

# UNIT 141 ZERO-TOLERANCE POLICY



## General Statement

The Unit 141 Zero Tolerance Policy aims to establish an atmosphere of courteous behavior and foster a pleasant environment throughout the tournament venue for the players, volunteers, and staff. To promote these goals, Unit 141 asks all players to maintain a collegial atmosphere. Avoid unacceptable behavior, but immediately report serious breaches by calling the director.

## Official Policy

Bad behavior is not tolerated at the table or anywhere at the tournament venue. Examples include:

- \* *Badgering, rudeness, intimidation, profanity, threats or violence toward anyone associated with the tournament*
- \* *Negative comments regarding opponents' or partners' play or bidding*
- \* *Unwelcome and constant lessons or analyses*
- \* *Loud and disruptive arguing with a director's ruling*

If a player behaves in an unacceptable manner, the director should be called immediately. In accordance with the Laws of Bridge, our directors are instructed to enforce Zero Tolerance penalties as follows:

1. At the start of each event, the director will announce that Zero Tolerance is strictly enforced. The director must be called whenever bad behavior occurs.
2. When called, the director shall determine if unacceptable behavior has occurred or continues. If the director is satisfied unacceptable behavior has occurred, each offender will be assessed an immediate disciplinary penalty of  $\frac{1}{4}$  board (3 IMPs in a team game). Any one or all four players at the table may be penalized for unacceptable behavior, regardless of who initiated the incident, and that if both members of a partnership are offenders their penalty may be doubled ( $\frac{1}{2}$  board or 6 IMPs).
3. As a matter of Unit policy, the issuance of warnings is discouraged. Warnings may be issued by the director only where the facts cannot reasonably be determined. It is far better to make a clear determination in response to the

director call. In the event a warning is issued to a player, the director will provide the party who made the director call with a Player Memo form and advise such party of the procedure for reporting the behavior.

4. If a player is assessed a second disciplinary penalty in the same event, he/she will be ejected from competition in future sessions of that event, if any. In addition, a disciplinary committee may be convened to determine whether the offender should be allowed to play in subsequent events at the tournament and/or whether additional sanctions are appropriate in accordance with ACBL disciplinary rules. An offender so ejected from an event shall be deemed not to have played the event: no master points may be awarded and no refunds will be made.
5. The director in charge of the tournament shall provide to the Tournament Chairman and the Unit Recorder a summary report of (a) all disciplinary penalties assessed for unacceptable behavior, and (b) all Player Memos handed out to persons who made director calls in regard to alleged unacceptable behavior.
6. Directors' decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

