

# **Piranha Poker Team Code of Ethics**

## **PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

1. The purpose of the Piranha Code of Ethics is to set forth standards to which the conduct of players, tournament directors, sponsors, and other individuals and entities participating in the affairs of the Piranha Poker Team, including tournaments and other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by the Piranha Poker Team, should conform; to specify sanctions for conduct and to specify the procedures by which alleged violations are to be investigated and, if necessary, the appropriate sanctions imposed.
2. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics are not equivalent to criminal laws and procedures. Rather, they concern the rights and privileges of Piranha Poker Team membership, including, but not limited to, the privilege of participating in tournaments, events, or other activities as a member of the Piranha Poker Team.
3. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics shall apply only to actions and behavior by:
  - (A) players of the Piranha Poker Team events, that occur in connection with tournaments or other activities sponsored or sanctioned by the Piranha Poker Team; and
  - (B) individuals and entities acting in an official capacity as officers or representatives of the Piranha Poker Team.
4. Each member of the Piranha Poker Team and each participant in a Piranha Poker Team activities shall be bound by this code of ethics.

## **THE PIRANHA STEERING COMMITTEE**

5. The Piranha Steering Committee (The Committee) is appointed in accordance with procedures consistent with the by laws of the Piranha Poker Team. It is the Committee's responsibility is to consider any and all allegations of unethical conduct in connection with events and activities sanctioned by the Piranha Poker Team, in accordance with the standards and procedures contained in this code of ethics.

## **STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

6. The actions and behavior of individuals participating in Piranha Poker Team activities, or in events sponsored by or sanctioned by the Piranha Poker Team, shall be lawful and in accordance with all WSOP rules and regulations, and consistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, the honor system, and respect for the rights of others. The following is a list of examples of actions and behavior that are considered unethical. The list is not intended to be exhaustive, and any action or behavior that is unlawful or violates Piranha Poker Team rules and regulations, or is inconsistent with the principles of the Piranha Poker Team Code of Ethics (a) Cheating in a game of poker by illegally giving, receiving, offering, or soliciting advice; or by consulting with other players; or by peeking at cards; or manipulating the deck in a manner not allowed by Piranha Porker Team rules or regulations. (c) Deliberately losing a hand for payment, or to give an unfair advantage to other players, or for any other reason; or attempting to induce another player to do so. Deliberately failing to play at one's best in any given game and/or hand, in any manner inconsistent with the principles of good sportsmanship, honesty or fair play. (e) Participating in a tournament under a false name or submitting a falsified documents. (f) Purposely acting/playing in order to circumvent or violate any rule or regulation recognized by the WSOP or Piranha Poker Team.

## **PROCEDURES**

7. Any Piranha Poker Team player may initiate procedures under this code of ethics by filing a complaint in a timely manner with the Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee. In the case of any accusation that does not fall clearly under the “Standards of Conduct” above, The Committee shall have the authority to decide whether the alleged conduct is within the scope of the Piranha Code of Ethics. In the case of each alleged violation that is within the scope of the Piranha Code of Ethics, the following steps shall occur in a timely manner:

- (a) A factual inquiry shall be made by The Committee, assisted as necessary by other full team members. Previous findings of The Committee or other Piranha Poker Team entities may be included among the evidence considered by The Committee, if relevant to the circumstances of the present case. As a part of such an inquiry, any person accused of unethical conduct shall have the right to examine the evidence against him or her, the right to respond to the accusation, and the right to produce written evidence in his or her behalf.
- (b) Appropriate sanctions, if any, shall be executed by the Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee. In recommending sanctions, The Committee may consider any previous ruling or finding of The Committee, pertaining to the past conduct of the person being sanctioned. In recommending sanctions, the person being recommended for sanctions must be informed of this fact. Any person against whom sanctions have been recommended shall be promptly notified.
- (c) The person against whom the sanctions have been levied shall have the right to appear before the Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee and present evidence in his or her appeal. In all appeals the recommended sanctions imposed by the Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee shall not be in effect until the appeal hearing is completed. The recommended sanctions shall be either confirmed, modified, or revoked by the Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee.
- (d) If any member of the Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee has a conflict of interest that might preclude objective participation in the consideration of any case, that person may not vote in the capacity of the levied sanctions.

## **SANCTIONS:**

8. The following are some of the sanctions that may be imposed as a result of the procedures specified above. In unusual cases, other appropriate sanctions may be imposed, or these sanctions may be varied or combined.

- (a) Reprimand. A determination that a member has committed an offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. A reprimand automatically carries a probation of at least three months, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probation, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.
- (b) Censure. A determination that a member has committed a serious offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. Censure automatically carries a probation of at least one year, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probationary period, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.
- (c) Suspension. Suspension is a determination that the member has committed an offense warranting abrogation of all membership rights and privileges.
- (d) Expulsion. Expulsion is a determination that a member has committed a serious offense warranting permanent abrogation of all membership rights and privileges. An expelled member may be readmitted to membership only by the Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee.
- (e) Exclusion from events. This is a more selective determination that a member has committed an offense warranting abrogation of the right to participate in certain specified events or activities.

9. If the person being sanctioned is a member of the Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee, The Committee actions will be more severe than actions of a regular full member, due to the elevated standard expected of a Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee member.

10. In the case of every sanction that involves suspension or expulsion, a member may not hold any office in the Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee or participate in any capacity in any event or activity sponsored by or sanctioned by the Piranha Poker Team.

11. The Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee shall document, in writing of all official determinations by The Committee, and shall record any recommendations of any sanctions. The Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee will make available the final Official Inquiry Report to any full team member.

## **CONCLUSION**

12. The purpose of the Piranha Poker Team Code of Ethics is to bring about fair play and respect for all members and participants in Piranha Poker Team events. It is expected and required that all team members and participants conduct themselves under the honor system. It is not the responsibility any of the Piranha Poker Team members or the Piranha Poker Team Steering Committee to police the actions of participants in Piranha Poker events. It is the responsibility of every participant in Piranha Poker events, to conduct themselves with fair play, good sportsmanship and within the rules & regulations of the WSOP and Piranha Poker Team rules and regulations. The full rules and regulations of the Piranha Poker Team are always available at all Piranha Poker Team events.