

## **Scottish Bridge Union**

### **Reprehensible or Unacceptable behaviour - Suggested Sanctions**

Sanctions will be imposed by members of a Disciplinary Tribunal when allegations against a CP have been proved to the comfortable satisfaction of the members of a Disciplinary Tribunal. Every effort will be made to apply them fairly and with full consideration of any known factors that may influence the severity of application.

#### **Range of Sanctions**

The following list of sanctions are available one or more of which can be applied in any particular case:

- (i) expulsion from the SBU;
- (ii) suspension from the SBU for a specified period of time, or, in the case of a non-member, a ban on that individual becoming a member of the SBU for a specified period of time;
- (iii) a ban on partnering one or more specified individuals in all competitions for a specified period of time;
- (iv) an international ban for a specified period of time;
- (v) removal of event wins, trophies and masterpoints;
- (vi) a reprimand or censure;
- (vii) a monetary sanction in cases where an organisation or person has suffered a monetary loss as a result of the CP's actions and behaviour.

Sanctions imposed under (ii) may be suspended at the discretion of the Disciplinary Panel.

#### **Mitigating and Aggravating Factors**

Mitigating factors to be taken into consideration by members of a Disciplinary Tribunal when deciding upon a sanction include:

- acceptance of the allegations;
- expressions of remorse;
- age of the CP(s);
- information health of the CP(s) (provided by the CPs);
- limited bridge experience of the CPs.

Aggravating factors include:

- the most serious aggravating factor is evidence of pre-meditated and planned collusion;

- use of technology to confuse or conceal cheating and its detection;
- significant bridge experience of the CP;
- international experience of the CP;
- second or subsequent occurrence of allegations being found proved against the CP;
- CP holding a position of authority in bridge circles;
- CP stands to benefit from monetary gain.

**Suggested length of ban before consideration of mitigating or aggravating factors**

<b>Nature of Reprehensible or Unacceptable Behaviour</b>	<b>Suggested length of ban</b>
Verbal abuse or loss of temper at the table (excluding TD rulings agreed at the time)	6-12 month suspension
Physical abuse or extended or serious disruption at a Club or Tournament	2-3 year suspension
All activities under the banner of cheating by an individual, including self-kibitzing	1-3 year SBU suspension
Collusive cheating (with partner, teammates etc)	2-4 year individual SBU suspension

Where allegations of cheating are found to be proved then in addition an International Ban of 10 years will be applied.

Document Control	
Date of Approval/Last Review	August 2023
Date of next review	August 2025
Approved by:	L&E Committee