



IS THIS AN AUTOMATIC REVIEW OR APPEAL OR BOTH Automatic Review

CHECK THE APPELLANT (party who filed the appeal)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Disciplined Party	Louis Meola	ACBL #	Q704902	Disciplined Party	Barbara Meola	ACBL #	Q748012
<input type="checkbox"/>	Charging Party	Joseph Jones	ACBL #	5399696	Location of Hearing	Web-conference using Zoom		
Appellate Body		Appeals and Charges Committee				Date of Hearing	09/15/2020	
Original Disciplinary Body		Online Ethical Oversight Committee				Date of Hearing	07/28/2020	
Original Complainant		Robb Gordon	ACBL #	K652927	Effective date of the CDR consulted		August 15, 2020	

DISCIPLINE BEING APPEALED OR REVIEWED

Disciplined Party	Discipline	Beginning Date	Ending Date
Louis and Barbara Meola	Suspension	08/15/2020	11/12/2020
Louis and Barbara Meola	Probation	11/13/2020	11/12/2022

Additional comments or description regarding discipline being appealed or reviewed

Parties found responsible for 3.1 Violation of Laws of Duplicate Bridge, 3.2 Violation of ACBL Regulations, and 3.20 Cheating and Other Ethical Violations.
The Committee considered E16 and E19 as two relevant offenses from Appendix B, Chart 2: Ethics of the CDR. However, they believe the conduct more closely followed E19.

BASIS FOR APPEAL (skip this section if this is an Automatic Review)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Decision not supported by the weight of evidence.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Procedures were inconsistent with CDR which affected the substantial rights of Appellant or undermined the confidence in the integrity or fairness of the disciplinary process.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discipline inappropriate.
<input type="checkbox"/>	One or more person(s) on the hearing panel had bias (objection to such bias was raised at the hearing).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHO REVIEWED THE MATTER OR HEARD THE APPEAL

Name	ACBL #	Name	ACBL #
A.J. Stephani	Q368694	Jeff Overby	O879926
Dennis Carman	O828450	Julie Smith	J494848
Margot Hennings	N242118	Jacqueline Zayac	P386273
Paul Janicki	K545799		

ALSO PRESENT (include web-conference (WC), in person (P), telephonic (TP), etc. and include their capacity as witness, expert, etc.)

Name	ACBL #	Via	Capacity	Name	ACBL#	Via	Capacity
Linda Dunn	P197314	WC	In-House Counsel				
Robb Gordon	K652927	WC	Charging P. Adv.				

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

In the matter of Louis and Barbara Meola, the Committee conducted an Automatic Review of a discipline imposed by the Online Ethical Oversight Committee for a violation of CDR 3.1 (Violation of ACBL laws), 3.2 (Violation of ACBL regulations), and 3.20 (Cheating and other Ethical Violations). The Committee affirmed the OEOC finding that the conduct “more closely followed the discipline in E19.” Because of the parties’ lack of prior discipline and the fact that they had already been barred from Bridge Base Online for 13 months, a 90-day Suspension followed by two years of Probation was imposed. They will be Members “Not in Good Standing” during the length of their Probationary period.

The OEOC finding was affirmed by a vote of 7-0-0.

DECISION OF APPELLATE COMMITTEE

<input type="checkbox"/>	Remanded for rehearing	Disciplinary Body expected to rehear.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Decision of the original hearing committee is upheld.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Decision of the original hearing committee is amended as described below:		
	Discipline	Beginning	Ending
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reprimand	N/A	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Probation		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Suspension		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	N/A	N/A
	Please describe other decision below:		

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED (CHAIRMAN)

/s/ AJ Stephani		Date:	9/22/2020
	Electronic Signature (type name above)		