



June 27, 2024

NOTICE OF DECISION

Disciplined Party	Roman Ruegg	MP Total	321	ACBL#	1585789	District	18	Unit	391
Online Platform	BBO	IBA Case	N/A	Award Date	N/A	ACBL Case	2024-ACBL-128		

CDR Violation	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.
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Discipline Imposed	Start Date	End Date
Suspension, 3 months	7/1/2024	9/30/2024
Probation, 2 years	10/1/2024	9/30/2026
Member Not in Good Standing	7/1/2024	9/30/2026
Prohibition from playing with specific partner in ACBL online sanctioned games ¹	10/1/2024	9/30/2026
Forfeiture of 10% of total Masterpoints		

CDR 404(A) Probation. A determination that a Disciplined Person has committed an offense such that any further violation of the CDR, whether similar or different, may result in Suspension or Expulsion. A Disciplinary Body may impose a prohibition on playing with a particular partner as a condition of the Disciplined Person’s Probation.

CDR 404(B) Suspension. The Disciplined Person is ineligible to participate in any ACBL sanctioned event or activity for a specified period.

CDR 403(C) Limits on participation following discipline. While serving a Suspension or while expelled, a Disciplined Person may not participate in any online, national, District, Unit, club or other ACBL sanctioned activity, including, but not limited to (i) acting as non-playing captain, (ii) kibitzing any game or event, (iii) being physically present in the playing area of a tournament, or (iv) participating personally or through a corporation or other entity, agent, “doing business as” or other device in bridge-related affairs of the ACBL or of any ACBL affiliated organization.

However, the Disciplined Person may engage in volunteer activities as requested by their Unit or District Board while serving a suspension. Those Disciplined Persons must be “active” in that their dues are paid while volunteering.

Disciplined Persons may not be appointed to serve on either Unit or District Boards or engage in fiduciary activities while serving their suspension and all prohibitions for a Member Not in Good Standing remain in place.

¹ Partner’s identity will remain anonymous until the matter against the individual is resolved.

ACBL member not in good standing. An ACBL member shall be deemed to be in “good standing” when such member’s dues, if dues are required, are current and such member is not currently:

1. serving a term of Suspension;
2. serving an indefinite Probation;
3. serving a Probation, the initial term of which was 24 or more months; or
4. serving a term of Probation following a Suspension, the initial term of which was more than 90 days.

Players who (a) have been expelled, (b) have resigned to avoid possible disciplinary action, or (c) are ACBL members not in good standing (as defined herein) shall not be entitled to:

1. Serve in any elected or appointed position in ACBL;
2. Receive any subsidy or remuneration from ACBL;
3. Participate in Masterpoint races;
4. Receive recognition for Masterpoint rank promotion;
5. Publish an article in any ACBL publication;
6. Vote in any election in which general membership is electorate;
7. Serve as a club manager or director;
8. Participate in events where such participation is prohibited by Conditions of Contest;
9. Vote in a Hall of Fame election; and/or
10. Membership on the Goodwill Committee.

Notification to:

Disciplined Party	Roman Ruegg	ACBL Board of Directors	BOD
Disciplined Party	N/A	Advisory Council Chairman	Doug Couchman
Disciplined Party’s Advocate	N/A	American Bridge Association	ABA
Charging Party	Jeff Edelstein	Online Platform	BBO
Charging Party’s Co-Advocates	N/A	District President, Secretary, Recorder	District 18
Executive Director	Bronia Jenkins	Unit President, Secretary	Unit 391
Member Services Manager	Sherry Terraciano	WBF	WBF

District secretaries are requested to notify their member Units. Unit secretaries are requested to notify their member clubs.

It is the Disciplined Party’s responsibility to be aware of all ACBL Rules and Regulations that may affect their rights to participate in ACBL sanctioned events and activities, including whether this discipline places the Disciplined Party in a “not in good standing” status with the ACBL. If you have questions regarding these rules and regulations, please contact the Office of National Recorder at Recorder@acbl.org.