



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"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text" value="Deana Liddy"/>	<input type="text" value="P205082"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**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="National Recorder"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Select One"/>	<input type="text" value="Select One"/>
<input type="text" value="Justin Coniglio"/>	<input type="text" value="Q809461"/>	<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"/>
<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"/>

**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, Charge Letter, and Notice of Intent to Initiate Arbitration before the IBA [Institute for Bridge Arbitration].

The Negotiated Resolutions included statements from each party. Mr. Desai stated: "During my play with Mrs. Geeta Desai in ACBL sanctioned online games, I at times exchanged unauthorized information with my partner about the hands that we were playing. I, Harendra Desai, sincerely apologize for this significant error in judgment on my part. I deeply regret the unnecessary work I have created for ACBL staff in having to address this issues – I place an unnecessary burden on their valuable time due to my unacceptable behavior. I apologize for my actions and should have known better based on my knowledge of the game even though I am a novice. I understand the importance of maintaining the highest degree of standards for these games and I accept all the consequences as a result of my actions. Rest assured, I take this very seriously and this will never happen again." Ms. Desai stated "Harendra and I sporadically exchanged unauthorized information about our hands during ACBL sanctioned online bridge games. In doing so, I breached some rules which were important to maintain game integrity and for that I am incredibly sorry and apologetic for my actions. I feel personally humiliated that I behaved so irresponsibly and I want the ACBL and its membership to know that in the future I will faithfully abide by its rules and regulations. I respect the valuable time put forth by the ACBL and its members and am truly sorry for having burdened them."

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

In the Matter of Harendra and Geeta Desai, the Committee approved the Negotiated Resolutions entered into by the parties and ACBL Management in which the parties admitted to violation of CDR 3.20 Cheating and other Ethical Violations (CDR effective January 1, 2020). Mr. and Ms. Desai agreed to 3-month suspensions to begin on October 18, 2023, followed by 2 years probation. They are prohibited from playing with each other in ACBL online games during the first year of their probations. Mr. Desai forfeits 10% of his current (221.41) Masterpoint® total; Ms. Desai forfeits 10% of her current (232.55) Masterpoint® total. Each further agreed that If they play in any ACBL sanctioned games between October 18, 2023 and when the agreement is accepted by the Appeals and Charges Committee, the agreement is voidable by the ACBL. Both 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).

3.20 Cheating and other Ethical Violations (CDR effective January 1, 2020)

**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. Prohibited from playing with each other in ACBL online games during the first year of their probations.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROBATION	1/18/2024	1/17/2026	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUSPENSION	10/18/2023	1/17/2024	3 mos Suspension

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.

Both parties - forfeiture of 10% total Masterpoints.

**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)

Wet Signature (sign above)

Date: