

## **APL (Australian Poker League) Member Charter**

### **1. Definitions.**

1.1. The following terms shall have the following respective meaning for all purposes of the League rules, such meaning to be equally applicable to the singular and plural forms thereof.

1.1.1. "Australian Poker League", "APL" or "League" refers to the league that these rules apply to.

1.1.2. "Player" and "member" shall mean any individual person playing in any one of our league tournaments who has completed the APL registration process.

1.1.3. "Points" shall mean the measurement by which overall league standings are determined.

1.1.4. "Tournament" shall refer to any of our regular or special poker games.

1.1.5. "Bonus Points" refers to additional League Points awarded to players for placing inside the top 16 at any tournament

### **2. Arbitration.**

2.1. While the APL rules will attempt to cover and regulate any scenario we may find ourselves in, there may occasionally be times in which a decision will require an unbiased independent third party in regard to player behaviour and resulting penalties. In these cases, The APL Poker Manager will be the arbitrator of these decisions and can be contacted via email on [info@playAPL.com](mailto:info@playAPL.com). Once the APL Poker Manager has listened to the dispute in question and all pertaining details, a binding, nonnegotiable decision will be made.

### **3. Ethics and Moral Code**

3.1. All League players and bystanders must abide by the APL Poker Rules and Etiquette. While some events provide cash payouts, our main goal will always be the pursuit of social entertaining poker in a fun and fair environment. Players must always remember to treat each other, as well as all League activities and representatives, with the utmost respect.

3.2. Any major breach of the player code of conduct will result in a suspension and forfeiture of all League Points and rights to prizes.

### **4. Cheating.**

4.1. Cheating of any form is not allowed under any circumstances. If caught cheating; a player will immediately be removed from the tournament, placed on indefinite suspension and forfeit all League points accumulated in that season and the right to any prizes as supplied by APL.

4.2. Any participant caught colluding; cheating or behaving inappropriately as deemed by the Tournament Director may be disqualified from the League and may be excluded from future participation in APL events.

4.3. Please refer to the APL Rules and Etiquette guide for the Conduct Code and Poker Etiquette Guide; this can be found on [www.playAPL.com](http://www.playAPL.com).

### **5. Point Distribution.**

5.1. The amount of Players awarded Bonus Points for each Tournament will always be 16. If there are less than 16 players for the tournaments all players will be awarded bonus points.

5.2. The total amount of Points awarded for a Tournament will be based on the amount of registered players and the point multiplier applicable for the type of event. Please refer to [www.playAPL.com](http://www.playAPL.com) for more details.

5.3. Deals or trades for League Points are not allowed. Points are not transferable.

5.4. Points are only awarded for the official APL regular Tournaments and cannot be awarded for other tournaments or poker games that may be played by League members.

5.5. Certain Special Events may be sanctioned as attributing bonus points or different point's multiplier at the discretion of the League's management.

5.6. In the event that a Tournament is forced to stop prior to its natural conclusion for reasons beyond our control, Players will receive Points based on their chip count standing at that given moment.

5.7. All Players start a new APL season with a zero point total.

5.8. In the event that two or more people are eliminated on the same hand, the player who had more chips going into the hand will receive the highest ranking and be entitled to the higher ranking's amount of Points. The person with the second most amount of chips going into the pot will receive the second highest ranking. This pattern will continue until all eliminated players from that pot are assigned a ranking.

5.9. If the scenario in Section 7.8 should occur and multiple players have the exact same amount of chips, the finishing order will be decided by the strength of the hand at showdown. The strongest hand will be awarded the highest position.

## **6. Season Length.**

6.1. There will be 4 seasons played each year;

6.1.1 Season 1 will be held during January February and March

6.1.2 Season 2 will be held during April, May and June

6.1.3 Season 3 will be held during July, August and September

6.1.4 Season 4 will be held during October, November and December.

## **7. Tournament Cancellations.**

7.1. A cancelled tournament, regardless of reason, will be deleted and not rescheduled.

## **8. End of Season Finals Qualification**

8.1. At the conclusion of an APL season; qualifiers for each state's respective Semi Finals will be formulated by the administrators of the league.

8.2. Players must abide by the current qualification processes as outlined in qualification methods. Each state has different finals systems so please check your state for those details.

8.3. Any player who has been suspended during the regular season will not be permitted to participate in any finals even though they may have achieved the qualification criteria.

## **9. Tournament Exit/Departure or Away from Table Scenarios**

9.1. If a Player must leave in the middle of a regular APL Tournament, his or her chips will be blinded out for a period of 30 minutes.

9.2. Upon completion of 30 minute time period chips are then removed from play.

9.3 Another Player is not allowed to play the existing Player's chips.

9.4. A Player who has exited a tournament or is missing from the tournament during the bonus point stages, will not be awarded bonus points.

#### **10. Standings/Scoreboard Dispute Periods, Errors & Omissions.**

10.1. While every effort will be made to ensure complete accuracy, mistakes can be made.

10.2. Any error in the APL League score boards should be identified and corrected as quickly as possible, please report any errors to [info@playAPL.com](mailto:info@playAPL.com)

10.3. After 7 days from the last Tournament of a season, all scoreboards will be deemed final. Even if an error is identified after the 7 day period, no changes or alterations will occur.

#### **11. Incentives, Coercion & Bribes.**

11.1. Under no circumstances can one Player try to alter or skew the League Point allocations or standings through incentives, coercion or bribes. (For example, the scenario of, "I will give you more money for the position if you lose the tournament so I can get more points", is 100% prohibited.)

11.2. Players cannot make any deals that alter the final Point allocation outcome of a Tournament. Even if a cash deal has been made (not available at all tournaments) the tournament has to be played out til a winner has been decided.

11.3. Players cannot trade Points.

11.4. Points cannot be bought or sold from other Players.

#### **12. The Rules.**

12.1. The APL will follow the rules as outlined in the APL Poker Rules and Etiquette document.

12.2. The rules will be known as the "APL Rules".

12.3. Any ruling made by any Tournament Director, Floor Manager, Supervisor or Tournament Director is final and binding. All decisions will be made with the fairness of the competition in mind and impartial judgement.

12.4 Full House Group Australia (ABN 93 460 731 887) operates all tournaments under the APL brand in compliance with state-based regulations as determined by the relevant Act in each jurisdiction.

12.5 At the start of the poker tournament each player will receive a starting amount of chips. These chips have no value, cannot be redeemed for cash and are simply to be used in the conduct of the tournament to determine a winner.

12.6 In certain states of Australia, an entry fee, often called a 'buy-in' is permitted. In some states these entry fees are returned entirely to the players on the night as prizes. In other states, an admin fee is permissible to be taken from the buy-ins and may occur in some instances.

12.7 Other prizes may be offered and these are always advertised to the players before the commencement of the tournament and are updated on the [www.playapl.com](http://www.playapl.com) website

12.8 Specifically, for the avoidance of doubt, there is no gambling or betting that occurs during the conduct of an APL poker tournament.

### **13. Unwanted Behaviour**

13.1 Members, Players and spectators who continually and seemingly intentionally aggravate, annoy, intimidate or harass other players, venue staff or tournament directors may be asked to leave the poker area forfeiting any and all prizes on the night.

13.2 Members who are repeatedly asked to improve or modify their behaviour to ensure a fun, safe and welcoming environment may be asked to leave the league for a specified period of time.

13.3 Members with poor hygiene may be asked to leave the poker area.

13.4 Member who intentionally have a negative affect the business of Full House Group Australia including APL and 888PL Licensees may be suspended from playing in the league.

13.5 Members who run a competing business may be asked to leave the poker area and could be suspended from the league if it is seen to be a conflict in interests.

13.6 Members who have been suspended and continue their negative effect on the business; continue to harass, annoy, aggravate or intimidate players, venue staff or tournament directors during their suspension may be permanently banned from playing the league and all outstanding prizes will be dissolved and no refund will be given.

This document can be updated and changed at any time without prior warning and without notice as seen fit by the Full House Group Australia. All efforts are made to provide a fair, fun and safe experience for all players.