



ABPA DISCIPLINING OF MEMBERS POLICY

If a member refuses or neglects to comply with any of the provisions of the Constitution or policies published by the Committee from time to time or be, in the opinion of the Committee, guilty of any conduct prejudicial to the interests of the Club or be, in the opinion of the Committee, guilty of any conduct which is unbecoming of a member or which shall render the member unfit for membership, the Committee shall have power to reprimand, suspend from all privileges of membership for such period as it considers fit, expel or accept the resignation of such member and to remove the person's name from the Register of members, provided that:

1. Such member shall be notified of any charge against the member pursuant to this Policy by notice to his or her email address at least 14 clear days before the meeting of the Committee at which charge is to be heard. The notice shall set out the facts, matters and circumstances giving rise to the charge.
2. The member charged shall be entitled to attend the hearing for the purpose of answering the charge or may answer the charge in writing, and is entitled to call witnesses in his or her defence.
3. If any notice of charge against a member is issued as a result of a complaint by a Committee member (other than a complaint by another member who is not a Committee member but which Committee member is passing on for the information of the Committee), or if any Committee member is a party to the complaint, that Committee member or those Committee members shall not be entitled to hear or vote upon the matter.
4. The voting by the members of the Committee present at such meeting shall be by secret ballot if requested by any member of the Committee, and no resolution by the Committee to reprimand, suspend or expel a member shall be deemed to be passed unless a two-thirds majority of the members of the Committee present, vote in favour of such resolution.
5. If the member fails to attend such meeting, the charge may be heard and dealt with and the Committee may decide on the evidence before it, the member's absence notwithstanding, but having regard to any representations made to it in writing by the member charged.
6. After the Committee has considered all evidence put against the member it shall come to a decision as to the member's guilt or innocence in relation to the charge. Once it has decided the issue of guilt or innocence, the Committee shall inform the member prior to considering any penalty.

7. The member charged shall be given a further opportunity to address the Committee in relation to the penalty appropriate to the charge of which the member has been found guilty.
8. Any decision by the Committee at such hearing or any adjournment thereof shall be final and the Committee shall not be required to assign any reason for its decision.
9. In the event that the notice of charge is issued to a member pursuant to paragraph 1, the Committee shall have power to immediately suspend that member from all privileges of the Club until the charge is heard and determined. Notice of an immediate suspension imposed by the Committee on a member shall be notified in writing to that member.