

Procedural Penalties

Question

Should a Director have cause to provide a procedural penalty to a pair during a regular club pairs event? Is there a standard penalty (1/4 top?) and does the penalty increase for repeated infractions by the same player during one event, or across several events? Could you also let me know the appropriate penalty for teams events during regular club play.

Answer

The Director has the power under Law 90 the power to award a procedural penalty for offences. The Director has the discretion to award whatever penalty he sees fit. Most directors would look to regulations for some guidance as to what would be an appropriate penalty. I would direct you to the NSWBA Tournament Regulations at <http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/regulations/regulations2006.pdf> for information on what might be appropriate penalties.

To summarise, very generally, a first offence is given a warning, second offence 25% of a top, third offence, 50% of a top, etc. For Teams play the corresponding penalties would be 1 Victory Point, 2 VPs, etc. assuming a 30 point VP scale is used. If the penalty is to be in IMPs, the standard penalty is 3 IMPs.

Individual clubs do have the right under Law to regulate whatever penalties they deem appropriate.

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