

Changes to the Code of Disciplinary Regulations
Approved November 2012
Effective January 1, 2013

5.1.15 The effective date of imposition of discipline, if any, of an ACBL disciplinary body's decision shall be the date noted in the disciplinary body's written decision. If the discipline is to take effect immediately, the disciplinary body shall immediately notify the disciplined party in writing, provided that the formal written notice to the parties set forth in Section 5.1.14, including the date for appeal, shall also be made. If no effective date is so specified, the effective date of imposition of discipline shall be five (5) days from the date of the mailing of the decision by ACBL Management. When the discipline imposed includes both a period of suspension and a period of probation, the suspension is to be served first followed immediately by the period of probation.

7.7.6 All appeals heard under this section shall be heard by a committee of at least three persons.

APPENDIX B

ACBL DISCIPLINARY SANCTION GUIDELINES

The following range of discipline for conduct and ethics violations is provided as a guide to a disciplinary committee not a mandate. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all possible infractions but rather to set forth examples. The list below represents the recommended discipline and mandatory masterpoint penalties which are imposed by a committee after rendering a decision which finds a member guilty of a conduct or ethical violation. The first column entitled "OFFENSE" sets forth the offense by Code of Disciplinary Regulations ("CDR") Section. The second column entitled "RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE" is a guide for discipline to be imposed and is not mandatory nor intended to be an exhaustive list of all possible infractions. The third column entitled "MANDATORY MASTERPOINT PENALTIES" represents a range of masterpoints which must be deducted in accordance with the offense for which the member is found guilty.

A committee may find that there has been a violation of the CDR for which there is no sanction guideline cited in this Appendix. In such cases, the committee is free to impose on a guilty defendant whatever punishment it deems is appropriate from options described in CDR Section 4. However, a disciplinary committee, which imposes a sanction which is outside the range recommended by these guidelines, must explain why it chose the sanction imposed. *Part A of these guidelines is intended to apply to*

the typical case involving a single incident and a defendant who has no previous disciplinary record. If this is not the case, the committee must consider Part B of these guidelines before deciding on an appropriate discipline.

PART A: CONDUCT

| OFFENSE | RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE | MANDATORY MASTERPOINT PENALTIES |
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| C1 Poor personal hygiene or dress (CDR 3.7) | Reprimand and or up to 30 days Probation | <u>None</u> |
| C2 Rudeness in conversation, gesture, or general behavior (CDR 3.7) | Reprimand and or up to 30 days Probation and or up to 30 days Suspension. | <u>None</u> |
| C3 Publicly belittle partner or opponent on bid or play (CDR 3.7) | Reprimand and or up to 30 days Probation and or up to 30 days Suspension | <u>None</u> |
| C4 Influence or attempt to influence an entrant to withdraw from an event to improve one's likelihood of winning more masterpoints CDR 3.7 and 3.12) | Reprimand and or up to 90 days Probation and or up to 90 days Suspension | <u>10-50% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| C5 Harass or intimidate another player (CDR 3.7 and 3.11) | Reprimand and or up to 120 days Probation and or up to 90 days Suspension | <u>None</u> |
| C6 Harass or intimidate a tournament director, tournament official or an ACBL official (CDR 3.7 and 3.11) | 180 days Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension | <u>None</u> |
| C7 Deliberately fail to follow instructions given by a tournament director or official, including leaving a session without permission of the tournament director or game director, egregious slow play or noncompliance with conditions of contest (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7) | 90 days Probation and or up to 90 days Suspension | <u>None</u> |
| C8 Fail to notify an appropriate official in a | 180 days Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension | <u>0-25% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |

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| | timely manner of a score that one knows is incorrect (CDR 3.2 and 3.7) | | |
| C9 | Inappropriate comments (including but not limited to obscene comments) made publicly at an ACBL sanctioned event or activity (CDR 3.7) | Reprimand and or up to 120 days Probation and or up to 90 days suspension | <u>None</u> |
| C10 | Publicly accuse another player of unethical bridge behavior (CDR 3.4 and 3.7) | 180 days Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension | <u>None</u> |
| C11 | Threat of abusive or violent contact with another person (CDR 3.7) | 1 year Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension | <u>None</u> |
| C12 | Abusive or violent contact with another person (CDR 3.7) | 3 years Probation and or up to 2 years Suspension | <u>None</u> |
| C13 | ** Knowingly submit false information or deliberately distort facts to an ACBL official or committee when <u>neither E6 nor E7 below does not apply applies.</u> (CDR 3.13) | 1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension | <u>None</u> |
| C14 | Failure of Complainant to appear at hearing without cause (CDR 3.14) | 90 days Probation and or up to 90 days Suspension | <u>None</u> |
| C15 | Appeal a decision from a disciplinary body with no reasonable basis (CDR 3.15) | 1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension | <u>None</u> |
| C16 | Initiate disciplinary action against another player with no reasonable basis (CDR 3.15) | 1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension | <u>None</u> |
| C17 | Initiate and maintain legal action against the ACBL, including a District or Unit, or an ACBL official or employee acting in his or her official capacity, without first exhausting administrative remedies (CDR 3.10) | 1 year Suspension up to indefinite suspension pending reimbursement to ACBL of costs to ACBL to defend if the suit was unsuccessful <u>pursuant to CDR Section 4.3.4</u> | <u>None</u> |
| C18 | Non-payment of sums owed | Indefinite Suspension. The | |

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| ACBL, a unit or a district (CDR 3.9) | body imposing the indefinite suspension will determine when, after return of the funds, the indefinite suspension will be lifted | |
| C198 Misappropriate ACBL, Unit or District Funds (CDR 3.18) | Indefinite suspension up to expulsion. The body imposing an indefinite suspension will determine when, after return of the funds, the indefinite suspension will be lifted | None |
| C19 Being present in the playing area of an ACBL sanctioned event while serving a term of suspension (CDR 3.2 and 3.5) | Extension of the suspension to twice the original term to Expulsion * # | None |

PART B: ETHICS

| OFFENSE | RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE | MANDATORY MASTERPOINT PENALTIES |
|---|---|--|
| E1 Deliberately ask for or give information about a board in play after both parties have played it (CDR 3.2 and 3.7) | Reprimand and or up to 60 days Probation. | <u>0-25% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E2 Give information about a board in play to a player who has not yet played the board (CDR 3.2 and 3.7) | 30 days Suspension to 1 year Suspension * # | <u>0-25% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding with no intent. 10-50% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding when intent is proven.</u> |
| E3 Unsportsmanlike, frivolous or frequent psyching (CDR 3.2 and 3.7) | 60 days Probation and or up to 30 days Suspension | <u>0-25% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E4 Play a convention, system, or treatment knowing it is | 90 days probation and or up to 60 days Suspension * | <u>10-50% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |

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| | illegal (CDR 3.2 and 3.7) | | |
| E5 | Purposefully fail to disclose partnership agreements with intent to deceive (CDR 3.2 and 3.7) | 1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension. * | <u>10-50% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E6 | Bid or play with the specific intent to achieve a poor result on that hand (CDR 3.2 and 3.7) | 90 days Probation to 90 days Suspension * | <u>0-25% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E7 | Intentionally: a. change a score, b. submit a false result of a hand, round or match , c. change or submit any information that could result in awarding incorrect masterpoints or d. enter an event for which you are not eligible (CDR 3.1, 3.7 and CDR 3.13) | 1 to 3 year Probation and or up to 2 years Suspension * | <u>10-50% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E8 | Accidentally gain access to information and then act on it (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7) | 1 year Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension * | <u>0-25% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E9 | Hesitate with an intent to deceive; use intonations and mannerisms that may deceive opponents or help partner (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7) | 1 year Probation and or up 1 year Suspension * | <u>0-25% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E10 | Deliberately try to see from where an opponent plays his cards (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7) | 90 days Probation and or up to 90 days Suspension * | <u>0-25% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E11 | Actively and deliberately try to see an opponent's cards (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7) | 1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension * | <u>10-50% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E12 | Actively seek advance information about a board in play (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7) | 2 years Suspension to Expulsion * # | <u>25-100% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E13 | Prearrange a deal or part thereof including one card (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7) | 2 years Suspension to Expulsion * # | <u>25-100% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E14 | Intentionally gain access to | Expulsion * | <u>100% of Disciplined Player's total</u> |

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| | hand records for an event prior to the event and enter and play in the event and or give the hand records or copies to another person prior to that person entering and playing in the event. (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7) | | <u>masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E15 | Prearranged partnership collusion by means of signaling to exchange information (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7) | Expulsion * | <u>100% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E16 | Playing in or being present in the playing area of an ACBL sanctioned event while serving a term of suspension (CDR 3.2 and 3.5) | Extension of the suspension to twice the original term to Expulsion * # | <u>10-25% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E17 | Knowingly partnering or playing on a team with a person who is presently serving a suspension from ACBL or who is presently expelled from ACBL (CDR 3.2, 3.7 and 3.19) | 1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension | <u>10-25% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E18 | Cheating and similar ethical violations not specifically cited by other sections of this Appendix (CDR 3.20) | 90 days Suspension up to Expulsion * # | <u>0-100% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E19 | Attempt to influence a decision of a disciplinary body outside of the hearing process(es) CDR 3.21. | Reprimand and or up to 2 years Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension. | <u>0-100% of Disciplined Player's total masterpoint holding.</u> |
| E20 | Discussion of the content of the hearing, other than the committee decision, outside the hearing room by a disciplinary body member with any party (whether a party to the hearing or not). <u>The Committee Decision includes the finding of Guilty/Not Guilty and the</u> | Reprimand and or up to 2 years Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension | |

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| <u>Penalty Imposed.</u> CDR 3.22. | | |
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* If a committee imposes a suspension, then it should also disqualify the pair or team from the event. This will mean the pair or team will lose its place in the event, any masterpoints earned in the event and any other benefits it may have earned from playing in the event. Should this disqualification take place after the correction period for the event has expired, other pairs and teams do not move up - the place formerly held by the disqualified contestant (pair or team) remains vacant.

If a committee imposes a suspension it is encouraged to also impose an appropriate term of probation following the term of suspension.