



# Hampshire & IOW (including Guernsey) Squash & Racketball Association



## HSRA Code of Conduct.

This is to be read with ESR Code of conduct as published when necessary, for further reference and guidance.

### **1. GENERAL**

The HSRA Code of Conduct is designed to secure the future of well being in squash and racketball. Different aspects of the Code may have relevance to players, officials, spectators and administrators involved in a squash or racketball tournament or competition. The Code, therefore, applies to all these categories and should be understood by all concerned with competitive squash.

### **2. EVENTS ADMINISTRATION**

Organisers of squash or racketball tournaments and competitions must ensure that clear and comprehensive regulations are prepared and available to all competitors in time to permit compliance with such regulations.

Administrative instructions, which require particular actions by players and / or officials, must be clearly stated and communicated to those concerned.

Adequate arrangements must be made to permit the proper conduct of a tournament or competition.

### **3. OFFICIALS**

Officials should be competent to handle the level of match to which they are appointed, and must ensure that it is conducted in accordance with the Rules of Squash. These officials are responsible for ensuring the good conduct of players during a match.

### **4. PLAYERS**

The Code of Conduct for players (and their managers and coaching staff where applicable) applies to individuals and teams. Players who enter tournaments or competitions thereby accept all regulations associated with the event, and shall subsequently comply with them.

No players shall withdraw from an event after submitting an application to enter without the consent of the event organiser. Such consent will normally only be given in the following circumstances:

- a) When the player has incurred accidental injury or ill-health after submitting an entry application.

- b) When the player application to enter is turned down following completion of the draw.

Players must be familiar with the Rules of Squash and must make every effort to comply with them.

Players must conduct themselves at all times in a way which brings credit to the image of squash and racketball in the eyes of spectators, the media and sponsors. They must behave with dignity on court and recognise the need for continuity of play. They must recognise the legitimate interests of the squash and racketball media, and make themselves available to meet reasonable requests for interviews, photo calls and press briefings. They must also recognise their responsibilities to sponsors and event organisers, and meet reasonable requests to attend formal and informal functions associated with the event. Some specific aspects of behaviour on court, or in public which are considered contrary to creditable conduct are include in the following list which is not intended to be comprehensive.

- (a) Swearing
- (b) Making offensive gestures
- (c) Disputing decisions made by a referee
- (d) Deliberate contact between players or between players and playing equipment.

## **5. SPECTATORS**

Spectators must remain silent during rallies, and should not encourage extended and undignified delays between rallies by attempting to provoke discussion between players and officials, or between the players themselves.

## **6. DISCIPLINARY MATTERS**

HSRA supports the Rules of Squash as published by the WSF. All tournaments and competitions organised in Hampshire under the auspices of or in conjunction with HSRA shall be played according to the rules of squash.

## **7. RULES OF SQUASH – CODE OF CONDUCT AND RESULTING PENALTIES**

7.1 Are contained within the Rules of Squash and they outline the powers available to any referee for dealing with on court offences by players.

**7.1.1 In addition, and provided that the referee is ESR qualified, the referee must submit a report to the HSRA Refereeing Officer within four days of awarding of Code of Conduct Penalties (stroke, game or match).**

7.1.2 Accumulation of Code of Conduct penalties following the submission of these report forms will result in an automatic ban. Additional penalties may also be imposed, as denoted in 7.1.4 and 12.9.

7.1.3 A player will accumulate penalty points for each conduct offence: stroke – 1 point, game – 3 points. There is no sanction for a warning.

7.1.4 There is no penalty provision for the award of a match because this would be dealt with by the HSRA Disciplinary Panel on an individual case basis.

- 7.1.5 Only the most serious infringement in a single match shall be used for the purpose of point's accumulation. However, if the most serious infringement is repeated during the match, the point's accumulation shall reflect this by being totalled.
- 7.1.6 A Player will invoke automatic bans for reaching the follow levels in one calendar year to be added to any other sanction which a player may attract:
- (i) Game Awarded - One Week
  - (ii) Five points accumulated - One Month
  - (iii) Any additional two points over five points (ii), accumulated in the same year.  
- One Further Month
  - (iv) If a player is subject to a ban in each of two successive years, a further sanction may be imposed by the HSRA Disciplinary Panel.
  - (v) Less than seven points in one year, but a combined ten point total in two adjoining years, will attract a two week ban.
  - (vi) A ban would prohibit a player from competing in any HSRA,ESR Sanctioned Event or Metropolitan/County League during the period concerned.
  - (vii) All periods of bans will fall within the months of September – May and may be carried over if necessary.
- 7.17 The HSRA Refereeing officer will collate the information relating to conduct offences (against which there is no right of appeal), and inform the offending player when a ban is imposed.

## **8. DISCIPLINARY MATTERS AT CLUB LEVEL**

- 8.1 If not already covered in paragraph 2, will be dealt with by the club concerned or other delegated appropriate authority.
- 8.2 Any appeals will be dealt with by the County Association Committee.

## **9. DISCIPLINARY MATTERS AT EVENTS WITHIN A COUNTY AND COUNTY LEAGUE**

- 9.1 If not already covered in paragraph two will be dealt with by the County Association.
- 9.2 Any appeals will be dealt with by a County Association Committee, so convened. The Committee should meet within 28 days of appeal notification.
- 9.3 Appeals against decisions involving bans of less than one month, cannot be referred to ESR

## **10. DISCIPLINARY MATTERS AT EVENTS RUN BY ENGLAND SQUASH AND RACKETBALL**

- 10.1 If not already covered in paragraph 2, will be dealt with by the ESR Disciplinary Panel.
- 10.2 Any appeals will be dealt with by the ESR Appeals Panel.

## **11. GUIDANCE DEALING WITH DISCIPLINARY OFFENCES, DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS AND APPEALS.**

- 11.1 If not already covered in paragraph 2, alleged offender must be informed as soon as possible after the alleged breach of the Code of Conduct, that a report is to be submitted to the appropriate authority and that he/she may be the subject of a disciplinary hearing.
- 11.2 A written report and written statements must be submitted to the appropriate authority by the appointed tournament director, competition director or other appropriate person within seven days of the alleged breach.
- 11.3 The appropriate authority must notify the alleged offender in writing that a formal complaint against him/her has been received, and copies of the written report and statements referred to in paragraph 12.2 should be supplied to him/her. He/she must be invited to make a written report about the incident or incidents which gave rise to the allegation, and indicate whether they accept the accuracy of the supplied documentation, and in serious cases should be informed of his/her right to have the matter dealt with at a disciplinary hearing.
- 11.4 A Disciplinary Panel of not less than three persons should be appointed to consider the written reports and, if necessary, to convene a disciplinary hearing. The Panel should be given clear guidance as to its powers to impose disciplinary sanctioned should it find the allegations to be substantiated by the evidence. The authority may be standing or convened to consider a particular incident, and may not contain any person who has any connection with the parties involved.
- 11.5 If a hearing is called, it is essential that the alleged offender be given reasonable opportunity to attend (minimum 14 days) and/or be represented, and statements taken from witnesses must have been served on him/her fourteen days prior to the hearing.
- 11.6 Consideration of the alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct, whether involving a disciplinary hearing or not, should be dealt with as a clear priority. (It is impossible to set an arbitrary timescale to cover all levels of squash but, at the very least, the aim should be to complete the initial discipline process (excluding appeal) within one month of the alleged breach).
- 11.7 Except in the case outlined in 9.3, the alleged offender should have the right to appeal to a HSRA against the findings of the Disciplinary Panel (the receiving the disciplinary matter referred to in paragraph 2), and/or any penalty imposed. He/she should also have the right to convene an appeal hearing (see paragraph 12.9).
- 11.8 A range of sanctions is available for application by a Discipline Panel which considers that the HSRA Code of Conduct has been breached. The range includes administrative action against event organisers, officials, players and spectators, which could affect their future involvement in squash competitions and tournaments.
- 11.9 Any person wishing to appeal against a decision by a Disciplinary Authority must register an intention to appeal in writing, with the authority which issued the sanction within seven days of being notified of the Disciplinary Authority's decision. Any penalty imposed by a Disciplinary Authority shall be suspended pending the outcome of the appeal. An appeal Authority should consider the reports and findings of the Disciplinary Authority who first handled the case and may call a

further hearing. Those appointed to hear an appeal may confirm, set aside, reduce or increase any penalties already imposed.

**12. CIVIL OR CRIMINAL ACTION**

If civil or criminal proceedings are pending, all reports and statements should be collated as normal, but the disciplinary proceedings postponed until a decision by the civil or criminal authorities has been reached.

**13. PENALTIES**

In order to ensure that punishments are as consistent as possible, all results of the disciplinary hearings for major or serious incidents should be given to the ESR office immediately the appeal time limit has expired. Relevant information will then be circulated periodically to Clubs and County Associations.