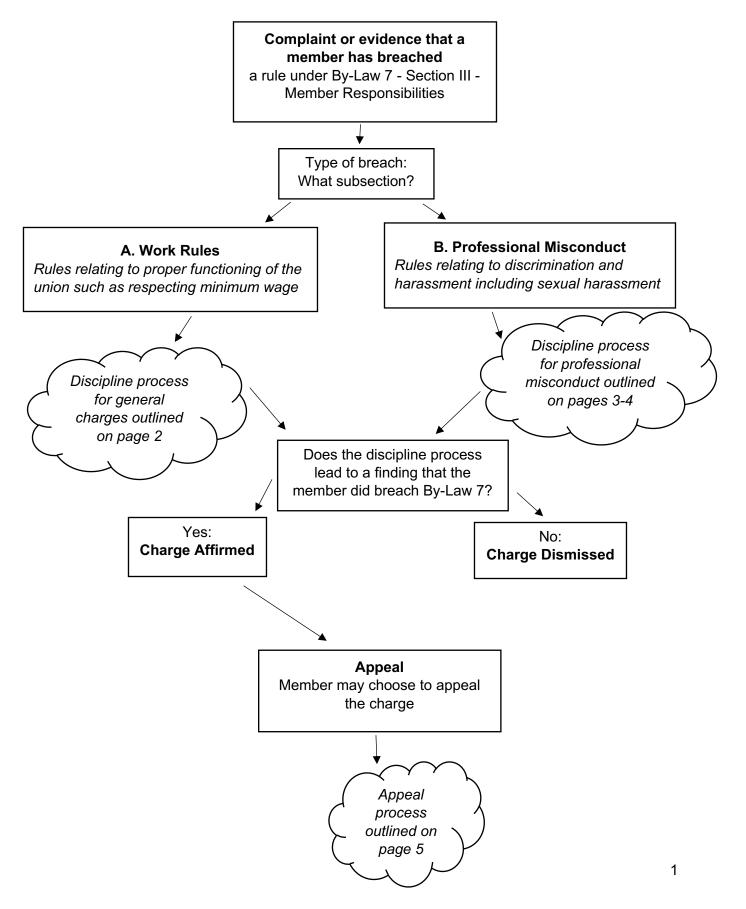
## **OVERVIEW OF MEMBER DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE**



## Procedure: A. WORK RULES

By-Law No. 7 - Section IV – B. General Charges: Breach of Member Responsibilities

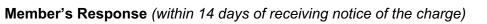
# Investigation (optional)

- Charging Official may initiate investigation before proposing or affirming a charge if further information is required (follow procedure in *Section IV – C.8*)

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### Notice of Proposed Charge

- Laid at discretion of Charging Official
- Must be in writing and include:
  - a) the allegation against the member;
  - b) the relevant date and place, if known, when the alleged violation occurred;
  - c) the name of the relevant Engager/Producer (if any);
  - d) the name of the complainant, if appropriate;
  - e) the specific clause(s) of the Constitution or By-Laws alleged to have been violated;
  - f) relevant documentation or information on which the Charging Official relies, if any;
  - g) the applicable penalty/ies if the charge is upheld; and
  - h) information regarding the member discipline process, including the member's right to receive disclosure, respond to the charge(s), and appeal (as applicable).
    - See: Notice of Proposed Charge Template



- Member may respond in writing, setting out (1) explanation of conduct and (2) why charge and/or penalty not warranted
- Can include relevant evidence
- See: <u>Response Form</u>

Affirmation of Charge (within 14 working days of receiving response)

- Charging Official's written decision on whether to affirm or dismiss the Proposed Charge
- Must be "based on full consideration of information before them"
- Must notify member, explain appeal process, and enclose appeal forms

## Procedure: B. PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT

By-Law No. 7- Section IV – C: Professional Misconduct: Discrimination, Harassment and/or Sexual Harassment Complaints

See also: By-Law No. 7 - Section I – Definitions, for the definitions of Charging Official, Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Harassment.

### Informal Process: Complainant can request information (optional)

A complainant may discuss the complaint with a Charging Official to learn about options and resources available at any time before making a complaint as described below.

### Early Resolution Process (optional)

- <u>If appropriate</u>, complainant is encouraged to discuss their concern(s) directly with the member who they allege has engaged in professional misconduct

### **Formal Complaint**

- Complainant submits Formal Complaint Form to appropriate Charging Official
- Must be submitted in writing within 12 months of the incident
- Must include:
  - i) the nature of the complaint of discrimination and/or harassment;
  - ii) the name of the Respondent(s);
  - iii) the relevant dates;
  - iv) the relevant places;
  - v) the relevant incidents and/or behaviour and/or conduct;
  - vi) the relevant witnesses;
  - vii) the relevant supporting documentation;
  - viii) the remedy sought.

#### Complainant can withdraw complaint (optional)

- By written request, at any stage prior to the completion of the investigation
- The Charging Official must inform the Respondent of withdrawal
- The Charging Official <u>may choose to pursue the complaint</u> even if complainant has been withdrawn

Threshold Assessment (within 7 days of receiving complaint)

- Charging Official determines: could the accusations meet the definitions of discrimination, harassment and/or sexual harassment if they are found to be true?

K

 $\mathbf{X}$ 

#### Yes: Investigation

\*Charging Official must initiate an Investigation

#### No: Charge Dismissed

\*Charging Official must give reasons \*Complainant can request re-consideration

## Notice of Proposed Charge (within 7 days of Threshold Assessment)

- Charging Official will forward a copy of <u>Notice of Proposed Charge</u> to the Member
- Notice must include:
  - i) particulars of the allegations contained in the complaint;

ii) applicable penalties if a finding of a breach of Member Responsibilities is made on the basis of the complaint;

iii) a copy of By-Law 7 and relevant policies or procedures, if any; and iv) notification that, in the event no response is submitted, the complaint may proceed to an investigation and determination without further notice and based solely on the available information.

## Investigation

- Investigator may be Charging Official, or another investigator internal or external to ACTRA
- The investigation shall include:

i) analysis of the complaint, response and any supporting material;

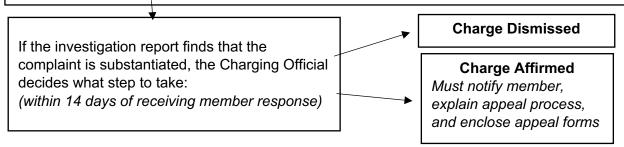
- ii) interviews of witnesses identified by the Complainant, Respondent or by the Investigator;
- iii) review of any other material identified as relevant by the Investigator; and iv) consultation with individuals with expertise identified as relevant by the Investigator.
- Investigator will provide a final report to Charging Official including (i) determination of whether complaint is substantiated or not, and (ii) recommendations for penalties, if appropriate

*Mediation (optional)* (requested by Complainant or Respondent within 14 days of the receipt of Notice of Proposed Charge)

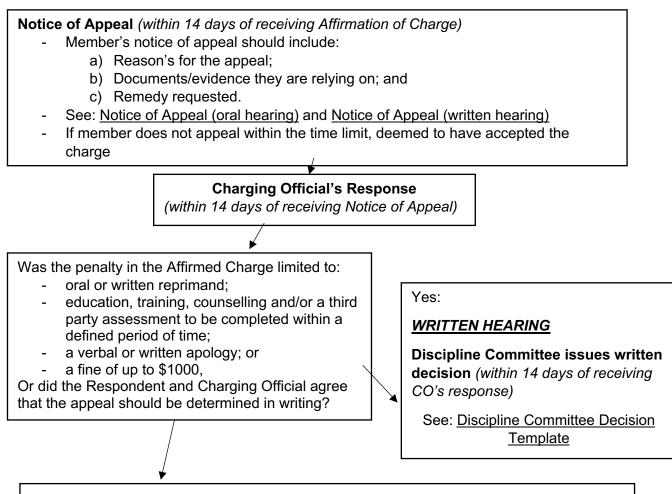
- Participation is voluntary and both parties should agree
- Charging Official should assign a mediation within 14 days of the request for mediation
- Mediation schedule as soon as possible and within 21 days of appointment of mediator
- If mediation does not result in settlement, proceed to investigation within 7 days

Member's Response (within 14 days of receiving Notice of Proposed Charge)

- Member may provide an explanation or their version of the facts in writing
- Response must include relevant: i) dates; ii) places; iii) parties; iv) incidents and/or behaviour and/or conduct; v) witnesses; and vi) supporting documentation.



# Procedure: APPEAL TO DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE



NO (i.e. penalty was more serious than above): ORAL HEARING

**I. Discipline Committee issues Notice of Hearing** (within 14 days of receiving CO's response)

- Hearing normally held within 2 months of date appeal is requested

**II. Member and Charging Official provide notice of witnesses/documents to be relied on at hearing** (*no later than 7 days before hearing*)

- Discipline committee may exclude docs/evidence not relevant to appeal

III. Oral Hearing (normally held within 2 months of date appeal is requested)

- All parties have right to retain legal advisors
- Charging Official presents all known facts pertaining to the charge
- Respondent presents full answer to the charge
- All parties may make argument regarding appropriate penalty

IV. Discipline Committee issues written decision (within 30 days of hearing)

See: Discipline Committee Decision Template