

Grand Western Archery Society Disciplinary Policy

Introduction

The Grand Western Archery Society, in accordance with the Grand National Archery Society Disciplinary Policy has established a procedure for the investigation of any complaints placed against; an archer who is a member of Grand Western, a club that affiliates to Grand Western, a County Association that affiliates to Grand Western or the Grand Western Archery Society itself.

The object of the procedure is to ensure that any complaint against an archer, a club, a county association, or the society itself is given a fair and honest hearing.

Policy

The Grand Western Archery Society will establish a set of procedures to ensure that:

1. Any complaint against; a GWAS archer, GWAS club, GWAS County Association or the society itself receives a fair and honest hearing.
2. The person or organisation being accused has the opportunity to a fair and honest hearing.

GWAS Disciplinary Procedure

1 Complaints

1.1 This Disciplinary Procedure shall apply where a complaint is made about a senior or junior associate member, an individual member or an honorary member of the Grand Western Archery Society. This Disciplinary Procedure shall also apply to a club affiliated to the Grand Western Archery Society (G.W.A.S.).

1.2 The Disciplinary Procedure shall commence when a complaint about an individual or a club is received by the Honorary Secretary of the Grand Western Archery Society.

1.3 The complaint shall state the prima facie evidence of offence or misdemeanour. Offences and misdemeanours of the following nature shall be considered to warrant a complaint:

Theft, assault on another person, deliberate damage to another archer's equipment, sexual harassment, racial harassment, being unfit to shoot due to the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs, the use of performance enhancing substances banned under G.N.A.S. or F.I.T.A. rules, being in possession of illegal drugs, deliberate falsification of scores. This list is not exhaustive.

1.4 The prima facie evidence shall be considered by the Disciplinary Committee of the Grand Western Archery Society and notified to the Grand National Archery Society.

2 Disciplinary Committee

2.1 The Disciplinary Committee of the Grand Western Archery Society shall act for and on behalf of the Regional Council in considering all complaints about G.W.A.S. members and clubs.

2.1 The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of a Disciplinary Committee Chairman appointed by the Regional Council and one member of the Regional Council from each Constituent County Organisation.

2.2 Within seven working days of the Honorary Secretary of the Grand Western Archery Society receiving a complaint, the Chairman of the Society's Disciplinary Committee and all the committee members shall be supplied with copies of the prima facie evidence by the Honorary Secretary.

2.3 Within fourteen working days of the Honorary Secretary of the Grand Western Archery Society receiving a complaint, the Chairman of the Society's Disciplinary Committee will consult with all the members of the Disciplinary Committee. If it is considered that there is no case to answer, the Chairman of the Society's Disciplinary Committee shall notify the Honorary Secretary of the Grand Western Archery Society, who shall so inform the complainant and no further action shall be taken by the Society.

2.4 If the Disciplinary Committee decides there is a case to answer, the Honorary Secretary of the Grand Western Archery Society shall so inform the complainant and ask that any further evidence of the alleged offence or misdemeanour be provided in writing forthwith. The Honorary Secretary shall also inform the member, by Recorded Delivery to his or her last notified address, of the precise nature of the allegations made, the procedure used by the Society to deal with the allegations and the sanctions which may be imposed on the member should the allegations be proven. The Member shall also be notified, in writing, of the date and venue for the Disciplinary Committee meeting. This should take place within twenty one working days of the date of the notification. Any reasonable request from the Member for delay shall be considered by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee and permitted or declined at their absolute discretion, though not unreasonably withheld.

2.5 The Member shall have the right to a hearing before, or written submission to, the Disciplinary Committee.

2.6 The Member shall have the right to be accompanied by a person of their choice whilst attending the Disciplinary Committee meeting.

2.7 The Disciplinary Committee meeting will consider evidence submitted in writing or in person to the Disciplinary Committee. Reasonable time shall be available for the proper consideration of all evidence.

2.8 The Disciplinary Committee will issue a verbal decision at the meeting. The decision of the Disciplinary Committee shall be confirmed in writing and sent by Recorded Delivery to the Member's last known address. The Member shall be responsible for ensuring that the Honorary Secretary of the Grand Western Archery Society is in receipt of their current address. Together with the written decision, the Member will be notified that he or she has the right to appeal against the decision within fourteen days of the date on the written decision.

3 Disciplinary Committee Powers

3.1 The Disciplinary Committee shall, on behalf of the Regional Council, have the 14 power to terminate membership of the G.W.A.S, or suspend membership for a period of up to five years. The Disciplinary Committee may also recommend that the Regional Council shall submit details of the decision to the Grand National Archery Society with any recommendation for further action.

4 Appeals

4.1 The Member shall have the right of appeal, either in writing or in person, against the decision of the Disciplinary Committee following the receipt of a written decision.

4.2 The letter containing the appeal should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the Grand Western Archery Society and should state the grounds for the appeal.

4.3 The Honorary Secretary of the Grand Western Archery Society shall, upon receipt of an appeal, set up a hearing before a Disciplinary Appeals Committee chaired by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Regional Council and having not less than one representative from each Constituent County Organisation. Regional Council representatives who have previously considered the case in question on the Disciplinary Committee shall not attend a Disciplinary Appeals Committee meeting.

4.4 The Member shall be notified, in writing, of the date and venue for the Disciplinary Appeals Committee meeting. This should take place within twenty one days of the date of the notification. Any reasonable request from the Member for delay shall be considered by the Chairman or Vice -Chairman and permitted or declined at their absolute discretion.

4.5 The Member shall have the right to invite a friend to attend the Disciplinary Appeals Committee meeting.

4.6 The Disciplinary Appeals Committee meeting shall consider the evidence that was submitted to the Disciplinary Committee. New evidence may be submitted to support the appeal and reasonable time must be available for its proper consideration.

4.7 If no new evidence is submitted, the appeal shall be judged on the fairness of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee.

4.8 The Disciplinary Appeals Committee shall issue a verbal decision at the meeting and confirm the decision in writing.

4.9 The decision of the Disciplinary Appeals meeting of the Regional Council shall be final.

5 Disciplinary Appeals Committee Powers

5.1 The Disciplinary Appeals Committee shall, on behalf of the Regional Council, have the power to confirm or set aside the Disciplinary Committee's decision and increase or decrease any sanction previously recommended.