

# ISSF Disciplinary Regulations

## PREAMBLE

In accordance with Article 7.3.1.5 ISSF Constitution, the ISSF Council enacts the following Disciplinary Regulations.

Unless otherwise specifically stated in these Disciplinary Regulations, defined terms shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the ISSF Constitution.

## TITLE I – GENERAL PROVISIONS

### 1. OBJECTIVES

These ISSF Disciplinary Regulations (hereinafter the “ISSF DR”) shall ensure the achievement of the ISSF objectives in accordance with the ISSF Constitution.

### 2. GENERAL SCOPE OF APPLICATION

The ISSF DR govern all disciplinary proceedings based on violations of the ISSF Rules and Regulations (i.e. the ISSF Constitution, General Regulations, Guidelines, Policies, Procedures or any other regulations approved by the General Assembly, Council or Executive Committee).

Specific provisions within the ISSF Rules and Regulations governing ISSF’s proceedings and decisions in disciplinary-related matters, in particular Articles 3.14 and 3.15 ISSF Constitution, the ISSF Code of Ethics, the ISSF Anti-Doping Rules and the ISSF Policy and Procedures Safeguarding Against Harassment and Abuse shall prevail, if applicable.<sup>1</sup>

The ISSF Code of Ethics, however, shall not be applicable to the following specific disciplinary infringements falling into the scope of these ISSF DR: Articles 5.2.4, 5.2.6 ISSF DR and the offences relating to results manipulation, betting and misuse of inside information (Articles 5.2.7 et seq. ISSF DR).

In the absence of a specific provision in the ISSF DR or in other provisions of the ISSF Rules and Regulations, the Disciplinary Commission shall rule according to the general principles set out in the ISSF DR and according to the general principles of justice, fairness and equality.

The ISSF may abstain from opening proceedings for cases with effect at national level only.

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<sup>1</sup> The ISSF Rules and Regulations (in particular the provisions mentioned) can be found under: <https://www.issf-sports.org/theissf.ashx>

### **3. PERSONS AND ENTITIES COVERED**

The ISSF DR apply to all officials and employees of the ISSF, the ISSF Member Federations (full and associated members) and its officials, the Continental Shooting Sport Confederations and its officials, the Organizing Committees and its members as well as to athletes, coaches, judges, referees and anyone elected or assigned by the ISSF to exercise a function, in particular with regard to ISSF events.

### **4. TEMPORAL SCOPE**

The ISSF DR apply to all disciplinary offences subject to Article 2 committed following the date on which the ISSF DR come into force.

The ISSF DR also apply to all disciplinary offences subject to Article 2 committed prior to the date on which the ISSF DR come into force, subject to any milder sanction that would apply under the applicable previous rules.

Disciplinary proceedings instigated against someone who was under ISSF's jurisdiction as per Article 3 on the day the alleged disciplinary offence was committed shall not be abandoned by the ISSF solely because the person involved is no longer under ISSF's jurisdiction.

## **TITLE II – DISCIPLINARY OFFENCES, SANCTIONS, LIMITATION PERIODS**

### **5. DISCIPLINARY OFFENCES**

#### **5.1. General**

Any infringement of the ISSF Rules and Regulations, Policies and/or Procedures, as well as of the principles of integrity and sports fairness is liable to sanctions provided for by the ISSF DR. Article 2 para 2 remains unaffected.

#### **5.2. Specific Infringements**

##### *Regulatory offences*

- 5.2.1. Not abiding by ISSF decisions and directives,
- 5.2.2. Seriously violating the verbal or written instructions and directives given by the ISSF officials,

##### *General behavioural offences*

- 5.2.3. Asserting or disseminating a fact about the ISSF which is suitable for degrading the ISSF or negatively affecting public opinion about the ISSF, unless this fact can be proved to be true,

5.2.4. Disclosing internal ISSF documents or any other confidential information to the general public without being authorised to do so on basis of the ISSF Constitution or without being authorised to do so in writing by the Executive Committee, the President or the Secretary General,

5.2.5. Demonstrating anti-sport/anti-fair-play behaviour

5.2.6. Using the ISSF, its name, its funds or its infrastructure for personal gain or for other aims harmful or detrimental to shooting sport,

5.2.7. Not complying with the ISSF Rules and Regulations regarding the security measures for the use of the shooting equipment.

*Offences related to harassment and abuse*

5.2.8. Harassing and/or abusing any person or a group of persons, in any way, in particular due to their race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, disability, physical attributes or athletic abilities or other status,

*Offences related to results manipulation, betting and misuse of inside information*

5.2.9. Acting in such a way so as to manipulate equipment testing, ammunition testing, scoring decisions or competition results, illegally access to systems and data or to influence the course or the result of the shooting competitions in any other improper way,

5.2.10. Showing biased judging at competitions,

5.2.11. Providing, requesting, receiving, seeking, or accepting a benefit related to the manipulation of a competition.

5.2.12. Using inside information for the purposes of betting or any form of manipulation of competitions.

*Offences related to the protection of the environment*

5.2.13. Breaching the environment protection rules and regulations

## **6. LIABILITY OF MEMBER FEDERATIONS AND OTHER LEGAL ENTITIES, OFFICIALS AND ORGANISERS OF EVENTS**

The Member Federations are liable for the behaviour of their members, athletes, judges, and officials as well as for any other person assigned by them to officiate during a competition.

They are also liable for the implementation of any sanction of the Disciplinary Commission imposed against those persons. Any failure of a Member Federation to implement any sanction of the Disciplinary Commission may lead to a disciplinary action against the Member Federation concerned.

## **7. SANCTIONS**

**7.1. The following sanctions may be imposed on legal entities for disciplinary offences:**

- 7.1.1. Warning,
- 7.1.2. Reprimand,
- 7.1.3. Fine,
- 7.1.4. Withholding financial benefits,
- 7.1.5. Disqualification from a competition in progress and/or exclusion from future competition(s),
- 7.1.6. Prohibition to organize ISSF events,
- 7.1.7. Reimbursement of expenses and/or damages incurred by ISSF as a direct result of the violation,
- 7.1.8. Suspension,
- 7.1.9. Exclusion, and
- 7.1.10. A combination of the above sanctions.

Regarding Member Federations, the proceedings for suspension and/or exclusion is specifically provided for in the ISSF Constitution, see Article 2 above.

**7.2. The following sanctions may be imposed on natural persons for disciplinary offences:**

- 7.2.1. Warning,
- 7.2.2. Reprimand,
- 7.2.3. Fine,
- 7.2.4. Withdrawal of a title or award,
- 7.2.5. Withdrawal of a coaches or judges license or registration,
- 7.2.6. Withholding financial benefits,
- 7.2.7. Disqualification from a competition in progress and/or exclusion from future competition(s),
- 7.2.8. Suspension from carrying out a function for a specified number of competitions or for a specified period of time,
- 7.2.9. Reimbursement of expenses and/or damages incurred by ISSF as a direct result of the violation,
- 7.2.10. Suspension or removal from office,
- 7.2.11. Prohibition on participating in any or all ISSF and ISSF-related activities,
- 7.2.12. A combination of the above sanctions.

**8. JOINT OFFENDERS AND PARTICIPATION**

If several persons commit an offence jointly, each person incurs a disciplinary sanction as an offender.

Whoever intentionally induces another to intentionally commit a disciplinary offence incurs the same sanction as an offender.

Whoever intentionally assists another in the intentional commission of disciplinary offence, incurs a penalty as an aider.

## **9. LIMITATION PERIODS**

Any disciplinary proceedings under the ISSF DR shall be instituted within three years starting with the end of the year in which the disciplinary offence has been committed.

## **TITLE III – PROCEDURAL RULES**

### **10. DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION**

The ISSF Executive Committee is competent to decide with binding effect whether certain conduct falls under the scope of these ISSF DR.

The members of the Disciplinary Commission shall be appointed as ad-hoc-Commission for each individual case by the ISSF Executive Committee in accordance with Article 8.2.15 ISSF Constitution.

The Disciplinary Commission shall be composed of five members including its Chair and shall be appointed by the ISSF Executive Committee as follows:

- One of the ISSF Vice-Presidents as Chairman,
- One Executive Committee member from those elected by the General Assembly,
- One member of the Statutes and Eligibility Committee,
- One member of the respective ISSF Committee most closely related to the disciplinary case at hand,
- One representative of the Continental Confederation most closely related to the disciplinary case at hand.

If the examined conduct refers to the Continental Confederation, the Disciplinary Commission must be chaired by the ISSF President or Secretary General and the member coming from the Continental Confederation most closely related to the disciplinary case must be replaced by one of the ISSF Vice-Presidents.

Both genders shall be represented in the ISSF Disciplinary Commission by at least two members.

The Disciplinary Commission shall rule on the case submitted to it under the ISSF DR. It can conduct further investigations if needed or rely on the information provided.

The Chairman shall be in particular in charge of

- establishing the date and the agenda of the meetings,
- following-up the proceedings, e.g. summoning the parties and their representatives (Sec 11), if any, to the hearings,
- ensuring that the parties are allowed a reasonable period of time to study the exhibits and documents available and that they are allowed a reasonable opportunity to plead their case in writing or during a hearing.

The members of a Disciplinary Commission shall not have the same nationality as any of the parties to the case.

The members of the Disciplinary Commission must decline to participate in any decision whenever there are grounds for questioning their impartiality or if there is a conflict of interest. If the defendant files a challenge for bias with reasons, the member(s) of the Disciplinary Commission concerned shall decide whether to resign from the case or not. If the member(s) concerned decide(s) not to resign, the defendant may ask the remaining members of the Disciplinary Commission to decide upon the challenge.

## **11. OPENING OF PROCEEDINGS**

Any complaints or charges relating to a disciplinary offence under the ISSF DR shall be addressed in writing to [disciplinary@issf-sports.org](mailto:disciplinary@issf-sports.org).

Disciplinary proceedings may be opened by the ISSF Executive Committee either based on the findings of an investigation of a complaint received or upon request of the ISSF President and/or the ISSF Secretary General. Article 10 para. 1 remains unaffected.

## **12. PARTIES AND REPRESENTATION**

The parties to the disciplinary procedures are as follows:

- The party suspected to have infringed the ISSF DR (defendant).
- The party summoned.
- The party intervening.

Minors under 18-years old have to be represented by their legal guardian.

A person or a Member Federation may be summoned if the disciplinary complaint is to have direct consequences for the said person or Member Federation.

A person or Member Federation may intervene provided that the said person or Member Federation states in writing that it wants to be part of the procedure as long as it establishes that a disciplinary sanction taken against the person suspected to have breached the ISSF DR shall have a direct consequence on it.

The Disciplinary Commission shall start by hearing the parties to the procedure and rule on whether to admit or not an intervening or summoned party.

The parties shall collaborate to establish the facts and accommodate with request for information from the Disciplinary Commission.

At the request of the Disciplinary Commission, parties subject to ISSF DR shall help to establish and clarify the facts of a case and shall provide any evidence requested.

## **13. NOTIFICATIONS**

Notifications and communications to a party who is affiliated to a Member Federation (official, athlete, coach, judge, referee, etc.) shall be sent through the party's Member

Federation. The Member Federation shall be responsible for delivering the notice to the party at its own cost and for proving the receipt by the party to the Disciplinary Commission. Whenever the Disciplinary Commission is fully aware of the personal address of the party, a copy should be sent to this address.

Notifications and communications shall be sent by email.

Should a party be represented, written notifications shall be delivered exclusively to the representative's address upon submission of a proxy duly signed by the party represented with copy to the party's Member Federation.

#### **14. TIME LIMITS**

In accordance with any applicable rule, the parties shall be allowed a reasonable time to enable them to deal fairly with the matters raised in the statements and documents provided.

Time limits set out in the ISSF Rules and Regulations and by the respective Disciplinary Commission shall begin as of the day following the notification date. Bank holidays and non-business days are included in the calculation of time limits. If the last day of the time limit is a bank holiday or a non-business day in the country where the notification has been made, the time limit shall expire at the end of the next subsequent business day. Evidence that the time limit has been abided by is to be submitted by the party due to fulfil it.

Time limits are suspended from December 23 to January 5 inclusive, except for the time limits set out for an appeal to the CAS.

Time limits set out in the ISSF Rules and Regulations may not be extended. The only time limits which might be extended by the Disciplinary Commission, subject to a written and grounded request, are those time limits set out by the Disciplinary Commission concerned.

#### **15. LANGUAGE**

The parties shall use the English language only. If one of the parties intends to use another language than English at a hearing, it shall be responsible for using, at its own costs, the services of a qualified interpreter to be approved by the Disciplinary Commission. All documents submitted and correspondence sent by and between the parties must be in English.

#### **16. CONFIDENTIALITY AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

ISSF shall not disclose information entrusted to them in confidence. Any disclosure of information shall not be for personal gain or benefit, nor be undertaken maliciously to damage the reputation of any person or organisation.

Proceedings before the Disciplinary Commission shall not be made public. The identity of the athlete or any other person or entity sanctioned may be publicly disclosed only after notification of the disciplinary decision has been provided to the parties concerned.

## **17. EVIDENCE AND STANDARD OF PROOF**

Disciplinary offences may be established by various types of evidence such as written statements, audio or video recording, confession, or others.

Hearings and questioning of witnesses may only be conducted by the Disciplinary Commission. Apart from the proof provided by the parties, the Disciplinary Commission may order the submission of any other exhibit they consider useful for the resolution of the case. They may request the parties to provide additional evidence including expert testimony or opinions by setting deadlines for additional submissions or scheduling additional hearings. Additional cross-examination of witnesses may be instructed.

The Disciplinary Commission shall have the burden of establishing that a disciplinary offence has occurred. The standard of proof in all matters under the ISSF DR shall be the comfortable satisfaction.

## **18. RIGHT TO BE HEARD**

The parties have the right to be heard (in writing or orally). In addition, the Disciplinary Commission shall allow them to express their opinion on the whole of the proceedings, respectively on the charges against them and on the intended sanctions before the Disciplinary Commission issues its decision.

## **19. HEARINGS**

A hearing shall be organised upon written request of a party to the proceedings or at the sole request of the Disciplinary Commission. The Chairman of the Disciplinary Commission shall determine the date and place of the hearing and shall summon the Parties, the witnesses, and/or independent experts to appear.

The charged party must take part in the hearing and may not be represented by proxy unless it has strong evidence of physical or technical impossibility to take part in the hearing.

Hearings can be held in person or by electronic means (conference call or video conference).

Hearings of the Disciplinary Commission shall not be public.

Should a party fail to attend a hearing following due notification, the Disciplinary Commission may – if it is satisfied that there are no reasonable grounds for the failure to appear – proceed with the hearing in such manner as it considers appropriate, making its decision concerning any alleged breach by the party and any related decision as to penalties.

The Disciplinary Commission shall make any and all technical arrangements for the hearings to be recorded. The same applies to hearings held by conference calls or video conference.

## **20. DECISIONS AND CLOSING OF PROCEEDINGS**

The decisions of the Disciplinary Commission shall be passed by a simple majority, abstentions are not allowed. The Disciplinary Commission shall issue their decisions in writing within 6 weeks from the hearing of a case. This time limit may be extended by the ISSF Secretary General upon written and duly justified request submitted by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Commission before the deadline expires.

The decisions shall provide the following elements:

- facts accepted by the Disciplinary Commission,
- summary reasons explaining why a sanction was taken or, on the contrary, the reasons explaining why no sanction was imposed,
- determination of the Disciplinary Commission on the expenses of the proceedings and the payment of the contributions by the Parties,
- the consequences of failure to respect the decisions,
- the time limits for the appeal.

The decisions of the Disciplinary Commission are final subject to Article 22 ISSF DR.

The Disciplinary Commission may at any time correct any miscalculations or other obvious errors in a decision.

Notification of the decision shall be sent to the parties by email. It shall also be notified by email to the ISSF Secretary General for implementation.

The decisions shall be published in full, partly or in short on the ISSF website. In potentially serious or media-related circumstances, the ISSF Secretary General may choose to release information before the final decision is taken or, in exceptional cases, to not disclose the decision.

## **21. COST OF PROCEEDINGS**

The Disciplinary Commission shall decide whether the costs incurred by the disciplinary proceedings shall be borne entirely or partly by a party on which a sanction is imposed.

## **22. APPEAL TO THE COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS)**

In accordance with Article 25 ISSF Constitution, any decision of the Disciplinary Commission can only be appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of sports-related arbitration. The language of the proceedings shall be English. The time limit for the appeal to be filed is twenty-one days after notification of the

decision concerned. Any decision taken by CAS will be final and binding on all parties concerned.

## **TITLE IV – ENFORCEMENT**

### **23. GENERAL**

The ISSF Executive Committee shall enforce the decisions of the Disciplinary Commission or shall have them be enforced. It may in particular designate the Member Federation concerned to enforce them.

### **24. ENFORCEABILITY**

Any and all sanctions and disciplinary measures shall be effective from the date of the written notification of the decision to the persons or bodies concerned unless mentioned otherwise in the decision of the relevant authority. An appeal of the decision shall have no suspensive effect unless otherwise decided by the appointed Disciplinary Commission.

## **TITLE V – FINAL PROVISIONS**

### **25. ENTRY INTO FORCE**

These ISSF DR have been approved by the Council on 8 November 2021 and enter into effect upon publication on the ISSF Website.

Munich, XX November 2021

Vladimir Lisin  
ISSF President

Alexander Ratner  
ISSF Secretary General