

DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS (under Revision)

1. APPLICABILITY

- 1.1 These Regulations are created by the IBF to control how disciplinary action can be instituted in accordance with Rules 16 and 17, and one or more of Law 16 and Competition Regulations 25, 28 and 30.
- 1.2 The term “respondent” in these Regulations shall refer to the player, competition official, or other person who is alleged to have committed the offence in question. If a Member Association is alleged to have committed the offence, “respondent” shall refer to the representative designated by the Member Association to represent it in the proceedings.

2. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- 2.1 Council has power to appoint a standing Disciplinary Committee to deal with disciplinary matters as they arise or to appoint a specific Disciplinary Committee to deal with a particular alleged offence.
- 2.2 A Disciplinary Committee shall comprise the Chair, who will conduct any meeting of the Committee, and two other members. All members of a Disciplinary Committee must be members of Council. Two members must be present at a meeting to form a quorum, and the Chair shall have a casting vote in the case of equality.
- 2.3 A member of a Disciplinary Committee may not be a witness or give written evidence in a particular case, and must not have been an official at an event where an alleged offence took place, or a witness to the alleged offence.

3. DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

- 3.1 It shall be permissible to consider an alleged offence using only written reports and evidence. In such cases, the Disciplinary Committee must take its decision based only on the written reports and evidence, and any submission from the respondent or the respondent’s Member Association. However, alleged offences against the dope-testing regulations must be heard at a meeting to which the respondent concerned is invited.
- 3.2 Any respondent who is alleged to have committed an offence must be informed in writing via their Member Association of the fact that a Disciplinary Committee is considering the alleged offence, and outlining the nature of the evidence available.
- 3.3 For all but hearings for offences against the dope-testing regulations, copies of any written evidence or reports shall be sent with the letter about the alleged offence. This is to allow the respondent to be aware of the evidence and to permit a written submission to be made stating any facts and circumstances from the respondent’s viewpoint, and/or the Member Association’s viewpoint.
- 3.4 When a respondent attends a Disciplinary Committee meeting, the respondent shall be entitled to be accompanied by an adviser or representative, together with an interpreter if desired, as meetings will be conducted in English, the official IBF language.
- 3.5 **Timescale and venue**
 - 3.5.1 Any disciplinary Committee meeting shall be convened as quickly as is practicable following receipt of evidence of misconduct.
 - 3.5.2 The venue for a Disciplinary Committee meeting shall be set by the IBF. The venue shall normally be held in the same continent as the respondent’s main residence, but this shall be entirely at the IBF’s discretion.
- 3.6 At a Disciplinary Committee meeting, any expenses of a respondent, any adviser or representative, and interpreter, together with the expenses of any witnesses called by the respondent must be met by the respondent or the respondent’s Member Association.

Expenses of the meeting room, administration and travel and subsistence of the committee and any persons requested to attend by the IBF shall be met by the IBF.

- 3.7 A Disciplinary Committee meeting shall be conducted without formal rules of procedure, but adhering to the following general principles:
- 3.7.1 The Chair is in charge of the meeting and any rulings from the Chair are binding.
- 3.7.2 The only people who may be present at the meeting are the Committee, a Minute Secretary, the respondent, the respondent's adviser or representative, an interpreter, a representative of the respondent's Member Association, a person introducing the evidence to substantiate the alleged offence, and a particular witness. Additional observers without the right of speaking may be present at the discretion of the Chair.
- 3.7.3 The Chair shall start the meeting by introducing those present and explaining each person's role.
- 3.7.4 A person introducing the evidence (who must not be a member of the Disciplinary Committee) shall first of all summarise the case against the respondent and shall then introduce the evidence available. In the case of written evidence, the respondent through his/her Member Association shall be sent a copy a reasonable time in advance of the meeting.
- 3.7.5 For each piece of evidence, the respondent, the respondent's adviser or representative, and the representative of the respondent's Member Association shall have the right to ask questions.
- If a witness or expert is called, questions may be asked of the witness by the respondent, the respondent's adviser or representative, and the representative of the respondent's Member Association.
- 3.7.6 After the evidence against the respondent has been presented, the respondent or the respondent's adviser or representative may introduce additional evidence or call witnesses or experts.
- 3.7.7 Any member of the Disciplinary Committee may ask questions of any witness.
- 3.7.8 After all evidence and witnesses have been heard, the respondent or the respondent's adviser or representative will be given an opportunity to summarise the respondent's point of view.
- 3.7.9 The Committee shall consider their decision with no other person present.
- 3.7.10 If the Committee decision is that the respondent is found guilty of the alleged offence then, before deciding on any penalty, the respondent or the respondent's adviser or representative shall be given the opportunity to make a statement.
- 3.7.11 With no other person present, the Committee shall consider what penalty, if any, is to be applied, and shall then announce it.
- 3.7.12 The decision (guilty or not, and any penalty applied) shall be confirmed in writing as soon as possible after the meeting to the respondent through the respondent's Member Association.
- 3.7.13 The fact that a Disciplinary Committee meeting is being held, the name of the respondent, and the proceedings themselves shall normally be kept confidential by the IBF. This shall not preclude the IBF from confirming outline details if it is evident that the media are aware of the meeting. The decision of the Committee shall be publicised at the IBF's discretion.

4. APPEALS

- 4.1 The respondent (or the respondent's Member Association) may appeal against a Disciplinary Committee decision.
- 4.2 An appeal will only be valid if:
- 4.2.1 it is made in writing within 14 days of the Disciplinary Committee decision;
- 4.2.2 it states the grounds for the appeal; and
- 4.2.3 it is accompanied by a deposit of US \$100, which will not be returned if the appeal is considered trivial or frivolous by the Appeal Committee.

- 4.3 Council shall appoint an Appeal Committee to deal with each specific appeal. The Appeal Committee shall consist of three members, none of whom must have been present in any capacity at any initial Disciplinary Committee that dealt with the particular case.
 - 4.4 The general procedure of the Appeal Committee shall follow that of a Disciplinary Committee.
 - 4.5 An Appeal Committee can reverse a finding of guilt, or can vary the penalty imposed by the original Disciplinary Committee. Variation of a penalty can be to increase or decrease any element of the penalty, as the Appeal Committee at its sole discretion sees fit.
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