.1.2 Effective date of amendments to the Code of Disciplinary Regulations.

1.1.2.1 Barring exceptional circumstances, the guideline for setting the effective date for any amendment to the CDR approved during a calendar year shall be January 1 of the next calendar year.

1.2 The Code of Disciplinary Regulations, Handbook for Disciplinary Committees and Handbook for Bridge Appeals Committees are available on the ACBL website and should be made available to any person who is appointed chair of a tournament disciplinary committee or a bridge appeals committee.

Section 2 - Resignation of ACBL Membership

2.1 Any appropriate authority of the ACBL having jurisdiction shall initiate, continue or conclude any hearing or appeal which it would have held in the absence of a member's resignation. If action is taken pursuant to the preceding sentence, the resigned member shall not be deemed to have been a member in good standing, unless subsequently exonerated of all charges.

2.2 In considering relief from ACBL probation pursuant to the Code of Disciplinary Regulations, Section 9.5, the entire disciplinary record of the member shall be considered.

Section 3 - Disciplinary Administrative Policies

3.1 The ACBL CEO or his designee shall maintain and administer membership disciplinary files and records to include decisions of the hearing body wherein there was a finding of any guilt or responsibility (irrespective of whether a discipline was issued) or the committee referred the matter to a Recorder.

3.2 Notices of discipline shall contain, in addition to the discipline issued by the hearing committee, an explanation of what that discipline involves and a description of the offense by number and titles per Appendix B of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations.

3.3 Notices of discipline shall be sent routinely to:

a. The person disciplined.
b. The ACBL Board of Directors.
c. The disciplined person's district president, secretary and recorder.
d. The disciplined person's unit president, secretary and recorder.
e. The appropriate Federation.
f. The ABA.
g. The ACBL CEO.
h. ACBL staff as determined by the ACBL CEO.
i. The complainant.
j. The appropriate appellate body chairperson.
k. WBF if the player is a member of an NBO outside Zone 2.

3.4 The disciplinary committee report shall be given to the complainant and the disciplined person. In addition, the report shall be made available, on request to:

a. The ACBL CEO.
b. ACBL staff as determined by the ACBL CEO.
c. A member or members of the ACBL Board upon a determination by the ACBL President that such request is for a proper ACBL business purpose.

3.5 A person's ACBL disciplinary record or material there from may be made available only to:

a. The person who is the subject of the record upon request.
b. A disciplinary hearing committee when that person has been found guilty of a charge and the committee is considering discipline to be imposed.
c. The ACBL President or CEO when the person is being considered for appointment to an ACBL position or ACBL employment.
d. An Officer of the Court upon presentation of a subpoena.

3.6 Upon request from the Chair or Chairs of the Hall of Fame Committee, a list of previous ACBL disciplines, if any, issued by an ACBL disciplinary committee with an explanation of what each discipline involves for each prospective nominee shall be given to the Hall of Fame Committee.

3.7 Information provided to the ACBL Appeals and Charges Committee and the ACBL Disciplinary Committee (when impaneled as an appellate committee) and parties to an appeal to either body.

3.7.1 The above committees are sent:

a. A copy of the written appeal and all supporting documents submitted by the appellant.
b. All information included in the record from previous bodies that have heard the case.
c. A summary of the past disciplinary record of the person(s) charged and or disciplined.
d. Documents concerning procedural issues or administrative matters.
e. Any other information by instruction of the chair.

3.7.2 The parties to the appeal (complainant charged person, original committee, the appellant, and ACBL if the appellant) are each sent prior to the hearing:

a. A copy of the written appeal and all supporting documents submitted by the appellant.
b. Any information for the committee submitted in a timely manner by any party to the appeal.
c. All information included in the record from previous bodies that have heard the case.
d. Other information at the instruction of the chair.

3.7.3 The committees and parties to the appeal are apprised of:

a. Date, time and place of hearing.
b. Any rights dictated by the Code of Disciplinary Regulations.
c. The opportunity to appear by telephone as well as in person.

3.8 Publication of Disciplinary Cases

3.8.1 In disciplinary cases which result in a finding of guilt, ACBL policy is to publish an individual's name, ACBL Player number, the penalty imposed and the CDR code section.

3.8.2 This applies to any decisions of a Unit, District or ACBL level disciplinary committee, and of the Ethical Oversight Committee. It shall also apply to decisions made at clubs regarding ethical violations when the ACBL is made aware of the decision, but does not apply to decisions made by a club disciplinary procedure regarding non-ethical violations.

3.8.3 All disciplines will be published on the website for the length of time of the discipline levied. Expulsions shall also be reported in the ACBL Bridge Bulletin.

3.8.4 Decisions of the Ethical Oversight Committee shall also be reported in the NABC Daily Bulletin.

3.9 All disciplinary cases where a suspension of one year or longer or expulsion is imposed are reviewed by the ACBL Appeals & Charges Committee. Notwithstanding, the ACBL Appeals & Charges Committee reaffirms its right to review the final decision of any other disciplinary case, or, if appropriate under the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations, to take jurisdiction.

3.10 Zone 2 NBO Disciplinary Actions

3.10.1 Any discipline imposed by Zone 2 NBO at a Zone 2 NBO event sanctioned by ACBL shall be referred to:

a. The Ethical Oversight Committee of ACBL for cases of alleged cheating in any form, giving or benefiting from unauthorized information, or serious breaches of ethics, or

b. The District Disciplinary Committee in whose geographical area the Zone 2 NBO event was held for any other cases of discipline.

3.10.2 The above appropriate disciplinary body will conduct a hearing to affirm or modify the findings and discipline of the Zone 2 NBO Committee in accordance with ACBL Disciplinary Regulations.

Section 4- ACBL Recorder

4.1 The ACBL Recorder may utilize audio and/or video recording in conjunction with an investigation.

4.2 Additional ACBL Recorder Duties

a. Advise Unit and District recorders as necessary.
b. Conduct seminars for recorders at NABCs as appropriate.
c. Supervise the National Office of Recorder as necessary concerning files.

Section 5 - ACBL Disciplinary or Ethical Oversight Hearing Committee

5.1 When unable to seat a five-person hearing committee from among the membership of the ACBL Disciplinary Committee, the chair of the ACBL Disciplinary Committee may solicit members of the hearing committee from among the members of the ACBL Ethical Oversight Committee. If it still necessary to find additional committee members, the chair may nominate, subject to the ACBL President's approval, other ACBL members in good standing to serve.

5.2 When unable to seat a five-person hearing committee from among the membership of the Ethical Oversight Committee, the chair of the Ethical Oversight Committee may select members of the hearing committee from among the membership of the ACBL Disciplinary Committee. If it still necessary to find additional committee members, the chair may nominate, subject to the ACBL President's approval, other ACBL members in good standing to serve.

Section 6 – Anti-Cheating Commission (ACC) (Effective April 1, 2016)

6.1 The ACBL Anti-Cheating Commission (ACC) will be composed of at least five expert players appointed by the ACBL CEO. The CEO may replace a member with or without cause. The CEO may add members.

6.2 Each player selected for the ACC will have a long history of success in NABC+ events, while maintaining a superior standard of ethics.

6.3 The purpose of the ACC will be to provide written opinions to the ACBL National Recorder's Office that evaluate Player Memos and other materials with a goal of identifying collusive cheating, including by developing investigatory protocols, mathematical models, and forensic criteria for reliably differentiating collusive cheating from random or innocent occurrences.

6.4 As needed, the ACC as needed may investigate any situation where collusive cheating is or may reasonably be suspected. The investigative team assembled by the ACC may engage experts in any field to assist the investigation. The ACC must notify the ACBL National Recorder in writing prior to commencing any formal investigation. Any expenditures must be approved by the ACBL National Recorder.

6.5 The ACBL National Recorder may submit evidence or Player Memos to the ACC for evaluation or recommendation. The National Recorder will regularly provide any relevant ethical player memos or other evidence to the ACC. The ACC may utilize additional experts as needed.

6.6 All ACC opinions will be provided to the ACBL National Recorder in writing. Decisions regarding filing formal complaints against specific players shall be at the sole discretion of the ACBL.

6.7 All ACC Members and additional experts utilized by the ACC must sign a mandatory ACBL Confidentiality Agreement. Confidentiality applies to any evidence reviewed by the ACC, written opinions, and the existence of an investigation.

6.8 The ACC shall provide a copy of any evidence received to the ACBL National

Recorder.