



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="A.J. Stephani, Chairman"/>	<input type="text" value="Q368694"/>	<input type="text" value="Laurie Rowe"/>	<input type="text" value="P508832"/>
<input type="text" value="Dennis Carman"/>	<input type="text" value="O828450"/>	<input type="text" value="Larry Sealy"/>	<input type="text" value="P541643"/>
<input type="text" value="Deana Liddy"/>	<input type="text" value="P205082"/>	<input type="text" value="Tim White"/>	<input type="text" value="M029585"/>
<input type="text" value="Jeff Overby"/>	<input type="text" value="O879926"/>	<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="In-House Counsel"/>	<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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<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 by the Compliance Coordinator to the committee. It included the following: Negotiated Resolutions, Membership Profiles, Charge Letter, and Recorder Complaint.

The Negotiated Resolutions included statements from each party. Mr. Owens stated, "I admit that I inadvertently created signals that were illegal. This event was created by my exclamation (coach's voice) when I mis-clicked. Although we were in separate rooms, the raucous exclamation alerted my partner and created an unfair response (my partner has 58 yrs. of experience with me)". Mrs. Owens stated, "I admit to responding to signals from my partner. We play in separate rooms, however, I could hear loud expressions to which I made questionable corrections".

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

In the matter of Chris and Susan Owens, the Committee approved a Negotiated Resolution entered into by the parties and ACBL management in which they admitted a violation of CDR § 301(A)(2): Collusive Cheating: Online. They agreed to a Suspension of 3 months, followed by a Probation of 2 years, and a forfeiture of 20% of total Masterpoints for Chris Owens and 10% of total Masterpoints for Susan Owens. They will be Members "Not in Good Standing" during the length of their Probationary period.

**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).

301(A)(2) Collusive Cheating: Online. "Online Collusive Cheating" is the exchange or transmission of information between two or more people, at least one of whom is a contestant in an online bridge competition, in any manner not expressly permitted by Law 73. The information need not be actually used by a player to prove a Violation under this section. This section includes agreements made by persons who are not partners or contestants, including, but not limited to kibitzers or teammates.

**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 type="checkbox"/> Letter of Reprimand Attached
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROBATION	10/14/2022	10/13/2024	Both parties - 2 years
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUSPENSION	07/14/2022	10/13/2022	Both parties - 3 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 20% of total Masterpoints for Chris Owens and 10% of total Masterpoints for Susan Owens.

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/ A.J. Stephani

Date: 7/8/22

Electronic Signature (type name above)

Wet Signature (sign above)