



Charged Party(ies)
 ACBL #
 Hearing Date

Disciplinary Body Hearing Location

Charging Party ACBL# Complainant ACBL#

COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHO HEARD THE CHARGES

Name	ACBL #	Name	ACBL #
<input type="text" value="Tim White, Chairman"/>	<input type="text" value="M029585"/>	<input type="text" value="Larry Sealy"/>	<input type="text" value="P541643"/>
<input type="text" value="Dennis Carman"/>	<input type="text" value="O828450"/>	<input type="text" value="Georgia Heth"/>	<input type="text" value="N638399"/>
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INDIVIDUALS THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE HEARING (excluding committee members)

Name	ACBL#	Via	Capacity	Name	ACBL#	Via	Capacity
<input type="text" value="Jeff Edelstein"/>	<input type="text" value="O200338"/>	<input type="text" value="web conf."/>	<input type="text" value="Adv-Charging P"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select One"/>	<input type="text" value="Select One"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select One"/>	<input type="text" value="Select One"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select One"/>	<input type="text" value="Select One"/>
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EVIDENCE AND ARGUMENTS PRESENTED (Summarize evidence and arguments presented including testimony. If additional space is needed, continue on page 3 of this hearing report.) (Note: provide new documentary evidence introduced during the hearing to the Office of National Recorder)

A Negotiated Resolution packet was provided to the Committee by the Compliance Coordinator. It contained a Procedural Summary, Factors Considered by the Charging Party, Negotiated Resolutions, Membership Profiles, Recorder Complaint and Charge Letter.

The Negotiated Resolutions included statements from each party. Ms. Daniel stated: "I admit that I occasionally shared unauthorized information about the hand we were playing with my partner during online ACBL sanctioned games with my partner. I am embarrassed and highly regretful that I did so, and I sincerely apologize to the ACBL, its membership, and anyone impacted by this action. I am very sorry that ACBL has had to spend resources as well as valuable time of its leadership and committees on this matter. I will refrain from such actions going forward when I am again allowed to play this wonderful game. I certainly apologize profusely. I humbly and sadly accept the penalty." Ms. Thornton stated "I regretfully exchanged unauthorized information about my hand with my partner while playing ACBL sanctioned on line games. I feel horrible and sincerely apologize for the error in judgement. I accept my suspension/punishment and look forward to the day I can resume my bridge playing."

COMMITTEE FINDINGS OF FACT (based on the evidence, state the committee's conclusion as to what happened)

In the Matter of Linda Daniel and Linda Thornton, the Committee approved the Negotiated Resolution entered into by the parties and ACBL Management in which the parties admitted to a violation of CDR 3.20 Cheating and other Ethical Violations (CDR effective January 1, 2020). Ms. Daniel agreed to a 6-month suspension to begin on March 12, 2023, followed by 2 years probation. She is prohibited from playing in ACBL online games with Linda Thornton for the entire probationary period; she is prohibited from playing ACBL face to face games with Linda Thornton for the first year of the probationary period. Ms. Daniel forfeits 8% of her current Masterpoint® total. She further agreed that If she plays in any ACBL sanctioned games between March 12, 2023 and when this agreement is accepted by Appeals and Charges, this agreement is voidable by ACBL. Ms. Thornton agreed to a 6-month suspension to begin on January 10, 2023, followed by 2 years probation. She is prohibited from playing in ACBL online games with Linda Daniel for the entire probationary period; she is prohibited from playing in ACBL face to face games with Linda Daniel for the first year of the probationary period. Ms. Thornton forfeits 10% of her current Masterpoint® total. She further agreed that If she plays in any ACBL sanctioned games between January 10, 2023 and when this agreement is accepted by Appeals and Charges, this agreement is voidable by ACBL. Ms. Daniel and Ms. Thornton will be members "Not in Good Standing" during the period of their discipline.

DECISION (click on the box next to Not Responsible or Responsible of violating the CDR to add a check mark.)

Not Responsible

Responsible

CDR GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINE Type the section(s) and description(s) found in CDR 3 which led to the discipline).

CDR 3.20, effective January 1, 2020: Cheating and Other Ethical Violations

DISCIPLINE (Unless a discipline begins immediately, which requires you to complete a Notice of Immediate Discipline, all begin dates should start at least five days after you submit this hearing Report to the Office of National Recorder.

Disciplined Party is convicted of premeditated or collusive cheating (or has admitted to such action), CDR 4.1.8 (a) YES NO

If yes, all masterpoints, titles and ACBL status ranks and other ACBL related awards earned by the disciplined party will be forfeited. These penalties also apply to the teammates and partners while playing with the disciplined party during the seven years preceding the date the Charges were brought through and including the date of this final decision.

	Start Date	End Date	Additional Requirements/Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> REPRIMAND		N/A	2 years: Linda Daniel 9/12/23-9/11/25; Linda Thornton 7/10/23-7/9/25.
<input type="checkbox"/> PROBATION	See comments to the right		Both parties: excluded from playing with each other online during entire probationary period. Excluded from playing with each other face-to-face during the first year of the probationary period.
<input type="checkbox"/> SUSPENSION	See comments to the right		6 months: Linda Daniel 3/12/23-9/11/23; Linda Thornton: 1/10/23-7/9/23

Is the disciplined party Suspended because of an Ethical Violation (CDR 4.1.8 (b))? YES NO

If yes, the masterpoints and titles won in the event by the disciplined party, partners and teammates in which the offense occurred will be forfeited.

Is the Suspension imposed due to an Ethical Violation more than one year (CDR 4.1.8 (b))? YES NO

If yes, the MPs, titles or other ACBL related award earned by the discipline party within twelve months preceding the date of the offense will be forfeited.

EXPULSION N/A

SUSPENDED SENTENCE (only used in conjunction with an imposed Suspension from above that you have converted to Probation). State the condition of the sentence below

EXCLUSION from Events and Programs (list the exclusions and the dates of the events or activities). CDR 4.1.6

REDUCTION OR FORFEITURE of Masterpoints (MP) or Tournament Rank or Disqualification.

Linda Daniel: forfeiture of 8% total Masterpoints.

Linda Thornton: forfeiture of 10% total Masterpoints.

The teammates and partners will also receive these penalties in the event in which the offense occurred.

STATE THE OFFENSE(S) FROM APPENDIX B, CHART 1 and/or CHART 2 OF THE CDR

N/A

The discipline imposed above is **SELECT** the recommended guidelines of Appendix B, Chart 1 and/or Chart 2. If it is **OUTSIDE** the guidelines, a reason must be stated below.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED (CHAIR)

/s/

Electronic Signature (type name above)

Date:

Wet Signature (sign above)