

Change to Rule 14.

Proposed Jim Gibson

Seconded John Quilligan

Current Rule:

14. Should a member conduct him/herself in such a way, which in the opinion of the Executive Committee may bring the Club into disrepute, if they think fit, remove such member from membership without any obligation to refund his/her subscription. The member in question shall be permitted to attend before a meeting of the Executive Committee and shall be heard on the matter of the complaint or complaints made against him/her. He/she may also elect to make the statement in writing, dealing with the complaint made against him/her, to the Honorary Secretary of the Club, who shall bring the matter to the notice of the Executive Committee meeting, prior to a decision on the removal from membership of the member, being made.

Propose Change to:

14.
 - a. The Executive Committee shall have power to establish a committee [for the purposes of this rule called " the Disciplinary Committee] to enquire into the actions or conduct of any member or supporter who acts contrary to the rules, policies, regulations or bye-laws of the Club or whose conduct or actions is in the opinion of the Executive Committee detrimental to or likely to be detrimental to the interests of the Club, or which brings or is likely to bring or cause injury or discredit to the reputation or character of the Club, or endangers the welfare and good order of the Club, its members or property. Any one or more of which said matters are herein termed "a breach of discipline".
 - b. All complaints relating to alleged breaches of discipline shall be made in writing, in reasonable proximity to the date of the matter giving rise to the complaint, to the Chairperson or Honorary Secretary, who shall refer the matter to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.
 - c. On being advised of a complaint of an alleged breach of discipline and being of opinion that the matter is of a sufficiently serious nature, the Officers or the Executive Committee, acting with reasonable haste, shall appoint the Disciplinary Committee to deal with and adjudicate upon the complaint. The Disciplinary Committee shall be comprised of a minimum of 3 people persons who are Ordinary, Honorary Life or life members but none of whom is a member of the Executive Committee.
 - d. A written notice of a date, time and place of the meeting of the Disciplinary Committee at which such matters are to be considered and the nature of the complaint[s] shall be given to

- the member concerned at least 5 days prior to the meeting. The member shall also be entitled to receive copies of any relevant written documentation relating to the complaint[s].
- e. The member shall be entitled to appear and/or be represented at such meeting and shall be afforded the opportunity to question the person/s making the allegation and to give and adduce evidence and make submissions. The disciplinary Committee shall be entitled to have advisors in attendance at any meeting and take advice.
 - f. The quorum for a meeting of the Disciplinary Committee shall be three [3]. Voting shall be by secret ballot, and the elected chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee shall not have a casting vote. A majority of those present and voting shall be required to find a member in breach of discipline. The Disciplinary Committee shall have power to caution, sanction, discipline or fine such member in such manner as it considers appropriate, or to suspend the member's membership for such period as it considers appropriate, or to expel the member from membership of the club or of any committee thereof.
 - g. During a period of a member's full suspension imposed by the Disciplinary Committee, a member shall be denied all rights and privileges of membership and shall not be entitled to enter the clubhouse or use the Club facilities. The member shall not be entitled to a refund of the whole or any part of the Annual Subscription for the year in which a suspension or expulsion occurs and any subscription falling due within the period of suspension shall remain due and payable.
 - h. A member desiring to appeal against the decision of the Disciplinary Committee may, within 7 days of being notified of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee, request the Executive Committee in writing to convene a special meeting of the Executive Committee to consider the appeal, which may be against the finding of the Disciplinary Committee and/or against the sanction imposed. In the event of an appeal being lodged, the Executive committee shall, as soon as is reasonably convenient, convene a special meeting of the Executive Committee to consider the appeal. The member shall be entitled to present his or her case and/or be represented at the special meeting of the Executive Committee and shall be afforded the opportunity to respond to the allegations and the findings and determination of the Disciplinary Committee prior to any vote being taken by the Executive Committee. A majority of two-thirds or more of those present and voting at the meeting of the Executive Committee shall be required to rescind or amend the decision of the Disciplinary Committee. If there is no such majority, then the decision of the Disciplinary Committee shall stand and the member shall not have any further right to appeal the matter. The decision of the Executive Committee shall be final.
 - j. In the event that a finding by the Disciplinary Committee of a breach of discipline is upheld or in the event of an appeal against severity of sanction only, the members of the Executive Committee shall, inter alia, have power to reduce or increase the sanction. A majority of two-thirds of those present and voting at the Executive Committee shall be required to reduce or increase the sanction as the case may be.
 - k. Pending the holding of such special meeting of the Executive Committee, the sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Committee shall not take effect.