



International Federation of Sleddog Sports
DISCIPLINARY CODE AND PROCEDURES

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 1.1 Purpose
 - 1.1.1 The purpose of the IFSS Disciplinary Code is to provide an avenue of discipline, due process and sanctioning for offenses harmful to the sport or IFSS and beyond the scope or purview of the IFSS Race Rules or IFSS By Laws or other IFSS regulations.
- 1.2 Definitions
 - ActA deed or something that is done. Wherever this code or other regulations mention the word act, it also includes the omission to act, unless otherwise expressly provided or evident from the context.
 - AppealA process for requesting a formal change to an official decision
 - AssociationIFSS or its Members and their affiliates
 - CaseA situation or dispute requiring investigation or action by the disciplinary code.
 - CensureA formal condemnation or denouncement, a formal statement of disapproval
 - Disciplinary Action/Act.....Penalty or punishment or other method used to control the behavior of another
 - Disciplinary BodyThe body within the IFSS Disciplinary Code that adjudicates or decides cases brought before it.
 - Disciplinary Measure.....Penalty or punishment or other method used to control the behavior of another
 - Disciplinary ProcedureThe process of deciding or imposing any disciplinary measure
 - Discipline.....Punishment or a form of control gained by enforcing obedience or order
 - DisqualificationDeprivation of something or making ineligible
 - Ethical OffenseAn offense that violates what is judged to be morally wrong
 - IFSS RelationsIFSS Members and Members’ affiliates
 - Offender.....A person who has committed a violation
 - OffenseA violation of a regulation or rule
 - PenaltySuffering of rights or other punishment pronounced by a judicial decision as a result of a violation
 - Probation/Probationary Period.....Period of testing to ascertain fitness of someone subjected to disciplinary measures.
 - SanctionPunishment or penalty
 - Sentence.....A disciplinary measure
 - SuspensionTemporary withholding of privileges or function

2. APPLICABILITY/JURISDICTION

- 2.1 The discipline procedures herein apply to all offenses, unless otherwise provided, brought before this body.
- 2.2 This code applies to offenses harmful to the sport and IFSS that are committed in the course of competition or on other occasions but for which competition rules or the IFSS By-Laws or other IFSS regulations are insufficient in their application of penalties.
- 2.3 This code applies to offenses which have been committed outside the immediate jurisdiction of the IFSS by an individual or a group of individuals and which have been previously prosecuted in a criminal court and the offender(s) found guilty.
- 2.4 This code applies to offenses committed to the detriment of the sport or IFSS by officers of IFSS or IFSS officials, elected or appointed, or any individuals entrusted with IFSS responsibility.
- 2.5 This code applies to harmful speech, written or oral, only when proven to be obviously defamatory to IFSS or the sport.

- 2.6 This code applies to unethical behavior when, while not necessarily illegal, it is judged to be harmful to IFSS or the sport.
- 2.7 When an offense is committed by an individual, this code is also applicable when reported by the organization where said individual was a member at the time of the act.
- 2.8 This code is applicable to acts committed:
 - 2.8.1 during IFSS events or in IFSS relations,
 - 2.8.2 during Member Associations' events or in Member Associations' relations when the association in question reports the act to the IFSS,
 - 2.8.3 during other sports events or sports relations when reported by the organization in question.
- 2.9 This code applies to all organizations, their sub-organizations and individual members associated to the IFSS. It also applies to all individuals competing in events given by IFSS or its associated organizations, regardless of formal membership.

3. **DISCIPLINARY BODIES**

- 3.1 General Provisions
 - 3.1.1 Any case brought before an IFSS Disciplinary Body must be in writing and specifically state the offense, the circumstances surrounding the offense, list of witnesses, testimony, and other relevant facts.
 - 3.1.2 In matters that come before it, the applicable Disciplinary Body must act upon and arrive at a decision within two months from reception of a case or upon deciding to hear a case. All decisions shall be made in writing and submitted to the IFSS Executive and the persons directly involved in the case.
 - 3.1.3 Upon receiving a case or deciding to hear a case, the applicable Disciplinary Body shall set within one week deadline dates for submission of testimony and evidence and send in writing notice of the hearing and deadline dates to all directly concerned with the case. The deadline dates shall be at least three weeks after the notification is sent to all concerned parties. The written notice shall also contain the specific charges and copies of all relevant evidence, list of witnesses, complaints, decisions and testimony.
 - 3.1.4 A Disciplinary Body may decide not to hear a case brought before it or decide to proceed with a hearing. If the Disciplinary Body decides not to hear a case, any decision of a lower body, if applicable, shall stand.
- 3.2 Disciplinary Committee: The first level of the Disciplinary Procedure is the Disciplinary Committee. It consists of the Chairperson and at least two Members. The IFSS President shall be the Chairperson and shall designate the other members of the Committee. In the question of guilt, the Disciplinary Committee's decisions must be unanimous.
 - 3.2.1 If the President is absent, unwilling or unable to preside, then the Chairperson shall be the first of the following present:
 - 3.2.1.1 The Vice President for Sport,
 - 3.2.1.2 The Vice President for Development,
 - 3.2.1.3 The Vice President for Institutional Relations and Special Affairs.
 - 3.2.2 The Disciplinary Committee shall be a body of original jurisdiction, capable of originating cases as well as hearing cases brought before it by others. It is not an appellate or appeals body.
- 3.3 Appeal
 - 3.3.1 Appeal Council: The first appeal level is the Appeal Council, made up of the IFSS Council.
 - 3.3.1.1 The Appeal Council shall act only as an appeals body, hearing only those cases appealed to it from the Disciplinary Committee.
 - 3.3.1.2 The Appeal Council's decisions must be made by a three-fourths (75%) majority.
 - 3.3.2 Appeal Assembly: The highest IFSS appeal body is the IFSS Assembly, composed of the IFSS General Assembly.
 - 3.3.2.1 The Appeal Assembly shall act only as an appeals body, hearing only those cases appealed to it from the Appeal Council.
 - 3.3.2.2 In the question of guilt, its decisions must be made with a two-thirds (2/3) majority.
 - 3.3.3 Court of Arbitration for Sport: The final appeal body is the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

4. **DISCIPLINARY BODIES: Recusal**

- 4.1 A person involved in a disciplinary case, or who has a close personal relationship with a person involved in a disciplinary case, cannot take part and must recuse him/herself in the deliberations or decisions in the Disciplinary Body as mentioned, except as a witness. If this is the case for the Disciplinary Committee, the Chairperson shall appoint a substitute. If this is the case for the Chairperson, he/she will be replaced as per §3.2.1 above.

- 4.1.1 A person with a close personal relationship to a person involved in a disciplinary case shall include a business partner, a spouse, a partner, children, parent or sibling.
- 4.2 A national member organization involved cannot take part in the decisions of the Appeal Assembly.
- 4.3 The Body in question can also decide, for just cause, that one of its members may not take part in its deliberations and/or decisions.

5. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

- 5.1 Ordinary disciplinary measures are:
 - 5.1.1 Warning;
 - 5.1.2 Fines to a maximum of US\$2,000 (Two thousand US Dollars);
 - 5.1.3 Censure;
 - 5.1.4 Deprivation of the right to keep offices;
 - 5.1.5 Deprivation of the right to compete;
 - 5.1.6 Deprivation of the right to maintain membership;
 - 5.1.7 Deprivation of the right to perform tasks on behalf of the IFSS;
 - 5.1.8 Deprivation of the right to vote;
- 5.2 A person may be subject to loss of rights in addition to, or instead of, other disciplinary measures.
- 5.3 Deprivation of rights may be imposed for a limited time or forever.
- 5.4 A deprivation of rights becomes effective on the day the sentence becomes final. Before a sentence becomes final, the Disciplinary Body in question can decide on a suspension of rights.

6. CONDITIONS DETERMINING DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- 6.1 The disciplinary provisions of this code apply only to acts committed intentionally or by negligence.
- 6.2 Attempt to Offend
 - 6.2.1 An attempt to commit an offence is subject to disciplinary action. An attempt is an act purposively directed at, but falling short of, completion of the offence.
 - 6.2.2 The attempt is subject to milder punishment than the completed offense. The disciplinary measure may be reduced to less than the minimum provided for such an offence or to a milder type of discipline.
- 6.3 Complicity
 - 6.3.1 Complicity is subject to disciplinary measures under the same provisions as the act itself.
- 6.4 Grounds for Mitigating or Aggravating Disciplinary Measures
 - 6.4.1 Upon conviction of an offense, the disciplinary body involved may provide in its judgment that the execution of the disciplinary action shall be suspended, unless the concern for general law-abidance or for restraining the guilty party from further offenses requires execution of the disciplinary measures, or unless the guilty party has violated the anti-doping regulations.
 - 6.4.2 The Disciplinary Body may impose conditions for the suspension.
 - 6.4.3 The Disciplinary Body may also defer pronouncing sentence, if this is deemed to serve the purpose best.
 - 6.4.4 If the guilty party has previously been subject to disciplinary action in the course of five years preceding the offense, the Disciplinary Body concerned may decide upon suspension only under special circumstances.
 - 6.4.5 When the Disciplinary Body decides upon suspension, it shall, in the judgment, stipulate a probation period.
 - 6.4.6 If the guilty party commits an offense during the probation period and action is started within six months after the expiration of the probation period, the Disciplinary Body may:
 - 6.4.6.1 Specify a combined unconditional disciplinary action for both offences,
 - 6.4.6.2 Pronounce a separate unconditional disciplinary action for the new act.
 - 6.4.7 If the guilty party fails to fulfil the conditions provided for suspension, the Disciplinary Body may, during the probation period, decide that further disciplinary action shall be executed.
 - 6.4.8 When a suspended disciplinary action is served on the guilty party, the meaning of a suspended disciplinary action and the consequences of not complying with the conditions shall be explained to the guilty party.
- 6.5 Appeal
 - 6.5.1 A person guilty of an offense on whom a disciplinary action had been pronounced may appeal all decisions concerning his/her case to a higher Disciplinary Body. The Disciplinary Body in question decides whether it should take the appeal into consideration or not.
 - 6.5.2 An appeal must be submitted within four weeks after the announcement of the decision of the lower Disciplinary Body, unless new evidence is presented.

7. OFFENSES

- 7.1 General Conditions of Offenses
 - 7.1.1 Disciplinary measures according to this code may be imposed to individual competitors violating regulations in a manner considered detrimental to the sport or to the IFSS.
 - 7.1.2 Disciplinary measures according to this code may also be imposed to individuals who, in their capacity as officials or officers, violate regulations in a grave manner or otherwise show conduct detrimental to the sport or to the IFSS, and when they are subject to criminal prosecution for acts committed in their capacity as officials or officers.
 - 7.1.3 Disciplinary measures according to this code may further be imposed to organizations violating regulations in a grave manner or in a way considered detrimental to the sport or to the IFSS, or prove themselves unable to conduct events in a proper manner.
- 7.2 Special Offenses
 - 7.2.1 Doping: The disciplinary measures for doping shall be in accordance with the WADA Code.
- 7.3 Violation of Race Rules
 - 7.3.1 The Race Marshal, the Appeals Jury Chairperson, the race-giving organization, or any race official may report to the IFSS Disciplinary Committee instances of grave rules violations during a race.
 - 7.3.2 Reports from others than the above-mentioned may also be taken into consideration by the IFSS Disciplinary Body.
 - 7.3.3 Disciplinary measures according to this section may be imposed if the general provisions in this chapter may be considered violated, and if the offence is so grave that it should imply consequences for the competitor beyond the race. It is immaterial whether the offense is performed before, during or after a race.
- 7.4 Violation of the Regulations
 - 7.4.1 The Council or the President may report to the IFSS Disciplinary Committee instances of grave regulation violations or conduct detrimental to the sport or to the IFSS by IFSS officials or officers.
 - 7.4.2 Reports from others than the above-mentioned may also be taken into consideration by the IFSS Disciplinary Bodies.