



R&A Rules Limited

Procedure for Enforcement of the Rules of Amateur Status

1. General

- 1.1 In order to deal with routine or straightforward cases regarding enforcement of the Rules of Amateur Status (the "Rules") as efficiently as possible, these shall be considered, in the first instance, by a Sub-Committee of the full Amateur Status Committee (the "Sub-Committee").
- 1.2 The Sub-Committee shall comprise the Chairman of the Amateur Status Committee, the Director of Rules and Equipment Standards and the Assistant Director – Rules and decisions shall be taken by a minimum of two of the above individuals who must reach unanimous agreement.

2. Receipt of Information and Initial Consideration by Sub-Committee

- 2.1 On receipt of information relating to a possible breach of the Rules, the Sub-Committee shall review the case within a reasonable timescale and determine whether there is sufficient information to suggest there may have been a breach of the Rules.
- 2.2 In the event that there is sufficient evidence to suggest there may have been a breach of the Rules, the Sub-Committee shall write to the person concerned (the "Player") and inform him of the information which has been passed to the Sub-Committee and ask him for further information, comments or representations within 21 days of the date of the Sub-Committee's letter or, within such other reasonable timescale as agreed between the Player and the Sub-Committee.
- 2.3 Where the information regarding a possible breach of the Rules has been provided to the Sub-Committee by the Player himself as opposed to a third party then the Sub-Committee has the discretion to come to a decision under paragraph 2.4 below without asking the Player for further information, comments and representations.
- 2.4 Upon receiving further information, comments or representations from the Player, the Sub-Committee shall, in accordance with Rules 8-1 and 8-2 of the Rules either:
 - 2.4.1 Determine that there has been a breach of the Rules and that the Player has accordingly forfeit his Amateur Status with immediate effect;
 - 2.4.2 Determine that the Player shall be entitled to retain his Amateur Status only if he refrains or desists immediately from such actions as specified by the Sub-Committee in writing; or
 - 2.4.3 Determine that there is insufficient evidence as to a breach of the Rules and no further action should be taken.

- 2.5 The Sub-Committee shall inform the Player in writing of its decision, and the reasons for it, within 42 days of receiving the Player's further information, comments or representations, or of receiving information from the Player under paragraph 2.3. The Player shall also be informed at this time that he has the right to request in writing and within 14 days of the date of the Sub-Committee's letter, that his case be considered by the full Amateur Status Committee.
- 2.6 Where requested to do so by any member of the Sub-Committee, and prior to any determination being made under paragraph 2.4 above, the Sub-Committee shall refer the matter to the full Amateur Status Committee. The Player shall be informed in writing that the full Amateur Status Committee will review his case and of a reasonable timescale for this.
- 2.7 Pending review of the case by the full Amateur Status Committee, any decision taken by the Sub-Committee shall remain in full effect.

3. **Consideration by the Full Amateur Status Committee**

- 3.1 Upon receipt of the Player's written request to have his case considered by the full Amateur Status Committee (the "Committee") under paragraph 2.5, or where consideration is to be undertaken by the Committee by operation of paragraph 2.6, the Sub-Committee shall pass all papers, including any further information, comments or representations received from the Player, to the Committee as soon as practicable.
- 3.2 The Committee shall consider these papers and the circumstances of the case and may write to the Player requesting further information, comments or representations in writing within 14 days of the date of the Committee's letter.
- 3.3 Following receipt of any further information, comments or representations from the Player, or, where the Amateur Status Committee considers that it has sufficient information to determine the matter, it may either:
- 3.3.1 Determine that there has been a breach of the Rules and that the Player has accordingly forfeit his Amateur Status with immediate effect;
 - 3.3.2 Determine that the Player shall be entitled to retain his Amateur Status only if he refrains or desists immediately from such actions as the Committee specifies in writing; or
 - 3.3.3 Determine that there is insufficient evidence as to a breach of the Rules and no further action should be taken.
- 3.4 In order to deal with cases as efficiently as possible, most cases will be considered on the papers only and the Committee will not meet in order to reach a decision. In such cases paragraph 3.5 will apply. If, however, it is considered necessary to meet in order to reach a decision on any particular case paragraph 3.5 does not apply and instead paragraphs 3.6 and 3.7 will apply to such a case.
- 3.5 Where the Committee reaches a decision without meeting, the Committee shall inform the Player in writing of its decision, and the reasons for it no later than 42 days after its receipt of the Player's letter requesting a full review of his application under paragraph 2.5 above; or where the case is passed

directly to the Committee under paragraph 2.6 above, then in whatever timescale that Committee has indicated in writing to the Player. The Player shall also be informed at this time of his right to appeal the decision of the Committee to the Appeals Committee in accordance with the R&A Rules of Appeal.

- 3.6 Where it is considered necessary to meet in order to reach a decision in relation to any particular case, cases will, where practicable, be allocated to the next available Committee meeting. The Committee usually meets only three times per year. Where a case reaches the Committee, whether referred under either paragraph 2.5 or 2.6, at least one month before the next meeting of the Committee, it will usually be practicable to hear the case at that sitting of the Committee. In other cases, in order to allow for the collection of further information and consideration of that information the case may need to be considered at the meeting following the next available meeting of the Committee.
- 3.7 Following its consideration of a case under paragraph 3.6, the Committee shall inform the Applicant in writing of its decision, and the reasons for it, no later than 42 days after the date of the meeting at which the case was considered. The Applicant shall also be informed at this stage of his right to appeal the decision of the Committee to the Appeals Committee in accordance with the R&A Rules of Appeal.
- 3.8 Pending appeal of the decision of the Committee to the Appeals Committee the Committee's decision shall remain in full effect.

4. **Grounds for Appeal**

- 4.1 An appeal of the decision of the Committee may be made by the Player to the Appeals Committee within 42 days of the date of the Committee's decision letter.
- 4.2 An appeal may be made only on one or more of the following grounds:
- 4.2.1 The Committee's decision was based on a misapplication of the Rules;
 - 4.2.2 The Committee's decision was not supported by the facts before it;
 - 4.2.3 The Committee's decision was procedurally flawed in a material way;
 - 4.2.4 The sanction imposed by the Committee was excessive.
- 4.3 Any appeal shall be carried out in accordance with the R& A Rules of Appeal.