

# Player Disciplinary Policy

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Version: July 1, 2011



## DISCIPLINE, PENALTIES, AND APPEALS

Each Epic Poker League member acknowledges the right and authority of the league to sanction its players for violations the Players' Code of Conduct, any other Epic Poker League polices or procedures and/or the law. Disciplinary action may include (i) verbal or written warnings, (ii) formal reprimand and/or probation, (iii) suspension from tournament play and/or (ii) suspension and permanent bar of a player from participation in the Epic Poker League.

### A. Advance Notification of Proposed Disciplinary Action

Except for penalties under the Epic Poker League Tournament Rules and for Minor Penalties (as hereafter defined), any player subject to disciplinary action or penalty defined as a Major Penalty shall first be notified of such proposed action in writing. Such notice may be presented to the player by a tournament or league official. Within thirty (30) days from the receipt of the notice, the player shall submit to the Standards & Conduct Committee such facts or evidence of mitigating circumstances as may apply. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of such information from the player, the Standards & Conduct Committee shall notify the player in writing of the imposition of the proposed disciplinary action or penalty, or that the proposed action has been dismissed. The Standards & Conduct Committee has the right to call a hearing regarding the disciplinary matter should it deem such a hearing necessary as part of its factual investigation. After the imposition of any penalty hereunder, the player shall have the right to appeal to the Epic Poker League's Commissioner as set forth in Section E herein.

### B. Epic Poker League's Tournament Rules

Any player in a tournament who breaches the Epic Poker League's Tournament Rules in effect for the conduct of the Epic Poker League's tournaments shall be subject to the penalties provided in such Tournament Rules, as well as any other penalties imposed by the league consistent with this policy. The decision of the Tournament Director with respect to a breach of the Tournament Rules *during* the tournament shall be final and conclusive.

### C. Conduct Unbecoming a Professional

Any player who engages in conduct detrimental to the integrity of and public confidence in the game of poker and the Epic Poker League, or otherwise acts in a manner unbecoming a professional while participating in an Epic Poker League tournament or in activities related thereto (e.g. Pro/Am events, hospitality and sponsorship events, media coverage) shall be subject to league discipline as provided in this policy depending on the seriousness of the offense. Any player that commits more than three offenses for conduct unbecoming a professional charge during a league related event or activity may, at the sole discretion of the league, be permanently prohibited from participating in league tournaments and have league membership revoked.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the league reserves the right to discipline any player for conduct detrimental to the integrity of and public confidence in the game of poker and the Epic Poker League or conduct unbecoming a professional for non-tournament violations of the law or any violation of the Players' Code and/or Epic Poker League's policies and procedures. In addition, a player may be

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subject to discipline for conduct unbecoming a professional for actions during any other non-league tournaments or other related professional activities. Any non-tournament violations by a league player may result in the player being subject to suspension and/or permanent disbarment from league tournament play or membership, depending on the seriousness of the offense.

## **D. Classes of Penalties for Epic Poker League Offenses**

### **MINOR PENALTIES**

A Minor Penalty is a verbal or written warning or suspension from tournament play for the tournament where the offense occurred. A Minor Penalty may be imposed by the Tournament Director responsible for the conduct of the tournament or by the Standard & Conduct Committee.

### **MAJOR PENALTIES**

A Major Penalty is a suspension from tournament play for one or more tournaments, and/or permanent disbarment from tournament play. A Major Penalty may be imposed by the Standards & Conduct Committee.

Violations of the Tournament Rules will not be offenses addressed by the Standards & Conduct Committee under these definitions of Minor and Major penalties unless the offense(s) involve cheating, abusive or derogatory language directed at another person or blatant and/or repeated abuse of the Tournament Rules. Nothing in this section otherwise restricts the Tournament Director from enforcing the Tournament Rules, including imposing suspensions.

## **E. Appeals**

### **MINOR PENALTIES**

Appeals from non-Tournament Minor Penalties shall be to the Standards & Conduct Committee. Such appeal may be in writing. Such appeal shall be received by the Standards & Conduct Committee no later than thirty (30) days subsequent to the infraction. The Standards & Conduct Committee shall render the decision on appeal in writing within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the appeal and submit a final report to the Commissioner. Such decision shall be final.

### **MAJOR PENALTIES**

Within thirty days from the date of notification of a Major Penalty, the player may submit a written appeal to the Standards & Conduct Committee (and a request for a hearing if the player wishes to have a hearing). Failure to file such an appeal shall be deemed conclusively to be an admission of the charges specified in the notification.

Thereafter, the Independent Standards & Conduct Committee Officer will prepare a report of the matter and the matter will be reviewed by the Standards & Conduct Committee (and a hearing scheduled if necessary) in accordance with all applicable procedures set forth herein. The Standards & Conduct Committee shall hear the appeal either at the next regularly scheduled Standards & Conduct Committee meeting or at an expedited meeting that may be held in person or via conference

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call at the discretion of the Chair of Standards & Conduct Committee. The decision of the Standards & Conduct Committee will be issued within thirty (30) days. An appeal shall operate to stay the effective date of any penalty, except suspension from a league tournament then in progress, until after a final decision on the appeal.

A player may appeal a Major Penalty decision of the Standards & Conduct Committee to the Commissioner. If a player appeals the Standards & Conduct Committee's decision, the Commissioner has the discretion of whether to schedule a hearing on the discipline matter. The Commissioner will issue a decision on the appeal within thirty (30) days. The Commissioner's decision on discipline involving a Major Penalty shall be final.

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Player Signature

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Printed Name

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Date