

DORSET BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE

To be followed at a personal hearing of a charge referred by the Association against a player or a club official. A disciplinary committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee and adhered to the points below. The Disciplinary Committee will make the decision on following the process over virtual means in light of accommodating travel & time.

1. Before the date of the Discipline Meeting the General Secretary shall serve **[A]** all reports of the matter to be discussed.
2. The player or club official concerned shall confirm in writing to the General Secretary whether they wish to question the author of any of the reports that the Discipline is based on – this will be prior to the date of the Discipline Meeting and whether the evidence based in the report is accepted. If there is no written confirmation from the player or club official prior to the appeal the report as written will be accepted in full without question.
3. The Disciplinary Committee having assembled shall satisfy itself that the player has had details of the charge and if they have brought any witnesses. The player may be accompanied by their club representative who, unless they are conducting the case for their player, will not be allowed to take part in proceedings unless given leave at any juncture by the Disciplinary Committee Chairman.
4. The Discipline Committee shall admit into evidence any ‘accepted’ reports and/or witnesses that have been subject to the committee’s approval.
5. The Disciplinary Committee shall admit the referee / umpire **[B]** or the author of report the charge has been preferred and the person the subject of the charge. This is normally the referee / umpire and player concerned.
6. The player or their representative (if they are conducting the case) shall be allowed to ask questions of the Association’s witness. EXAMPLE: the referee / umpire, the question MUST be relevant to the matters in issue.
7. At any time the Disciplinary Committee Chairman and, through him, the members of the Committee may ask questions of the witness (referee / umpire) to clear up any doubts which may exist.
8. The Secretary of the Committee shall then call other witnesses (if any) e.g. other officials in support of the charge. The player (or their representative) shall have the same right to ask questions of these witnesses.
9. When all the evidence in support of the charge has been concluded, any written statement made by the player shall be read by the Secretary to the Committee.
10. The player may give evidence on their own behalf and in such event they may have questions asked of them by members of the Committee. The player may then call witnesses on their behalf and to each of whom questions may be put by the Committee members.
11. In the event of the evidence submitted in answer to the charge, a point arises which the referee / umpire has not had an opportunity to deal with, the members of the Committee may ask him questions to dispose of any doubt that may have arisen.
12. No written statements shall be accepted in evidence unless the author thereof shall be present for the purpose of being questioned (except as per accepted evidence as at 2). All extraneous matter in evidence shall be ruled “out of order”.
13. The evidence having been completed, the player (or representative if conducting the case) shall be entitled to make a submission based on the evidence, but this does not entitle him to introduce other facts disclosed by the evidence.
14. The player and their representative referee / umpire and all witnesses shall then withdraw whilst the Committee consider the evidence to decide whether the charge is proven or not. Upon reaching a decision the player (and representative) and referee / umpire shall be recalled and the Disciplinary Committee Chairman shall announce the Committee’s decision. The referee / umpire shall then retire.

15. If the charges are PROVED the Secretary shall give details of the record of the player. The player or their representative may then make a plea for leniency at the conclusion of which they shall withdraw.

16. The Committee shall then proceed to decide what punishment to administer **[C]**.

17. The player and their representative shall be re-admitted and the decision conveyed to them. The decision shall also be confirmed in writing to the player through their club, by the Dorset Basketball Association General Secretary, together with details of how the player may appeal to England Basketball.

18. Whenever clear video footage of an event is available, it will be on the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee to exclude the above process (numbers 6 to 17) in view of administering a decision in light of unambiguous evidence and account of events.

[A] Papers are considered 'served' if sent via registered message (WhatsApp etc) or noted as in receipt via email, prior to the Discipline Meeting.

[B] Referee / Umpire refers to the Official actually awarding the disqualifying foul, whilst the other official will also have submitted a report and be available for questioning.

[C] Subject to current Sanctions.