

As is often the case with system rollouts, some unforeseen issues and lessons learned from the initial EDGAR roll-out resulted in a need to update the CDR. Several informal meetings were held and attended by both Board Members and Management where concerns were voiced and solutions agreed upon. This process culminated in a formal May 8 Special BOD Meeting, when a number of revisions to the Code of Disciplinary Regulations (CDR) were approved.

The key changes to the CDR include:

- Discipline is now based on each player's Masterpoint® (MP) holding.
- Only Unit/District Officers (Pres., VP, Sec'y, Treasurer, District Recorder) will be subjected to "Heightened Scrutiny" (HS) and the stronger penalties that accompany it. In the Feb 2, 2024, CDR, all Unit/District BOD members were already included in HS.
- Players subject to Fast Track Discipline (FTD) will be prohibited from playing with the partner(s) they cheated with during their probation.
- Players who cheated with multiple partners will get lengthier suspensions than those who only cheated with one.
- Pairs who have previously been found responsible for a first-degree ethical violation (collusive cheating) will be given a Suspension Pending Hearing if identified by EDGAR as cheating again.

On May 8, we also voted to:

- Retroactively modify discipline for players who would have received FTD discipline but could not because of their partner's MP level—in the previous version of the CDR, players' disciplines were adjusted based on their partner's status (e.g., more Masterpoints, subject to HS) that made that partner ineligible for FTD. This was approved to be consistent with the disciplines that will be given moving forward.
- Allow players on suspension to perform volunteer work for the Unit or District. This will not allow anything prohibited for "Members Not in Good Standing," such as serving on a Board or being present during a tournament or club game. It will allow activities such as: scheduling, making flyers, reviewing and editing documents, helping off-site with hospitality planning and preparation, and helping repair of equipment. This may help keep them engaged with the bridge community, especially for those receiving short suspensions (e.g., 3-6 months) and short probations (e.g., 6-12 months).

Finally, we made the following agreements with Management/Office of the National Recorder (ONR):

- We will continue to screen from 2020-on.
- While those players/pairs identified as “Red” by EDGAR are deemed to be cheating “Beyond a Reasonable Doubt,” a “Yellow” assessment from EDGAR means they are “very likely cheating.” All “Reds” must be charged.
- “Yellow” pairs must be fully investigated by the ONR.
- “Stripe” is an indication of possible asymmetrical cheating. If one player is identified as “Red,” they must be charged. The ONR is required to investigate the partner to determine whether they were complicit. If the charge is determined to be collusive cheating, the ONR must charge the partner as well.
- Completion of the Ethics Certification and signing the Fair Play Pledge, formerly required of all who received FTD, will now be required for all those who agree to a Negotiation Resolution.