



Charged Party(ies)	Penelope Isermann Michael Isermann	ACBL #	1765043 1765078	Hearing Date	NR review 2/21/2023
Disciplinary Body	Appeals and Charges Committee	Hearing Location	Web conference using Zoom		
Charging Party	Paul Cuneo	ACBL#	M499891	Complainant	Jeff Edelstein ACBL# O200338

COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHO HEARD THE CHARGES

Name	ACBL #	Name	ACBL #
Tim White, Chairman	M029585		
Dennis Carman	O828450	Larry Sealy	P541643
Deana Liddy	P205082	Georgia Heth	N638399

INDIVIDUALS THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE HEARING (excluding committee members)

Name	ACBL#	Via	Capacity	Name	ACBL#	Via	Capacity
Jeff Edelstein	O200338	web conf.	Adv-Charging P			Select One	Select One
Justin Coniglio	Q809461	web conf.	Adv-Charging P			Select One	Select One
Rebecca Brown	K046334	web conf.	Observer			Select One	Select One
		Select One	Select One			Select One	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 Administrative 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. Penelope Isermann stated: "Since playing on-line ACBL sanctioned games starting during COVID, I sometimes exchanged unauthorized information about my hand with my partner. I regret and apologize not only to ACBL, but also other players/opponents who may have been affected by my actions. It was extremely poor judgement [sic] on my part, especially as a beginning player new to bridge. My intention is to insure this behavior does not happen in the future and that I will be able to return playing in future ACBL sanctioned games." Michael Isermann stated: "While playing in ACBL sanctioned games, I sometimes exchanged unauthorized information with my partner about our hands. I regret and apologize to the ACBL and to any opponents that may have been hurt by these transgressions. As a beginning player, I value my membership in and appreciate the role of the ACBL. I promise to never commit another ethical violation."

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

In the Matter of Penelope and Michael Isermann, 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, effective January 1, 2020, Cheating and Other Ethical Violations. The parties agreed to a penalty of 6 months suspension to start on February 4, 2023, followed by 2 years probation during which they are prohibited from playing with one another in online ACBL sanctioned games, and forfeiture of 25% of their current Masterpoint total. The parties further agreed that if they play in any ACBL sanctioned games between February 4, 2023 and when the Negotiated Resolution is approved by the Appeals and Charges Committee, the agreement is voidable by the ACBL. They 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	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROBATION	8/4/2023	8/3/2025	2 years; Excluded from playing with each other online during probationary period.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUSPENSION	2/4/2023	8/3/2023	6 months

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.

Forfeiture of 25% 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)

Date:

Wet Signature (sign above)