



GETTING OFF THE MARK

Cricket is a national sport that connects the people of India in a unique way. The Board of Control for Cricket in India ('BCCI') which administers the game in the nation, however, continues to be mired in one controversy after another. These include serious inaction regarding betting and match-fixing, frequent amendments to the rules to enable persons in power to perpetuate their control and promote their financial interests, permitting or enabling its office bearers, employees and players to do acts which clearly give rise to conflicts of interest which have no resolution mechanism, lack of transparency and accountability, failure to provide effective grievance redressal mechanisms and a general apathy towards wrongdoing. In addition, although the BCCI discharges public functions, its working is perceived as a closed door and back-room affair, not accountable to those who are affected by its decisions nor to those who matter most – the cricket fans.

At stake therefore are the faith, love and passion for the game of hundreds of millions of people.

The task at hand

The Supreme Court has left us in no doubt about its grave concern about the place at which Indian cricket finds itself today. The “cloud over the working of the BCCI” has left followers of the game “worried and



deeply suspicious about what goes on in the name of the game” says the Court, before indicating the way forward for a sport that is not only a passion but a great unifying force, by adopting a “zero tolerance approach”, which can alone satisfy the cry for cleansing. It cannot also go unnoticed that while re-emphasizing that BCCI discharges public functions, the Court has referred to the tacit concurrence and support of the Central and State Governments in activities which create a monopoly over cricket.

The Supreme Court appointed Committee comprising of Justice R.M.Lodha, former Chief Justice of India, Justice Ashok Bhan, former Judge of the Supreme Court and Justice R.V.Raveendran, former Judge of the Supreme Court was mandated *inter alia* to examine and make suitable recommendations to the BCCI for reforms in its practices and procedures and necessary amendments in the Memorandum of Association and Rules & Regulations on the matters set out in Paragraph 109 of the judgment dated 22nd January 2015.¹ The Committee appointed

1 “109. The proposed Committee can also, in our opinion, be requested to examine and make suitable recommendations on the following aspects:

(i) Amendments considered necessary to the memorandum of association of the BCCI and the prevalent rules and regulations for streamlining the conduct of elections to different posts/officers in the BCCI including conditions of eligibility and disqualifications, if any, for candidates wanting to contest the election for such posts including the office of the President of the BCCI.

(ii) Amendments to the memorandum of association, and rules and regulation considered necessary to provide a mechanism for resolving conflict of interest should such a conflict arise despite Rule 6.2.4 prohibiting creation or holding of any commercial interest by the administrators, with particular reference to persons, who by virtue of their proficiency in the game of Cricket, were to necessarily play some role as Coaches, Managers, Commentators etc.

(iii) Amendment, if any, to the Memorandum of Association and the Rules and Regulations of BCCI to carry out the recommendations of the Probe Committee headed by Justice Mudgal, subject to such recommendations being found acceptable by the newly appointed Committee.



Mr. Gopal Sankaranarayanan, Advocate of the Supreme Court to act as its Secretary.

The task assigned to the Committee is clear: recommend those changes in the Rules and Regulations of BCCI that will further the interest of the public at large in the sport of cricket, improve the ethical standards and discipline in the game, streamline and create efficiency in the management of the BCCI, provide accessibility and transparency, prevent conflicts of interest situations and eradicate political and commercial interference and abuse and create mechanisms for resolution of disputes and grievances. As the Supreme Court has reiterated that the BCCI is carrying out public functions – functions that govern the interests of the public – the necessary corollary is that BCCI is subject to the rigours of public law. This would mandate that it acts in line with the general principles of reasonableness and fairness, and also that it adheres to the basic principles of accountability and transparency.

In carrying out the assigned task, the Committee took the following steps:

- (a) Prepared and circulated a detailed Questionnaire (**Appendix-1**) to various key stakeholders, aficionados and patrons of the game. This

(iv) Any other recommendation with or without suitable amendment of the relevant Rules and Regulations, which the Committee may consider necessary to make with a view to preventing sporting frauds, conflict of interests, streamlining the working of BCCI to make it more responsive to the expectations of the public at large and to bring transparency in practices and procedures followed by BCCI.”



was prepared after a detailed perusal of the Supreme Court's judgment, the existing Rules and Regulations of the BCCI and various media articles and news reports which indicated to the Committee the flaws and loopholes in the administration of the nation's foremost sport. The Questionnaire contained 135 questions grouped under 8 distinct heads of concern areas for cricket administration:

- a. Organization, structure and relationship
 - b. Source and extent of jurisdiction
 - c. Offices, committees and elections
 - d. Commercial engagements, contracts and services
 - e. Audit, accounts and finances
 - f. Player welfare and dispute resolution
 - g. Conflict of interest
 - h. Oversight and transparency
- (b) Conducted over 35 days of sittings in Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and New Delhi. These allowed the Committee to get varied perspectives from 6 primary Test Centres as well as to afford ease of access to the respective representatives from the various Zones. The Committee also interacted with 74 persons around India including Former Captains, International and First Class Players, Coaches, Managers, Administrators, Journalists,



Talent scouts, Authors, Lawyers, Club Owners, Selectors and a Former Chief Justice of a High Court. A List of these persons is at **Appendix-2** to this Report. A summary of the relevant suggestions made by persons who responded to the Questionnaire and those who interacted with the Committee is given in **Appendix-3** to this report.

- (c) Extensively researched media reports, documentaries, published material, draft legislation, books and articles, apart from several unsolicited (but always welcome) missives from cricket fans, local experts and administrators about how maladministration is rife in all parts of the country. A select list of these materials is at **Appendix-4** to this Report. Complaints of defalcation and siphoning of funds, opaqueness in administration, blatant favouritism and political interference unfortunately seem to exist in almost all State associations, varying only in degree from place to place.
- (d) Commissioned a comparative analysis of international sports bodies (both cricket and otherwise) and how they are structured, their constitution, electoral process and overall management and how measures exist to check conflict of interest and manage ethics. This comparative report secured by the Committee from The Sports Law & Policy Centre is at **Appendix-5** to this Report.



The interactions have been extremely insightful and informative as they have allowed the Committee a close examination of not only what is evident and expressed, but also the layers of the politics of the cricket establishment, both at the national and local levels. The Committee was gratified and overwhelmed by the strength and content of the responses received from various other quarters. Strangers have walked up to the members on morning walks and even called at odd hours to put in their two bits on what the way forward ought to be for Indian cricket. Knowing the strong feelings the sport evokes in the general populace, these overtures have been important – to understand the avid cricket fan’s mind as well as those, who once devoted, have become cynical. Most of those the Committee interacted with, were eager that the game of cricket be governed and administered conforming to the highest standards of management, ethics, accountability and transparency worthy of the game, and that efficient decision making process should be institutionalised. Several others declined to interact with the Committee due to prior confidentiality obligations to the BCCI. The interactions, responses to questionnaire and Committee's research relating to sports systems in general and cricket in particular, have enabled the Committee to identify the problem areas in the functioning of BCCI.

The 3 Member Probe Committee headed by Justice Mukul Mudgal earlier entrusted with the task of examining the allegations of betting



and spot fixing, in their Report dated 9.2.2014 submitted to the Supreme Court, made several recommendations to prevent and to effectively deal with betting and match/spot-fixing. This Committee has carefully considered the said recommendations and, wherever found acceptable and feasible, incorporated them in this Report. The recommendations of the Justice Mudgal Probe Committee are at **Appendix-6** to this Report.

It became clear that many ills had become endemic due to the apathy or involvement of those who were at the helm of the Board's administration; that many of these were high functionaries in the Central and State Governments further compounded the problem, as did the fact that several incumbents had remained in charge of State associations for several decades. Many officials of the various State Associations hold power without adhering to the basic principles of accountability and transparency by converting them into regional fiefdoms. Unfortunately, the management of other Indian sports bodies reveals the same sorry trend.

The Committee also found inequities writ large at the high table, with some States over-represented in votes, tournament participation and central funding while others have to wait in the wings for indefinite periods until favoured. Policies have been formulated and altered to suit the needs of a few powerful individuals, and coteries have formed around



them which has polarized and compromised independent leadership. Almost without exception, those who have no such agendas have remained quiet, their silence emboldening further malfeasance. In the mind of the cricketing public, they are as much to blame.

Close observers of the game have informed the Committee how the public gets only a small percentage of seats in matches and how the VIP culture has overtaken a noble pastime. The convenience of the viewers in the stadium generally, and women, children and differently abled in particular, are not catered to. There is neither access to quality food and water at a reasonable price, nor adequate washroom facilities are made available. Even in regard to television rights, the attempt has been to maximise revenue by inserting advertisements at crucial parts of the game, and to muzzle dissenting voices at all levels.

Surprisingly, the players who are the sport's biggest draw are not spared from the apathy of the BCCI. They are treated less like assets and more as the employees and subordinates of those governing the game. The Committee has been informed that often, the players are left to determine the accommodation and transport arrangements for their families, that requisitions for genuine payments are not cleared and delayed, and that counsellors and nutritionists are not included in the



support staff. In the affairs of the sport that they are the drivers of, they have no voice and no independence.

The IPL has obviously been the most visible, remunerative and glamourized component of cricket in India over the last 8 years, but with big money and attention, there has not been the necessary caution to protect the sport and its players from the orgy of excess that quickly began to envelope the event. As events unfolded over the last few years, it was clear that unsavoury interferences had reached the highest echelons of cricket and overlapping and conflicting interests were not only condoned, but those in governance of the Board had made ex-post facto amendments to facilitate the same. As persons in governance interfered with the management of the game and the rest remained mute spectators, generations of players have been forced to buckle, migrate or worse, give up.

We hasten to add a word of caution lest there be a negative impression created about the BCCI. During our interactions, one fact that emerged uniformly concerned the way the manpower of the BCCI organizes the actual game and its competitions across the country. The organisation has still managed to harvest talent and ensure that the national teams perform remarkably on the world stage. Talented players from virtually any corner of this vast nation are in a position to compete



and reach the highest levels, even if they come from relatively modest backgrounds. Recent years have borne evidence with India winning the World Cup in T-20 and One Day Internationals, while also reaching the top of the Test rankings.

The BCCI staff members have ensured that hundreds of matches along with match officials are organized annually at all levels, and that updates are provided so that the BCCI remains fully informed. The management of the game is also self-sufficient without any governmental grants. We notice the BCCI also conducts charity matches for national causes and humanitarian assistance is also given to the former cricketers and their families.

The Committee has therefore consciously ensured that no measures are recommended that would interfere or limit the good work being done on behalf of the BCCI.

Interactions with the BCCI

From the outset, the Committee has reached out to the administration of the BCCI to offer its comments and interventions on the issues that were being considered. Meetings were arranged with all the office-bearers, and from the first week of April, the Questionnaire was sent to all of them. The then President Mr. Jagmohan Dalmiya and Secretary Mr. Anurag Thakur even sent identical responses to it. We are



glad to note that having obtained a broad picture from the Questionnaire about how the Committee intended to proceed, BCCI started taking some action, or at least made some announcements touching upon the contents of the questions. These include statements concerning committees to represent States where associations were in dispute or not formed [Qn.1.6], agent accreditation [Qns.6.10 & 6.13] and conflict of interest [Qns.7.1 – 7.3]. Unfortunately, a closer examination shows that these measures came without any structural modifications, and were done more in an effort to assuage the public.

On the 30th of September 2015, the Committee interacted in New Delhi with Mr. Shashank Manohar, who had been the President of the BCCI when amendments were carried out to permit a conflict of interest, which action was eventually quashed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. On the day of the meeting, Mr. Manohar was widely tipped to be the consensus candidate to again be the President of the BCCI in elections to be held on the weekend. During the extensive discussions, the Committee put to Mr. Manohar the various concerns highlighted in the Questionnaire, particularly regarding the wide-ranging powers of the President, the lack of financial oversight over State bodies, the lack of transparency as far as BCCI regulations and processes were concerned, the lack of a Conflict of Interest policy and the need for an Ombudsman. Mr. Manohar fairly conceded that these needed to be addressed. We are



again happy to note that that on being elected as President of BCCI within 4 days thereafter, Mr. Manohar, even without waiting for the Committee's report, adopted and projected the Committee's views as his roadmap for improving the functioning of the BCCI. He also implemented some of them, i.e. uploading of the Constitution and Bye-Laws on the BCCI website, creating a policy for Conflicts of Interest and appointment of an Ombudsman. While we believe that these proposals are in the right direction, we find that they are not comprehensive and substantive.

The need of the hour is not cosmetic but fundamental change, which will lay the proper foundations on which the BCCI can function in a professional and transparent manner and will bring the game of cricket back to its pristine form and restore the confidence of the people. It is precisely this that the Committee has proposed.

Our Approach

We understand that the cricket fan is emotionally wedded to the game, and is willing to sacrifice much for a mere taste of what cricket has to offer. The Indian fan, young or old, fit or differently abled, deserves better from the richest cricket body in the world, both in terms of access and administration. While massive funds flow into the coffers of the BCCI and the IPL through the sale of television and media rights and



sponsorship deals, little commensurate advantage finds its way to the members of public who stand in snaking long queues, often unable to obtain tickets, and if lucky, to stumble into stadia without access to basic amenities. This trusting soul believes in the purity of the game and his passion drives his faith that all aspects of cricket are ethical and clean. The fact that forces from politics and business see cricket administration as a stepping stone to recognition and publicity is irrelevant to the cricket fan, until he realizes, as many embittered souls recently have, that the game is not really being played on the cricket pitch. The Committee has therefore approached each issue, keeping in view the directions and observations of the Supreme Court and attempted to find the solutions by applying two tests - “Whether this will benefit the game of cricket?” and “What does the Indian cricket fan want?”

In an effort to make this Report as readable as possible, the Committee has shorn it of legal jargon and unnecessary details. We have also sought to maintain the confidentiality reposed in us from various quarters by not referring to individuals or institutions which have shared information or suggestions with us, and limited the contents of this report to the bare minimum so that the Model Memorandum of Association and Regulations may speak for themselves along with the Codes set out in the Annexures.



At a time when the nation's highest court has been compelled to find that the game has fallen into disrepute, only extraordinary steps will bring it back from this chasm. We are conscious that some of our proposals may evoke varied responses, but the collective conscience of this Committee is clear that tough measures are called for to restore Indian cricket to its pinnacle of glory. Individual interest will have to be sacrificed for the sake of the institution, and no exigency of convenience or convention shall stand in the way of a whole scale structural overhaul. The current governance structure of the BCCI and its Member Associations is far from satisfactory and it needs to be suitably restructured. Strict terms and tenures have to be imposed on administrators, oversight and audit of member associations need to be carried out, professional management deserves to be introduced in the administration of the game, all States require an equal say in the affairs of the BCCI, financial prudence has to be exercised, independent views in Governance are imperative and cricketers have to be protected and given a free hand in cricketing affairs. There also ought to be an Ombudsman, an Ethics Officer and an Electoral Officer who can provide institutional resolution while principles of transparency and conflict of interest need to be infused without further delay.



The report that follows is the Committee's effort to restore Indian cricket to its deserved status by putting in place good governance structures and best practices.



Chapter One: The Structure and Constitution

It was nearly 200 years after the British first brought cricket to India that its governing body was created. At a time of communal Gymkhanas and the occasional touring team from England, the princely families and other cricket patrons came together to create the Board of Control for Cricket in India, which was registered as a not-for-profit society in Madras (now Chennai). The BCCI has grown from its original composition of less than half a dozen provincial members to have five times that number representing various groups and territorial divisions.

The Structure

The BCCI at the moment consists of 30 Full Members some of whom do not field teams, while others do not represent any territory. Twenty States and one Union Territory are included and ten States and six Union Territories remain either excluded or disenfranchised. In addition, officially there are Associate and Affiliate Members as well as so-called Future Members.

The Services Sports Control Board, the Railways Sport Promotion Board and All India Universities represent particular national service groups, who traditionally constituted the largest employers of Indian sportsmen before the advent of liberal private enterprise. Apart from



these, two Clubs – the Cricket Club of India at Mumbai and the National Cricket Club at Kolkata also enjoy full membership of the BCCI.

Problems

An examination of the existing structure revealed the following anomalies:

a. Not all States are represented on the BCCI

One old State (Bihar) and two new states (Chhattisgarh and Uttarakhand) and six North-Eastern States (Sikkim, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram) are unrepresented on the Board. Of course, the most significant omission was Bihar, which, being the third most populous State in the nation required the cricket representatives of its 100 million populace to migrate to other States to ply their trade. Apart from Tripura, the other six sister-States of the north-east had been relegated to various categories of membership (Associate, Affiliate and Future) which really have no voice on the Board.

b. Some States are over-represented

Mainly attributable to their historic legacy, both Maharashtra and Gujarat have 3 Full Members, each representing parts of their respective States. Maharashtra therefore exercises votes through



the Associations of Mumbai, Vidarbha and Maharashtra while Gujarat fields the Associations of Baroda, Gujarat and Saurashtra.

c. Some members do not represent territories

The Services Sports Control Board, the Railways Sport Promotion Board and All India Universities show that territorial divisions were not the consistent criteria to determine membership of the BCCI. However, these members were represented by teams that played competitive cricket.

d. Some members neither play matches nor represent territories

Both the National Cricket Club (NCC) at Kolkata and the Cricket Club of India (CCI) at Mumbai were more in the nature of recreation clubs which neither fielded teams for tournaments nor had a geographical basis for being Full Members of the BCCI. In fact, by virtue of CCI being granted full membership, Maharashtra has garnered as many as four out of the total 30 votes on the Board.

e. Union Territories are unrepresented on the Board

Except for Delhi which enjoys a special position under the Constitution as well, none of the other six Union Territories are Full Members of the BCCI. In fact, there have been repeated



representations by the Cricket Association of Pondicherry that just as Delhi, it is also a Union Territory with a Chief Minister and ought to be made a Full Member. This issue is *sub judice* before the Madras High Court but nonetheless, there seems that some artificial distinction exists in the extant rules between Delhi and Puducherry.

f. Ad-hoc creation of Membership categories

The Regulations of the BCCI only speak of three categories of Members – Full, Associate and Affiliate. However, we find that there is a list of six “Future Members”, a category that does not have a legal basis. This consists of Uttarakhand, Mizoram, Telangana, Chandigarh, Puducherry and Andaman & Nicobar. Such a classification seems a half-way house with no real purpose except to give the association an illusion that it will be promoted at some vague point in the future.

g. Arbitrary addition and removal of associations

For reasons best known to the BCCI, despite being a Full Member, the Rajasthan Cricket Association has been treated as disenfranchised, resulting in the players of the State being forced to move elsewhere to compete. The non-addition of the Bihar



Cricket Association or an equivalent has also led to such a denial to the players from Bihar.

Solutions

Almost universally, apart from those who represented the associations in Gujarat and Maharashtra, the prevalent view was that that the State is a fair unit of representation on the BCCI. On a consideration of the entire issue, the Committee is of the view that it is not proper for only one or two States to have multiple members when all other States have single memberships (in fact, while many States have no representation). Democratic norms require each State should have equal representation, and therefore the Committee proposes the policy of ‘One State – One Member – One Vote’. In fact, this is the policy followed by other national sports associations (IHF & AIFF), each of whose members have an equal vote regardless of size or population. Even at the international level (IOC & FIFA), this is the position. Cricket ought to be no different.

It was however also stated that as far as disbursement of funds by BCCI for cricket development, it need not be uniform, but can depend on the need, infrastructure and other relevant criteria, formalised as a clear and equitable policy to incentivize Members to develop the sport.



In keeping with the above principle, and notwithstanding any sense of sentiment, there would also be no place for multiple associations from a single State. The Committee is of the view that it be left to the BCCI to decide which of the 3 associations from Gujarat and Maharashtra would be taken to represent the entire State, and the remaining 2 associations from each State would become Associate Members, who would however continue to field teams for competitions as they have done in the past. Equally, in States where there are disputes concerning the appropriate governing body [Jammu & Kashmir, Bihar, Rajasthan, etc.], it is best left to the BCCI or the Court (as may be the case) to decide which association would represent the State.

As the Services, Railways and Universities have hitherto enjoyed Full Member rights although they do not represent a particular State, the Committee recommends that they be accorded the status of Associate Member so that their views may still be considered while they will not have voting rights. The same principle would apply to the Clubs (CCI and NCC), which do not field cricket teams and have no cause to be treated as Full Members.

Those existing Members who are affected by the changes suggested by the Committee must appreciate that the changes are being suggested in the interest of the game as a whole and also having regard to BCCI's



role as a national body to promote and control cricket in India. Governance of cricket being the central theme, the changes in membership in the BCCI are inevitable and must be seen by all concerned in the right spirit of fair representation and for the betterment of cricket administration.

While there are seven Union Territories, it was found that only Delhi and Puducherry have a Chief Minister and are treated as substantially independent governing entities. At first glance, there seems no rationale for a distinction between the two, but what cannot be denied is the fact that Delhi, apart from being the national capital, is also a major Test Centre with an international stadium and has nearly 20 times the population of Puducherry. There may thus be some merit for Puducherry not immediately being included as a Full Member, especially when the issue is *sub judice*. Among the Union Territories, it would however be appropriate for Puducherry to be now inducted by the BCCI as an Associate Member which will retain rights to field a team and compete.

The consequence of the above realignments would also have an effect on how the Zones are constituted. The Zones would consist of Members in such a manner that each of them would be reasonably balanced as far as competition for the various zonal tournaments is



concerned. However, this reconstitution is best left to the BCCI for the purposes of convenience and competition. It is also left to the discretion of the BCCI whether the Union Territories would field individual or combined teams for tournaments and whether, for the purposes of expediency and convenience, the teams representing the States of the North-East be combined as well.

The categories of Affiliate and Future Members are therefore to be removed, and only Full Members and Associate Members will remain, the former with voting rights and the latter without. The 4 associations from the States of Maharashtra and Gujarat which would be relegated to the category of Associate Members shall, however, continue to receive grants for cricket development, as may be assessed by the BCCI depending on infrastructure and relevant criteria. They will also field teams in the domestic tournaments and host international matches.

It is imperative that all players across the country have opportunities to represent their States and Zones and then the national team. To punish the innocent residents and players of a State for the real or perceived shortcoming of the Member Association is illogical and unacceptable. Even if an alternate Association is not readily available, BCCI should function as the *parens patriae* of Indian cricket and continue to provide equal and alternate avenues for that particular State.



The Model Memorandum of Association and Rules & Regulations
of BCCI are at **ANNEXURE-A**.



Chapter Two: Governance

Over the last two decades, and especially with the advent of the IPL, the complexion of the office bearers of the BCCI has substantially changed. Those who helm the game come from mixed milieu – some are patrons seeking to promote the sport, while others seek to promote themselves, with no particular attention being paid to cricket itself. There can be no two views that cricket, with its popularity and its finances ought to be run professionally. Towards this end, it is imperative that a strong governance structure is put in place, which will be at arm's length from the actual day-to-day management of the association and the game.

The reins of cricket's richest and arguably most powerful national body remains mired in controversy. With an individual-centric constitution and old power centres that have remained relatively unaltered for years, the BCCI seems to have strayed from its chosen path. It has found it difficult to control and manage the IPL, and its most successful venture threatens its existence in its present form. There seems to be no collective interest in the game being promoted, and cricket stands without a custodian for its protection and propagation in its most passionately followed nation.



Problems

a. Concentration of power

From overall superintendence of the Board and its affairs to taking action against players and even approving the composition of the team chosen by the Selectors, the President is all-powerful. In practice, this power was even abused with the exercise of veto over the changes in captaincy and selection of ICC representatives. Incumbents were also known to turn a blind eye when issues of corruption and mismanagement were brought to their notice, even going as far as permitting retrospective amendments to the bye-laws to favour particular interests.

b. Lack of competence

The running of an organisation like the BCCI requires a clear functioning structure with well defined ideas to be executed. The present Working Committee of the BCCI consisting of the various office bearers elected by the BCCI and other representatives of the Members do not have any managerial expertise and requisite experience to run BCCI in a professional manner. Specialists and professionals are usually engaged in an ad-hoc manner without any terms and tenures as would be expected with any billion dollar entity.



c. Overlap of diverse functions

To borrow an analogy from political governance, it is necessary that the making of laws and regulations (legislative functions) are divorced from implementation thereof (executive functions) and those that review their validity or implementation (judicial functions). As far as the BCCI is concerned, the Working Committee not only lays down the relevant rules, regulations and bye-laws that govern the BCCI, but also oversee their implementation and takes final decisions when a Member or third party challenges either the rule or the manner of its implementation. These overlaps provide for extremely complicated and messy functioning.

d. Zonal considerations

There seems to be no rational basis for the Presidency to be rotated as per Zones, which has the effect of forsaking merit. A person who has the support of as few as two or three members in his Zone may end up as the President, if it is the turn of that Zone for election of President. Recent amendments to the rules have permitted individuals who are not even from the zone in question to be nominated to the post. For the same reason, the Vice-Presidents who are elected from each of the five zones seem to be merely ornamental without any specific functions.



e. No representation to players

It is only by accident that players are elected to the Working Committee of the BCCI. Their views are, more often than not, ignored, and the lack of an assured position at the governance table leaves the players gravely hamstrung. With arbitrary contracts and salaries that are dwarfed by those playing for franchises, it is full credit to the national players that they continue with enthusiasm and patriotic fervour to do their best for the country when they have no say in the affairs of the very body towards which they are the primary contributors.

f. No representation to women

The BCCI has never seen a woman in the Working Committee, and for a body that runs the sport in the country, the BCCI ought to have bestowed greater attention to the women's game. Australia, New Zealand, England and even Pakistan are seen to regularly play the women's game with only governance apathy responsible for the Indian women's team playing few and far between in all forms of the game. Greater support and promotion is required so that youngsters may also be attracted to it.

g. No independent voice

The BCCI has not embraced the modern principles of open governance, which is all the more necessary when discharging



such far reaching public functions. The Working Committee consists entirely of representatives of the Full Members, thereby making it's functioning a closed-door affair with no representation of players or audit experts to act as checks on governance.

h. Unlimited terms and tenures

Many individuals occupy various posts in the BCCI for multiple terms and on multiple occasions, without any ceiling limit. There has even been an instance of a former President later becoming the Treasurer.

i. No disqualifications

There appears to be no ground on which an office bearer has to demit office. No principles of conflict of interest, of age, of conviction by a criminal court or of holding an office under the Government has been laid down to disqualify an office bearer.

Solutions

The governance of the BCCI must be decentralised. No individual is more important than the institution, and so all crucial powers and functions hitherto bestowed exclusively on the President will have to be divided across the governing body, which is to be known as the Apex



Council (with a special and separate governing body for IPL, known as IPL Governing Council).

The issue of competence regarding those managing the game has to be addressed by bringing in professional managers and area experts, a theme which is discussed in detail in Chapter 3.

As the zonal rotation policy is without any rational basis, and as it has been decided to keep the State as the unit to become a Full Member, it is consistent to have a president who is elected from among the Full Members, so that the best and most competent person is selected. The provision for five Vice-Presidents is detrimental to efficiency and efficacy and so only one Vice-President shall be elected to the Apex Council in the same manner as the Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer.

The Apex Council should have a fair mix of elected representatives and independent members. It is recommended that it shall be a nine-member body. The five elected Office Bearers of BCCI (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer) shall be the members of the Apex Council. In addition, the Apex Council shall have four other 'Councillors' – two (one male, one female) to be nominated by the Players' Association which is to be formed, one to be elected by the Full Members of BCCI from amongst themselves and one to be



nominated by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India. These measures address the following concerns:

- a. Transparency is brought in, and independent voices are heard in the governance of the BCCI for the first time;
- b. The public are the primary stakeholders in the game while its players form its very core. Their involvement through these representatives is most deserving and long awaited.
- c. As women are nearly half the population of the country, the anomalous fact that they do not have a voice in the governance of the sport that has a 'billion hearts' beating for it is now rectified.
- d. The nominee of the C&AG also brings financial and audit experience which would bring in much required oversight into monitoring the finances of the BCCI.
- e. It continues to ensure a strong say for the Full Members, as it provides that two-thirds' strength on the Council is made up of their representatives.

In order to ensure that the posts are not treated as permanent positions of power, each term should be for three years. The total period for which a person can be a member of the Apex Council shall be nine



years regardless of the capacity in which such position was or is occupied. However, in order to ensure that there is an appropriate cooling-off period, no person shall be a member of the Apex Council for two consecutive terms. Any elected Councillor shall stand automatically disqualified after nine years as an office bearer, and shall also be disqualified from contesting or holding the post if he has completed the age of 70 years, is charged under the penal law, is declared to be of unsound mind, is a Minister or government servant or holds any post of another sports body in the country. Any nominated Councillor however, would not have more than one term in office. The endeavour in this regard is to filter those who are able and enthusiastic to govern the game that is the national passion.



Chapter Three: Management

Universally, all competent sports organisations thrive on having professionals in charge of the actual administration of the game, bringing to it the very skills that are so positively utilized for big corporations and businesses. Aspects of operations, marketing, human resources, regulatory, strategy and finances are looked at keeping the preservation and development of the sport as the primary consideration. Thus, governance and policy direction are kept separate from the actual implementation of that vision.

These multiple tiers exist internationally in the Football Association (FA) of the United Kingdom, the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and the Federation Internationale de Hockey sur Gazon (FIH). Similar structures exist in the domestic leagues for baseball, basketball and American football in the United States (MLB, NBA and NFL respectively). Such a composition has also been proposed in the Carter & Crawford Report on Cricket Australia.

As the Apex Council of the BCCI is not equipped to deal with issues of cricketing and non-cricketing management, it is felt that a separate rung for day-to-day management and guidance be created. The purpose of this is to move from ad-hocism to institutionalisation. The BCCI and its Members will have to now run as companies do, with specific



responsibilities placed on full-time professionals with established skill-sets, with reporting systems, high-level IT solutions and no interference from the governors.

While the non-cricketing management will have to be by professional managers headed by a CEO (who will act as a nodal officer), the pure cricketing matters (selection, coaching and performance evaluation) deserve to be left exclusively to the ex-players who have the greater domain knowledge, except for umpiring which should similarly be handled exclusively by umpires. As also the CEO, these Cricket and Umpires Committees would be accountable directly to the Apex Council. The IPL's Governing Council would however report directly to the general body of the BCCI.

There would also be two Committees that would be advisory in nature – the Tours, Fixtures & Technical Committee and the Tournaments Committee. Their advice would guide the CEO and the Managers in managing the affairs of the BCCI, but it would be the CEO who would be accountable to the Apex Council.

The CEO would ideally be a person with managerial experience for five years as the MD/CEO of a corporation with an annual turnover of at least Rs.100 crore. There would be a maximum of six managers to assist the CEO who would have expertise primarily in the streams of



Operations, Finance, Technical, Compliance (legal), Human Resources and Media. The CEO would be on contract with the BCCI and have a fixed tenure of five years (unless the contract is terminated by mutual agreement or by a 3 months' notice by either party), whereas the Managers will be career employees. The functions of the CEO would form the core of the organizational dealings of the BCCI, and he may distribute or delegate them in any manner he chooses among the Managers. It will be his primary mandate to cater to the two main contributors to the game of cricket – the fans and the players – and to take all measures to accommodate their needs. It will also be the duty of the CEO to ensure that all non-cricketing and logistical concerns of the Players are duly addressed through dedicated personnel so that the team can concentrate single-mindedly on what they do best: playing cricket.

Innovation in cricket administration is the need of the hour. The Fourth Test of the India-South Africa Freedom Series that recently concluded in New Delhi has demonstrated how innovative thinking in filling up the otherwise empty stands by permitting school children to view the match free or at nominal prices has created greater interest in the game.

The Cricket Committees would be seven in number dealing with selection, coaching, performance evaluation and talent resource



development of Men, Women, Junior, Zonal and Differently-Abled teams. Each of these Committees would comprise only former players. In accordance with substantial feedback and recommendations in various other realms as well, a three member committee for selection is thought to be ideal. These Committees would answer directly to the Apex Council although their quarterly reports would be routed to the Council via the CEO.

Ordinarily, spotting talent at the highest level is a continuous exercise for the national selection committee. But now since the Cricket Talent Committee has been separately constituted, restricting the selectors to 3 members will also be more compact, and increase the authority of the selection committee and make it accountable for team performance.

A most unfortunate fact that was made known to the Committee was that the Indian women's cricket team had last played a Test Match 8 years ago. Coupled with general chauvinism, the women players receive paltry earnings and have only a one month long domestic season. Unlike other countries including neighbours Sri Lanka and Pakistan, no central contracts are given to women players, and not even small measures like complimentary tickets for matches are provided to them. The Women's Cricket Committee is to be therefore formed to exclusively pay attention

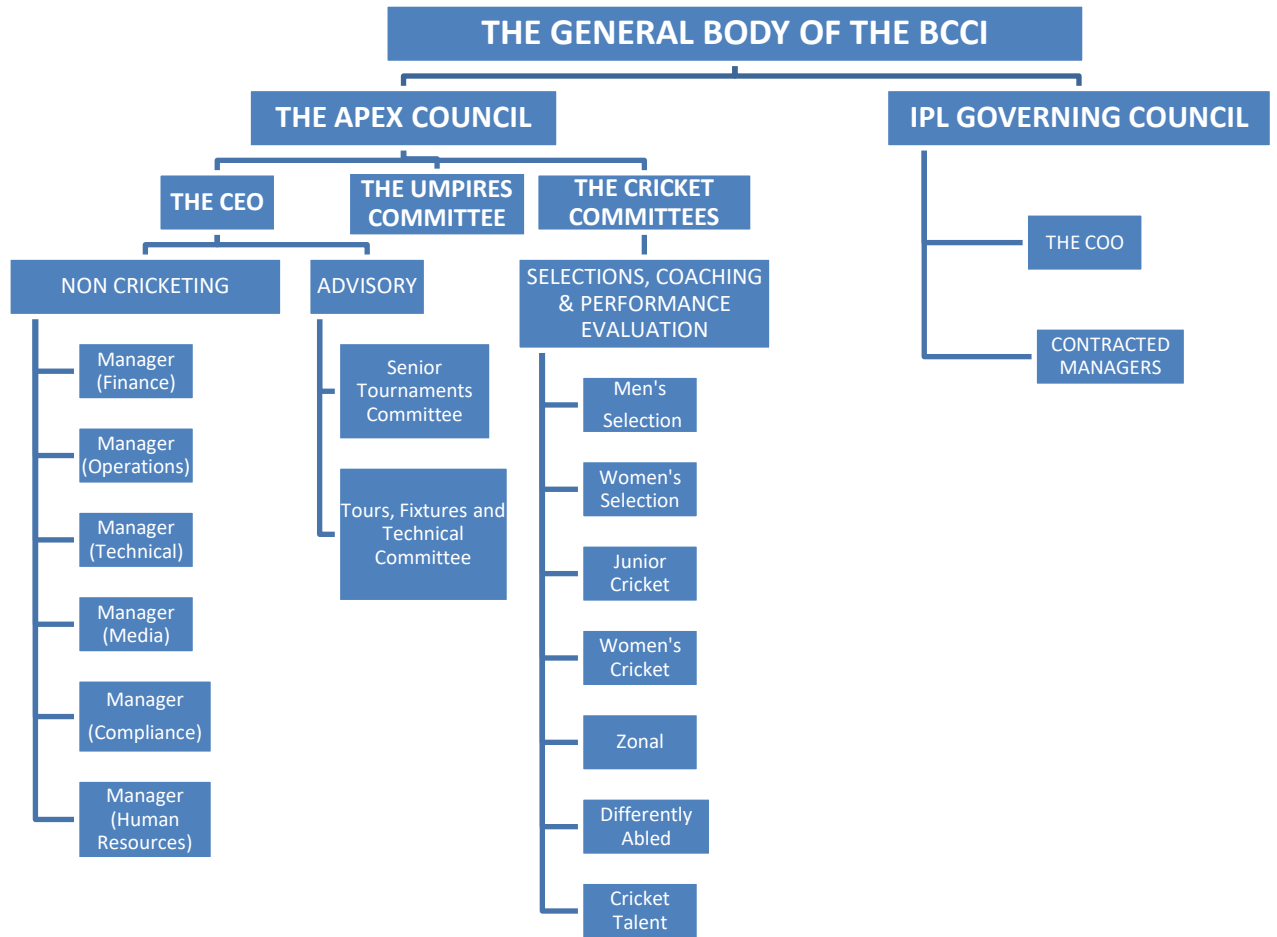


to this much ignored department in addition to the Women's Selection Committee.

While the BCCI is the parent body governing cricket in India, neither the Constitutional documents of the BCCI nor the website and other material available suggest any promotion or association with cricket for the differently-abled, which is a significant omission. In a nation such as ours, with its passion for cricket, it is all the more important to take along all sections in an endeavour to promote the sport, and make Indian cricket truly inclusive. A fine example of this is the England Disability Cricket Pathway produced by the England & Wales Cricket Board, which shows how this section of society can be sensitively dealt with. The Differently-Abled Cricket Committee will hopefully take guidance from the English effort in bringing the various disabled teams under a single umbrella in order to make a concerted effort to improve Indian cricket.

The Umpires Committee is another Committee comprising only Umpires, which conducts tests, considers confidential reports and selects and classifies umpires for officiating games under the auspices of the BCCI. This Committee would also report directly to the Apex Council.

The structure that should be put in place is illustrated by the following chart:



Apart from the 13 “Standing Committees” that find mention in the Constitution of the BCCI, there are several dozen other Committees that are created from time to time, usually based on the ad-hoc decision of the President of the time. These include the very specialized ‘Vizzy Trophy Committee’, ‘the TV Production Committee’, ‘the Ground & Pitches Committee’, ‘the Museum Committee’ and several more. Representatives of the Full Members are distributed across the Committees, although their meetings, work done, goals met and general purpose are not considered. Sometimes, as was the case with the recently



constituted 'Cricket Advisory Committee', the members themselves find no roles assigned, nor instructions given as to what is to be done.

The present Management structure does away with the need for such Committees that eventually serve no purpose other than to expend the BCCI's resources. However, two Standing Committees are retained in modified forms for the purpose of providing guidance and advice to the CEO and his Managers, especially as they will be new to the functioning of the BCCI. These are the Senior Tournaments Committee, and the Tours, Fixtures & Technical Committee.



Chapter Four: IPL

The phrase “cash cow” has been employed to describe the T-20 league that has captured the imagination of a generation. Big money, Bollywood stars, expatriate cheerleaders, blaring music and a global audience came together to create this grand carnival in 2008, which looks set to continue unabated as it readies to enter its ninth season. True to its name, it has become a ‘premier league’.

The fact that the IPL is the single largest revenue generator for the BCCI cannot be lost sight of. Without the IPL, much of the media attention and international interest would be lost. However, the governance of the IPL has left much to be desired, run as it is by a Committee of twelve which denies any role to the franchisee companies who are responsible for fostering competition and making revenue. Once again, there is no independent voice, with ten of the members representing the Full Members and two being former cricketers hand-picked by the Board. The IPL Governing Council needs to be reconstituted with more autonomy, comprising not only of representatives of the Full Members, but also of Franchisees, Players and an independent auditor.

The Committee proposes a Governing Council with only nine members, comprising of three ex-officio members (the Secretary, the



Treasurer and the CEO of BCCI), two representatives of the members of BCCI to be elected by the General Body, two nominees of the Franchisees, one nominee being the C&AG's Councillor on the Apex Council and one being a nominee of the Players' Association. As per this arrangement, four out of nine members of the IPL Governing Council will be independent of BCCI, thereby providing a much-needed autonomy and balance in management of the most lucrative enterprise of the Board. One of the two representatives of the Members of BCCI elected by the General Body shall be the Chairperson of the Governing Council. It is clarified that the nominees of the Franchisees shall rotate on an annual basis and no Franchisee shall be represented again until all others have had a turn.

This Committee also recommends that the Committees / Commissions to be appointed under the IPL Regulations (Anti-Corruption Code, Code of Conduct, Operational Rules, etc.) ought to consist of members selected by a panel of the Ombudsman, the Ethics Officer and the CEO which shall be presided over by the Ombudsman. This will ensure independence from the BCCI.

The fact that IPL players, many with modest credentials, are richly remunerated by the Franchisees while those who don India colours and bring laurels to the nation are remunerated less is also a matter of



heartburn. Consider in addition the fact that the Indian cricket calendar is now annually adjusted to accommodate as many days of this extravaganza as possible, and one realizes that what would otherwise be mere entertainment has become the bastion of Indian cricket.

It ought not to be forgotten that the aim of the BCCI is to attract the best possible cricketing talent to the national side. The fact that many international players have declined lucrative IPL contracts to preserve themselves for national duty shows the path necessary for Indian cricket.

Cricket calendars also ought to keep this in mind, and the BCCI should ensure that at least 15 days gap should be provided between the IPL season and the national calendar. A testing and cramped cricketing year takes a substantial toll on a professional cricketer's body and longevity, and it is the responsibility of the BCCI to take remedial measures immediately.



Chapter Five: Players' Association & Agent Registration

Two of the necessary initiatives that the Committee recommends concern an association for Players and a strict set of procedures to govern players' Agents. While almost all Test playing nations have a Players' Association, there seems to have been reluctance on the part of the BCCI to initiate such a move, ostensibly due to the apprehension of unionisation. Both England and Australia have agents' accreditation systems in place to ensure that only those professionals who qualify through a rigorous knowledge and ethics selection process can alone represent the players. These systems are administered by the national board in conjunction with the respective players' associations.

5.1 Players' Association

To be one among the select few that makes up the Indian national cricket team is no easy task. The stiffness of competition and the weight of public expectation from national players are extremely demanding, and that makes their burden heavier.

A very important step towards improving the lot of the players is to give them a voice to raise their concerns and have them discussed with the BCCI. Apart from this, in cricketing matters, the ex-cricketers' skill, expertise and experience deserve to be utilised for the betterment of the game. As every other Test Playing nation has a Players' Association, and



even the Players' representative at the ICC is an Indian, it is only fitting that an independent Players' Association is established. This Association shall be comprised only of Players who have retired from competitive cricket in all forms of the game. It will be for such Association to nominate representatives from amongst its members to the Governing Body and Apex Council. In order that the Association is established and functions in a reasonable manner, the financial needs should be met by the BCCI.

It would be most appropriate that this Association is established by the players themselves and brought into effect by an Honorary Committee of 4 members, which shall be the Steering Committee. The members of this Steering Committee shall be:

- a. Mr.G.K.Pillai, Former Union Home Secretary (Chairperson)
- b. Mr.Mohinder Amarnath, Former National Cricketer
- c. Ms.Diana Edulji, Former National Cricketer
- d. Mr.Anil Kumble, Former National Cricketer

It shall be the task of the Steering Committee, as early as possible, with the assistance of the BCCI, to identify and invite all eligible Ex-Cricketers to be members of the Association, to open bank accounts, receive funds from the BCCI, conduct the first elections for office bearers, communicate the names of BCCI player nominees to the Board



and take all necessary steps in this regard. The model code for the Cricket Players' Association is at **ANNEXURE-B**.

5.2 Agents' Registration

There exist grave concerns about those who act as agents of players. Their backgrounds are normally unknown, as are the commercial arrangements entered into by and on behalf of the players. The conduct of players in the last few years has also shown that they have not been properly informed and instructed about the applicable principles and ethics governing the BCCI, the IPL and the game.

It is the obligation of the Players' Agent to ensure proper information and adherence to all norms by his client and also to protect the player from any suspicious contact or questionable overtures.

The norms for Agents' Registration are given in **ANNEXURE-C** and this will be administered by the BCCI in consultation with the Cricket Players' Association.



Chapter Six: Conflict of Interest

The events that have led up to this Report revolve around one oft-quoted and little understood concept: Conflict of Interest. The fact that individuals in positions of trust, adjudication and governance must conduct themselves in a manner not remotely suggestive of compromise has been an underpinning of all governance in the civilized world. In the courts, an oft-quoted precept is “justice must not only be done, but must also be seen to be done”. However, the last few years of governance at the BCCI has revealed that there is, at best, an extremely casual understanding of the concept of Conflict of Interest.

In our interactions with various stakeholders, it became apparent that the understanding of the concept of Conflict of Interest by a Player or Official is very different from that of a legal professional who is attuned to conflict mechanisms and their avoidance on a daily basis. Several cricketers of impeccable repute were surprised when queried about what were obviously potential conflict situations, needing to be convinced that no wrongdoing was necessary for a conflict to exist. The Committee had to point out to them that the very holding of a position which could be abused to undermine the integrity of the game renders the occupant vulnerable to such a charge.



During the course of the last few months, the Committee has come to learn of several instances of obvious conflict where contracts have been entered into by the BCCI, where the contractor or vendor includes family members of an Office Bearer. The fact that there was no voluntary disclosure makes matters worse, raising a presumption of wrongdoing and subterfuge against the individuals in question.

Understandably, much of this is left to the subjective assessment of the person concerned. In consonance with the practice internationally, either undertakings or declarations are furnished as some form of indemnity, or in more obvious situations, sanctions are imposed. Before the IPL, it could well have been argued that the BCCI felt no cause to take steps in this regard, but with its advent, the conduct of the BCCI has been to accommodate the conflict rather than to prevent it. Unfortunately, matters needed to reach the highest court of the land before the BCCI decided to take tentative steps towards setting its house in order.

The seriousness of conflict of interest affecting sport cannot be underestimated. While it may seem surprising to the individual administrator or player that their position could be capable of such an interpretation, it is out of abundant caution in the interests of the *game*, that its regulation is mandated. In most, if not all cases, there is no



question being raised about the integrity of the individual, but it is out of concern that the occupation of a particular post should not allow reasonable presumptions or inferences to be drawn about the compromise which *could* ensue, that would in turn lower the dignity of the game.

A glance at the various international sports bodies such as FIFA, ICC, FIH and AFC that are considered in the appendix to this Report would show that conflict of interest issues are central to the regulation of ethical conduct in sport. This is why the administration of these principles is coupled with the appointment of a responsible and independent individual who assists the organisation in the administration of the policy.

Even as this report is being prepared, two further IPL franchises have been added, and questions regarding conflict of interest are raised, which cannot be satisfactorily addressed by the policy in place.

The Committee has therefore spelt out specific types of Conflict of Interest, and applied them to individuals employed with, or connected to the BCCI. Every Office Bearer, Player, Councillor, Employee, Administrator, Team Official, Umpire or other person connected to the BCCI, its Members or the IPL and its Franchisees is mandated to avoid any act or omission which is, or is perceived to be, likely to bring the



interest of the individual in conflict with the interest of the game of cricket. In order to provide clarity, the conflicts have been broadly classified as tractable and intractable, with separate solutions or sanctions as the case may be. An Ethics Officer is also to be appointed who would administer the policy for the BCCI.



Chapter Seven: Ombudsman, Ethics & Electoral Officers

The functioning of the BCCI cannot be truly transparent and independent without the creation of 3 new authorities essential to its functioning in its new avatar. One to resolve internal conflicts *independent* of the BCCI, another to administer the principles governing *conflict of interest*, and a third to ensure that the *process* of selecting office bearers is clean and transparent.

7.1 The Ombudsman

As the genesis of this Committee has shown, there are several disputes that exist within the BCCI, born out of years of apathy in governance and gross mismanagement. The compact entered into between the State Associations on the one hand and the BCCI on the other has rarely been equitable and balanced, with the latter exercising its hegemony over the constituents. The Committee feels that as with any quasi-federal structure, the relationship must be carefully moderated in an objective manner. Thus far, it is the Board that has been exercising this function, immediately becoming a judge in its own cause. The fact that certain associations have been recognized as the legitimate representatives of their States has led to disgruntlement and litigation, not least from Bihar. Rajasthan tells a different tale, with the election of an apparently unpalatable figure making the entire association, and thus the State,



persona non grata. In both Jammu & Kashmir and Delhi meanwhile, rival factions have attempted to field alternate teams, much to the disgust of the players who are used as pawns in the political game.

Such instances are mere illustrations of a larger malaise – the absence of a suitable dispute resolution process. Even an arbitration system as hitherto existed is insufficient, and palpably inappropriate as it often pitted two unequals against each other, with the State association beholden to the Board for matches, grants and revenues. The challenges under the auspices of the Arbitration & Conciliation Act, 1996 inevitably dragged on in the courts with an adversarial process and its attendant bitterness, when an independent entity was the ideal option.

In order to reduce the judicial role and the burdening of the courts and to expedite dispute resolution, the Committee therefore recommends the appointment of a retired judge of the Supreme Court or a former Chief Justice of a High Court as the Ombudsman of the BCCI, to be appointed once a year at the Annual General Meeting. This Ombudsman shall, either on a reference by the Apex Council or on a complaint by a Member/Franchisee/Zone/Players' Association/ Player/ Team Official/ Administrator or *suo motu* (on its own), investigate and resolve any dispute between the Board and any of the above entities or



among themselves by following due principles of natural justice, production of evidence and fair hearing.

The Ombudsman may also entertain and redress any grievance or complaint by members of the public if they concern ticketing, access and facilities at stadia, and lack of transparency in the award of contracts for goods and services.

7.2 The Ethics Officer

The monitoring of the principles of Conflict of Interest along with the Code of Behaviour of the BCCI and any other such rules shall be done by an Ethics Officer. His powers include the laying down of additional guidelines or bye-laws on ethics, the initiation of investigation or adjudicatory proceedings and the award of warnings, fines, reprimands, suspensions or other action as may be recommended to the BCCI.

In addition, the BCCI and the IPL have codes of conduct and behaviour for Administrators, Team Officials, Umpires and Players both on and off the field, including in relation to match fixing, betting, non-reporting of suspicious approaches, doping, etc. The approach of the BCCI in recent years in administering these Codes has not been encouraging, especially when powerful figures in the sport were involved.



The Committee has referred to the role of Ethics Officer in constituting Committees/Commissions under the IPL Regulations while dealing with IPL in Chapter 4.

As far as all non-IPL ethics issues are concerned, the same shall be administered and adjudicated by the Ethics Officer who shall be a former Justice of a High Court to be appointed by the Board.

The Full Member associations shall also adopt and observe all the above ethical principles including those concerning Conflict of Interest. They shall also appoint an Ethics Officer, but however, depending on workload and expediency, the Ombudsman to be appointed may also discharge the functions of an Ethics Officer in an association. Additionally, multiple States may have a common Ethics Officer for the sake of convenience and economy.

7.3 The Electoral Officer

The experience of several elections at the BCCI has shown that while the governing law needs to be seriously revisited, it is not sufficient for the process of elections to be internally monitored. Especially with the various disqualifications from holding office laid down above, there are bound to be questions raised right from the very inception of the election process.



The Committee is of the view that whenever elections are to be held, an independent authority needs to be vested with the powers of scrutinizing nominations and clearing them, of drawing up and verifying the electoral roll after identifying appropriate representatives of the Full Members, of ensuring that no candidate falls foul of the Rules, and for declaration of results. The Electoral Officer will also be responsible for conducting elections to the Committees under the Rules. In order to ensure competence and to distance the entity from any suspicion or bias, the Committee is of the view that a former Election Commissioner for India be appointed as the Electoral Officer for the BCCI, and that his or her decision would be final and conclusive.



Chapter Eight: Transparency and Oversight

Shortly after this Committee was constituted, an effort was made to view the prevailing Constitution and bye-laws of the BCCI from its website, which proved to be futile, as the website did not carry these basic documents. Many stakeholders, in the course of interactions with the Committee stated that very little of the functioning of the BCCI is done in a fair and transparent manner and that those who seek greater information are either rebuffed by the Board or won over by enticements. Those whose professional livelihoods depend on cricket acknowledge the BCCI's total sway over the sport, and choose to remain silent rather than upset the apple cart.

Even in regard to cricket commentary, games organized by the BCCI have a contractual condition that there can be no criticism of the BCCI or its selection process, thereby curtailing an exercise of free speech. Objective commentary ought to be permitted about everything connected to the match, allowing the commentators to express themselves freely and objectively.

As the medium is very important, it is necessary that to serve both Players' and the public, all Rules, Regulations, Codes and Instructions of the BCCI be translated into Hindi and both versions be uploaded onto the official website by the BCCI and its Members. It is also necessary that



the BCCI use the latest and updated tools of Information Technology in governance, management and general decision making.

Commerce has also overtaken the enjoyment of the sport, with advertisements continuing many a time, even after the first ball and again commencing even before the last ball of the over is played, thereby interrupting the full and proper broadcast of the game. Regardless of the wicket that has fallen, century having been hit or other momentous event, full liberty is granted to maximise the broadcaster's income by cutting away to a commercial, thereby robbing sport of its most attractive attribute – emotion. It is recommended that all existing contracts for international Test & One-Day matches be revised and new ones ensure that only breaks taken by both teams for drinks, lunch and tea will permit the broadcast to be interrupted with advertisements, as is the practice internationally. Also, the entire space of the screen during the broadcast will be dedicated to the display of the game, save for a small sponsor logo or sign.

A perusal of the expenses of the BCCI, particularly with reference to the attendance of meetings of the various sub-committees as well as the expenses on professional services suggests that there ought to be better financial management. Keeping in mind that the BCCI is not for



profit, resources must be used for the development of the game, and financial prudence must be exercised to avoid unnecessary expenditure.

There appear to be no standard norms and objective criteria for the selection and empanelment of professionals in the fields of law, audit, etc. Similarly, even as far as infrastructure contracts, media engagements, television rights and equipment supply, no norms or procedures exist to select or engage contractors in a fair and transparent manner.

In the light of all this, the Committee proposes that clear principles of transparency be laid down, and the BCCI website and office will carry all rules, regulations and office orders of the BCCI, the constitution of the various committees, their resolutions, the expenditures under various heads, the reports of the Ombudsman/Auditor/Electoral Officer/Ethics Officer and the annual reports and balance sheets. In addition, norms and procedures shall be laid down for the engagement of service professionals and contractors, and there shall be full transparency of all tenders floated and bids invited by or on behalf of the BCCI. The website shall also have links to the various stadia with seating capacities and transparent direct ticketing facilities.

The Right to Information Act, 2005 ('RTI Act') enacts that public authorities shall make known the particulars of the facilities available to



citizens. While the issue of the BCCI being amenable to the RTI Act is *sub judice* before the High Court of Madras in W.P.No.20229/2013, many respondents who appeared and interacted with the Committee were of the view that BCCI's activities must come under the RTI Act. Having regard to the emphasis laid by the Hon'ble Supreme Court that BCCI discharges public functions and also the Court's reference to indirect approval of the Central and State Governments in activities which has created a monopoly in the hands of the BCCI over cricket, the Committee feels that the people of the country have a right to know the details about the BCCI's functions and activities. It is therefore recommended that the legislature must seriously consider bringing BCCI within the purview of the RTI Act.

The Committee also believes that the Auditor be tasked not only with a financial analysis, but also specifically carry out a performance audit (Compliance Report) to determine whether the State associations have actually expended their grants towards the development of the game and mark them on a report card which will be utilized to determine the due they deserve the following year. This oversight also needs to consider the high and unreasonable expenditures by the Board on various heads, which would have to be limited and streamlined.



Chapter Nine: Match-Fixing and Betting

For those from an earlier era, cricket was the typical gentleman's game. Clad in whites, grown men would chase after a red leather ball on sunny greens of the English countryside. With its advent to the sub-continent and the Caribbean, cricket saw an upheaval. Now it was an opiate to the masses, and it heralded its arrival with colour, noise and passion. When television came, it brought with it an unparalleled reach, now making the game available to global audiences of billions. Even in the United States, where it has not attained the prominence of the local sports, international games are available for pay-per-view and through online streaming.

The revenue generated by international cricket, and particularly matches featuring the Indian team are now the subject of endorsements, commercials, pre and post match programmes and various vignettes measured to extract every penny possible as revenue. It is not surprising therefore, that it has also attracted the interest of the wagering community. With only horse-racing legally permissible in India, those interested in betting have gone underground, with illegal bookies managing affairs. As is inevitable, the *hawala* system has awakened to these channels and money laundering has also become an inevitable outcome.



The last couple of decades have shown a far murkier side of cricket – that of match fixing. From South Africa to Pakistan, instances of players involved in influencing the outcome of a game for profit has caused severe damage to the fabric of the game. There have been allegations in India of such nefarious activities, especially when cricket moved to Sharjah, and more so after the introduction of the cash-rich IPL. This is probably why the ICC decided to take the lead to check such malfeasance and instil a definite regulatory code among players and administrators alike.

There is a fundamental difference between betting and match/spot-fixing. The latter interferes with the integrity of the game and attempts to change the course of the match. It is tampering the game by the cricket players to benefit a few. On the other hand, betting is a general malaise indulged by different sections of society, not only with reference to cricket but other games also. While the issue of betting can be effectively dealt with by providing a legal framework, match/spot-fixing is neither pardonable nor a matter for regulation. The only way to deal with it is by making it a criminal offence punishable by law. The Committee recommends appropriate amendments by the legislature.

A perusal of the relevant BCCI and IPL regulations relating to Anti-Corruption show that the offences are classified under Corruption,



Betting and Misuse of inside information, and detail the standard of proof, the investigation and sanctions to be imposed by a disciplinary committee. By and large, these provisions seem to be satisfactory to govern the BCCI, but it would be necessary for the Disciplinary Committee referred to therein to be appointed by a Committee of the Ombudsman, the Ethics Officer and the CEO so that there is some independence in the grievance redressal process. Relevant amendments would therefore be necessary to the BCCI and IPL regulations in this regard.

As far as Betting alone is concerned, many of the respondents before the Committee were of the view that it would serve both the game and economy if it were legalized as has been done in the United Kingdom. It cannot be overlooked that the worldwide legal sports betting market is worth over 400 billion dollars. However, with the interest of cricket being foremost in our minds, it would always be necessary to protect and invoke transparency from those involved in the game.

While it is our recommendation that the legislatures ought to legalize betting in cricket, these must be with the following safeguards:

- a. Regulatory watchdogs would be necessary to ensure that the betting houses as well as those transacting there are strictly



monitored, failing which their registrations would be susceptible to cancellation.

- b. The Players, Administrators and others closely associated with the sport would be required to furnish the details of their incomes and assets for the sake of transparency.
- c. Licenses would have to be issued to those placing the bets as well, with age and identification details recorded.
- d. Strict penal sanctions would have to be imposed on those transgressing the license and other requirements.

Needless to say, betting by Administrators, Players, Match Officials, Team Officials, Owners, etc., shall continue to be an offence under the BCCI and IPL Rules & Regulations.

The need to educate and sensitize young players and debutants about game ethics, the need to inculcate discipline and integrity among players, and the need to spread awareness about the ills of betting, match/spot-fixing and other game related malpractices is well accepted and recognized. In fact, BCCI has already introduced the ACSU education module involving lectures by ICC instructors. But this is inadequate. It is therefore necessary for BCCI to take the following additional measures to ensure that cricket players in particular,



youngsters understand, appreciate and practise the ethics relating to the game:

- i. Prepare a Cricketers Handbook for young players, on the lines of Athletes' Handbook, 2013 (prepared by Go Sports Foundation) containing the Do's and Don'ts and FAQs.
- ii. Arrange for Lectures (preferably in local languages apart from English) and frequent interactions with cricket players and sport persons of unimpeachable integrity in regard to game ethics.
- iii. Create an Integrity Unit consisting of former cricket players of repute, committed to the cause of cricket, to act as mentors and guides, whom young players can meet on designated dates to discuss their doubts, problems and grievances related to the game.

Financial insecurity, short professional career and huge disparity in the contract money paid to different classes of players are some of the factors which tempt players towards malpractices. While reputed/glamorous players, particularly those with international exposure have huge incomes, the position of other national players, let alone fringe players, is not very rosy. Equally disturbing is the trend of young players suddenly exposed to riches by way of IPL not being



suitably guided on responsible conduct, with the result that in order to maintain their extravagant lifestyles, they are lured into misadventures in the form of betting and match/spot-fixing. Attention should be bestowed by BCCI to give education about ethics and financial management to youngsters and to secure the post-cricket life of all players.

Experience has shown that when a betting or match/spot-fixing incident occurs, BCCI is ill-prepared to deal with the same. BCCI should therefore coordinate with State machinery so as to create a dedicated special investigation wing in the police to be activated whenever there are complaints, and also to ensure that such events do not occur. This can be done by BCCI agreeing to bear the expenditure of such special wing. It has been brought to the notice of the Committee that the official post-match parties of the IPL which mandate player presence have not been conducive to the game and the conduct of the players. The Committee also learns that this has now been discontinued. BCCI should be careful not to offer any avenues which may affect the game and the conduct of the players.

A database of undesirable elements (bookies, fixers, etc.,) though maintained by BCCI-ACU, is not shared with the Players and Team Officials, with the result that they remain in the dark and might deal with



them unwittingly. Such non-sharing may even enable a technical defence of ignorance when such incidents surface. The sharing of such information should be in good faith to protect the interest of the person to whom such communication is made and for the public good of the game. Such a caution should clarify that it does not seek to cast any aspersion on the person regarding whom any information is shared.

Any person associated with the governance or management, or employed or engaged by the BCCI has a duty to inform the Apex Council or the CEO of any undesirable activity or approaches which have a bearing on the game or the functioning of the BCCI.

In addition to this, when conducting franchise auctions, the BCCI shall verify and ascertain whether the person controlling the prospective franchisee has criminal antecedents. These are some of the measures which may help in preventing illegalities in regard to the game.



Chapter Ten: Constitution & Functioning of Members

Apart from the BCCI, a majority of the regional members of the BCCI are societies registered either under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 or the respective State acts. A handful have recently been registered as companies under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 (Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra). The Cricket Club of India (CCI) and the National Cricket Club (NCC) are also public companies limited by guarantee. Thus, the existing Members of the BCCI have different structures. Uniformity in the constitution and functioning of the Member Associations is necessary for the proper governance of the game. The different structures in Member Associations have brought about much disquiet in Indian cricket.

Problems

a. Membership & Privileges

Some Member Associations have clubs and individuals as members, some have only clubs as members and others have individuals and patrons as members. There does not seem to be any guideline or basis for membership, and these seem to be ad-hoc, often at the pleasure of the incumbents. Where clubs are members, a few powerful interests control several cricket clubs,



thereby positioning themselves for easy election with a sizeable chunk of the convenient electorate. New entrants are discouraged or muzzled out of contention. Some associations exclude even former Indian cricketers from membership (including legendary performers), without any basis, and ensure that the association functions more as a social club controlled by a few families. The priority often seems to be to have an exclusive venue with bar and dining facilities with other recreational avenues for the members, and not the promotion of cricket. Tickets to games are also distributed as largesse among members as entitlement, thereby shrinking their availability to the public at large. In both Chennai and Kolkata for example, it is learnt that the respective stadia at Chepauk and Eden Gardens had been constructed on land which had been leased to the Madras Cricket Club (MCC) and National Cricket Club (NCC) respectively, but now, even with the change in structure, the respective Clubs continue to be housed at the premises. While at NCC, the members have ticket and other entitlements, the same is not so for the MCC.

b. Posts & Tenures

There is much rancour concerning the administration of these Associations. Posts either exist without any specified terms, or sans any restriction on the number of terms which can be held. As a



result, in some Associations, the incumbents have continued at the helm for over three decades, creating personal and hereditary monopolies which have no place in sport. Unfortunately, a glance at several other Indian sports bodies reveal the same malaise, with individuals remaining at the helm for years together. Some Associations have also made amendments to their regulations to permit certain individuals to effectively have posts for life, and to allow unregulated tenures. The lack of any qualifications or disqualifications also ensures that those with full time occupations superficially involve themselves, thereby compromising their commitment to the association and the game of cricket. Several public servants hold lead positions in State Associations which take a substantial toll on both sets of their respective obligations to the public.

c. Voting

Proxy voting seems to be the bane of several associations which have individual members. Even the continuing existence of the members is not confirmed, but coteries are promoted and candidates elected on the basis of several signed proxy votes given, very often with the name of the proxy left blank to be filled in later. This has given rise to unscrupulous practices that have even been brought to the attention of the courts.



d. Compliance

Companies and Societies have fundamentally different constitutions and objects, apart from different reporting and compliance mechanisms. While the associations that are companies have been registered as not-for-profit (earlier under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 and now under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013), there is little to show that there has been compliance as legally mandated. As far as Associations registered as societies, the relevant statutes provide for a comparatively lesser degree of transparency.

e. Expenditure & Infrastructure

One of the major criticisms of the functioning of the BCCI has been the fact that there has been no accountability by Member Associations of the grants given to them by the BCCI for the 'development of cricket'. No detailed account are maintained, no oversight or audit is carried out, and on the rare occasion where a particular Association has been found wanting, there is no follow up action. The funds are allegedly utilized for winning votes by apportioning amounts to constituents (clubs, district associations, etc.,) and quite frequently being siphoned away without any accountability. State infrastructure remains poorly developed with very few turf wickets or cricket grounds outside of the existing



stadium. The stadia (even new ones) do not provide basic facilities to the public, nor offer food and water at a reasonable price or of an acceptable quality. More importantly, the lack of hygienic toilets and access to the differently-abled discourage many patrons. The ad-hoc and irregular manner of creating stands or refurbishing the premises without proper municipal permissions has led to a stand-off with at least two State Governments (Delhi and Tamil Nadu). The eventual victim is of course the cricket fan who loses out on a chance to watch a home match.

f. Lack of professionalism

There is no distinction between governance and management in the Member Associations, and no steps have been taken to create modern and professional systems to take cricket administration forward. The accounting systems for example, are uniformly capable of alterations without a trace, thereby opening up the possibility of abuse. There is no incentive to create revenue streams, and it is time to rouse the Member Associations from their comfortable couches where they rest upon BCCI's largesse.

The one notable exception to this are the detailed modules created at the behest of the administration of the Karnataka State Cricket Association in 2012 which sought to overhaul the policies



and processes that were hampering the functioning of the Association. The report prepared by an external consultant seems to fairly reflect the very issues that concern all other State Associations as well. This report is at **Appendix-7**. IT solutions would go a long way to ensure that human interference is reduced and that the association functions transparently. A reluctance to adopt such avenues (even by the Karnataka Association) would raise grave doubts about the actual intentions of the administrators.

g. Dual posts

Strangely, while conflict of interest issues have been at the heart of recent controversies, virtually all office bearers of the BCCI continue to be office bearers in their respective State Associations *at the same time*. Presidents and Secretaries of State Associations are to discharge functions with the primary interest of the State in mind, but as BCCI office bearers, these interests would have to be subordinated to that of national interest. Often, with powers centred on an office bearer, that individual has been found to appoint his State associates to critical posts in the BCCI, thereby creating an imbalance.



h. Interference in selection

Over the last two decades, there have been disturbing accounts of some of the country's leading players being forced to migrate and play for other States because the home state's administration looks to suppress their avenues and brook no independent action by the Selection Committees. Large amounts of influence, in all possible unsavoury forms have been utilized in order to have one player or other selected, with merit being wholly ignored. The problem is so deep-rooted, that many feel that the States are not inducting or fielding their best available talent.

i. Transparency

While quite a few associations have websites, the relevant and critical details including their constitution, bye-laws, accounts, expenditure, ethics guidelines and player statistics are rarely available or up to date. There are many others who do not even have or maintain websites, nor do their offices respond to requests from journalists and others for sharing such material. Information Technology solutions, as referred to earlier, would be useful to ensure that such transparency is achieved.



Solutions

There was a consistent view among respondents to the queries that many of the ills befalling Indian cricket find their roots in the State Associations and their lack of administration. The root cause for the problem is that the BCCI is making substantial annual grants regarding which there is no oversight, and so the status quo remained as it was, with little effort by the provincial administrators.

Therefore, it is necessary that there is uniformity in the constitution and functioning of the various associations (without any office being created for life), that membership of social clubs be divorced from the administration of cricket which is a sombre task, that cricketers be made members and have a say in governance and that management be made professional. The State Associations must also create avenues to generate revenue, improve infrastructure and develop the sport, all of which will be marked through a detailed report card. There also has to be an audit and independent oversight of how resources are allocated and spent. It is necessary that all State Associations immediately transition to the use of tamper-proof accounting software which either does not permit alterations or which records all alterations made.

The conflicts that arise by holding office both at the BCCI and in the State Associations ought to be brought to an end by automatic



vacation of post at the local level when elected to the BCCI. Also, certain disqualifications have to be laid down that apply to those who seek office in the State Associations, along with limits on their tenures and terms. Corrective measures are to be brought into place so that professional managers will interface with the State Governments and attempt to rectify any prevailing shortfalls or drawbacks as far as infrastructure and permissions are concerned.

The electoral process will have to be transparent and independent, for which an Electoral Officer (a retired Central or respective State Election Commissioner) will have to be appointed. In the event that no such person is available, any other former State Election Commissioner, preferably from a neighbouring State may be appointed. This officer would conduct and supervise the entire process of elections from the filing of nominations to the declaration of results and the resolution of any disputes and objections during the election.

It is also necessary to have an independent selection committee in which the Governing body of the State Association will have no say, and also for the cricket committees manned only by former players to have an independent say on coaching and evaluation of team performance, apart from the selection of players.



The policies of BCCI regarding dispute resolution and Conflict of Interest, as well as the norms for Agents' Registration will have to apply to the State Associations as well. In order to administer this, the associations may also appoint an Ombudsman-cum-Ethics Officer. It would be open to multiple States to have a single Ombudsman / Ethics Officer so as to reduce expenditure. The person so appointed shall be an eminent person well versed in adjudicatory processes and it will be his/her task to decide all disputes between the Association and any of its constituents (Districts, Clubs, etc.), or between the constituents, or complaints of any player or member of the public, by following the principles of natural justice before rendering a decision.

As Ethics Officer, it shall be his duty to administer the principles of Conflict of Interest and recommend such action as may be deemed fit as far as an Office Bearer, Employee, Player, Team Official or other individual connected to the State Association is concerned. Needless to say, if it is an issue that concerns the BCCI as well, the Ethics Officer of the BCCI shall proceed to decide the issue. The Ethics Officer shall also decide all issues concerning the violation of the Agents' Registration norms as far as players of the State are concerned.

Each State Association will necessarily have a website that carries the following minimum details:



- a. The Constitution, Memorandum of Association and Rules & Regulations, Bye-Laws and Office Orders and directions that govern the functioning of the Association, its Committees, the Ombudsman and the Ethics Officer.
- b. The list of Members of the Association as well as those who are defaulters.
- c. The annual accounts & audited balance sheets and head-wise income and expenditure details.
- d. Details of male, female and differently abled players representing the State at all age groups with their names, ages and detailed playing statistics.
- e. Advertisements and invitations for tenders when the Association is seeking supply of any goods or services (exceeding a minimum prescribed value), or notices regarding recruitment, as also the detailed process for awarding such contracts or making such recruitments.
- f. Details of all goals and milestones for developing cricket in the State along with timelines and the measures undertaken to achieve each of them.



g. Details of all office bearers and other managerial staff (including CEO, COO, CFO, etc.)

h. Details of directives from the BCCI and their compliances.

These websites will have to be maintained and updated at least on a quarterly basis. All the above information will have to be maintained at the registered office of the State Association and when sought, the same shall be shared with the applicant on the payment of a reasonable fee, as may be prescribed by the Association.

The cost of construction of a stadium runs into hundreds of crores. On the other hand, formation of a cricket playing ground costs a small fraction of the cost of a stadium. It makes more sense to have cricket playing grounds in each District, rather than having one or two stadia in a State. In fact, the Committee learns that some members are merely collecting the grants from BCCI and depositing them in a Bank so as to accumulate sufficient funds necessary for taking up construction of a stadium. The result is some smaller States have neither a stadium nor well developed cricket playing grounds. BCCI should therefore encourage the State Associations to:

- a. Have as many cricket playing grounds and fields instead of multiple stadia, which will enable greater usage and access to greater number of players.



- b. Convert existing grounds and fields into turf wickets so that international standard facilities are made available even from a young age.
- c. To make the existing stadia amenable to other sports by providing for alternate surfaces to be laid (Astroturf for hockey, Carpet for tennis, etc.) so that income may be generated and there would be all round development of sport, care being taken not to damage the pitch. But they should not be used for public functions where thousands will stomp on the ground.

The above recommendations relating to State Associations (Full Members) will also be applicable to the 4 associations relegated to the category of Associate Members and who are entitled to disbursement of the grant from the BCCI.



END OF THE INNINGS

If there has been one unifying factor in India, it has been cricket. From C.K.Nayudu to Virat Kohli, the 32 captains of India and the men they have led have been equally deified and vilified by the masses, for such is the ability of the game to inflame passions. It is on behalf of these devotees of willow and leather that this Committee submits this effort to edify the BCCI.

In an effort to present the recommendations made by the Committee in brief, the following synopsis of our proposals are set out:

1. Membership
'One State, One Vote'

Only cricket Associations representing the States would have voting rights as Full Members of the Board, thereby ensuring equality among the territorial divisions. Any other existing members would be Associate Members.

2. Zones
'Zones for Tournaments alone'

The Zones would be relevant only for the purpose of the tournaments conducted amongst themselves, but not for nomination to the governance of the Board or to the various Standing Committees.



3. State Associations
'State Associations - Uniformity in Structure'

The Associations that are the Members would necessarily have to restrict the tenures of office bearers and prescribe disqualifications, do away with proxy voting, provide transparency in functioning, be open to scrutiny and audit by the BCCI and include players in membership and management. They would also have to abide by the conflict of interest policy prescribed by the Board, and divorce the Association from the social club, if any.

4. Office Bearers
'Limited Tenures & Cooling Off'

While all the existing office bearers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Joint Secretary) are retained in honorary positions, the number of Vice Presidents is pruned from five to one. Their duties have been realigned. The President is shorn of his say in selections. The additional vote for the President at meetings is deleted. The terms of these Office Bearers continue to be of 3 years, but with a maximum of 3 such terms regardless of the post held, with a cooling off period after each such term.



5. Governance
'Governance separated from management'

The 14 member Working Committee is replaced by a 9 member Apex Council (with one-third independent members) consisting of the Office Bearers of the BCCI, an elected representative of the General Body, two representatives of the Players Association (one man and one woman) and one nominee from the C&AG's office. Terms of eligibility and disqualification are specified with a bar on Ministers and government servants.

6. Management
'Professionalism in management'

Professionalism is brought in by introducing a CEO with strong credentials assisted by a team of managers to handle non-cricketing affairs. The large number of Standing Committees and Sub-Committees created by the BCCI has been reduced to two essential ones that would advise the CEO with reference to tours, technical aspects and tournaments.

The selection, coaching, performance evaluation and umpiring are to be handled by Cricket Committees manned only by former professionals. Specific provisions have been made to encourage cricket for women and the differently-abled.



7. The IPL
'Limited Autonomy for IPL'

The Governing Council of the IPL is reduced to 9, but includes 2 representatives of the Franchisees and nominees of the Players' Association and the C&AG's office.

8. Players
'A voice for Players'

There shall be a Cricket Players' Association affording membership to all international and most first class men and women retired cricketers. This Association shall discharge assigned functions with the financial support of the BCCI. It shall be brought into existence by an independent steering committee.

9. Agents
'Arms length for agents'

Players' interests are protected by ensuring that their Agents are registered under the prescribed norms administered by the BCCI and the Players' Cricket Association.

10. Conflict of Interest
'Avoidance of conflicts'

Detailed norms have been laid down to ensure there is no direct or indirect, pecuniary or other conflict or appearance thereof in the discharge of the functions of those persons associated or employed by the BCCI, its Committees, its Members or the IPL



Franchisees. These norms shall be administered by an Ethics Officer.

11. The Ombudsman and the Electoral Officer
'Independent monitors'

Provision has been made to have an independent ombudsman to resolve grievances of Members, Administrators, Players and even members of the public as per the procedures laid down. Similarly, an independent Electoral Officer to oversee the entire electoral process is also mandated.

12. Functioning
'Transparency'

The BCCI must provide the relevant information in discharge of its public functions. All rules and regulations, norms, details of meetings, expenditures, balance sheets, reports and orders of authorities are to be uploaded on the website as well.

13. Oversight
'Accountability'

An independent auditor to verify how the Full Members have expended the grants given to them by the BCCI, to record their targets and milestones, and to submit a separate compliance report in this regard.

14. Betting & Match-fixing
'Legalization for betting and Criminalization for match-fixing'

A recommendation is made to legalize betting (with strong safeguards), except for those covered by the BCCI and IPL



regulations. Also a recommendation for match/spot-fixing to be made a criminal offence.

15. Ethics for Players
'Awareness and sensitization'

Provisions to be made for lectures, classes, handbooks and mentoring of young players.

The Committee fervently hopes that this report will bring cricket fans back to the fold and put an end to regional excesses and imbalances, reign by cliques, corruption and red tape, all of which have harmed the game and the youngsters looking for nothing more than to take the field in flannels.



THE ANNEXURES



ANNEXURE-A

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is “THE BOARD OF CONTROL FOR CRICKET IN INDIA” and it shall hereafter be referred to as the “Board”.

2. The objects and purposes of the BCCI are:
 - (a) To control and improve quality and standards of the game of Cricket in India, lay down policies, roadmaps, guidelines and make rules and regulations (and amend or alter them) in all matters relating to the game of Cricket, recognizing that the primary stakeholders are the players and Cricket fans in India, and that accountability, transparency and purity of the Game are the core values;

 - (b) To provide for measures necessary for promotion and development of the game of Cricket, welfare and interest of Cricketers and elimination of unethical and unfair practices in the Game of cricket; and for that purpose, organize coaching schemes, establish coaching academies, hold tournaments, exhibition matches, Test Matches, ODIs, Twenty/20, and any other matches and take all other required steps;

 - (c) To strive for sportsmanship and professionalism in the game of Cricket and its governance and administration; inculcate principles of transparency and ethical standards in players, team officials, umpires and administrators; and to ban doping, age fraud, sexual harassment and all other forms of inequity and discrimination;

 - (d) To encourage the formation of State, Regional or other Cricket Associations and the organization of Inter-State and other Tournaments; to lay down norms for recognition which achieve



uniformity in the structure, functioning and processes of the Member Associations;

- (e) To arrange, control, regulate and if necessary, finance visits of Teams that are Members of the International Cricket Council and teams of other Countries to India;
- (f) To arrange, control, regulate and finance, visits of Indian Cricket Teams to tour countries that are members of the International Cricket Council or elsewhere in conjunction with the bodies governing cricket in the countries to be visited;
- (g) To select teams to represent India in Test Matches, One Day Internationals, Twenty/20 matches and in any other format in India or abroad as the Board may decide from time to time;
- (h) To foster the spirit of sportsmanship and the ideals of cricket amongst school, college and university students and others and to educate them regarding the same;
- (i) To appoint India's representative/s on the International Cricket Council, as also to Conferences and Seminars connected with the game of Cricket;
- (j) To appoint Managers and/or other team officials for the Indian Teams;
- (k) To employ and appoint CEOs, professional managers, auditors, executive secretaries, administrative officers, assistant secretaries, managers, clerks, team support staff, players, and other service personnel and staff; and to remunerate them for their services, by way of salaries, wages, gratuities, pensions, honoraria, ex-gratia



payments and/or provident fund; and to remove/terminate or dismiss such employees or personnel;

- (l) To ensure that tickets to cricket matches are widely available well in advance of the matches to members of the public at reasonable rates, and to prevent distribution of the same as largesse; and also to offer seats *gratis* or at nominal rates to students;
- (m) To lay out cricket grounds and to provide pavilion, canteen and other facilities and amenities for the convenience and benefit of the members, players, and the Cricket fans including the women and the disabled, and to ensure the availability of Cricket gear and amenities to Cricket players;
- (n) To constitute Committees, from time to time, and entrust or delegate its functions and duties to such Committees, for achieving the objects of the Board;
- (o) To vest immovable properties and funds of the BCCI in Trustees appointed by it, for carrying out the objects of the Board;
- (p) To sell, manage, mortgage, lease, exchange, dispose of or otherwise deal with all or any property of the BCCI;
- (q) To acquire or purchase properties – movable and immovable, and assets – tangible and intangible, and to apply the capital and income therefrom and the proceeds of the sale or transfer thereof, for or towards all or any of the objects of the BCCI;
- (r) To collect funds, and wherever necessary, borrow with or without security and to purchase, redeem or pay off any such securities;
- (s) To carry out any other activity which may seem to the Board capable of being conveniently carried on in connection with the above, or calculated directly or indirectly to enhance the value or



render profitable or generate better income/revenue, from any of the properties, assets and rights of the BCCI;

(t) To promote, protect and assist the Players who are the primary agents of the game by:

(i) Creating a Players' Association to be funded by the BCCI;

(ii) Being sensitive to Players' before international calendars are drawn up so that sufficient time is provided for rest and recovery;

(iii) Taking steps, particularly on longer tours, so the emotional wellbeing and family bonds of the Players' are strengthened;

(iv) Compulsorily having qualified Physiotherapists, Mental Conditioning Coaches / Counsellors and Nutritionists among the Team's support staff;

(v) Having a single point of contact on the logistics and managerial side so that Players' can fully concentrate on the game;

(vi) Registering all duly qualified agents to ensure there is oversight and transparency in player representation;

(vii) Offering appropriate remuneration of an international standard when representing the country on the international stage, and always recalling that national representation has priority over club or franchise;

(u) To grant/donate such sum/s for:

(i) Such causes as would be deemed fit by the Board conducive to the promotion of the game of Cricket;



- (ii) The benefit of Cricketers or their spouses and children by introducing benevolent fund schemes or other benefit schemes, as the Board deems fit, subject to its rules and regulations;
- (iii) The benefit of any other persons who have served Cricket or their spouses and children as the Board may consider fit;
- (iv) To award sponsorships to sportspersons in games other than Cricket for development of their individual skills; and
- (v) To donate to any charitable cause;
- (v) To start or sponsor and/or to subscribe to funds or stage matches for the benefit of the Cricketers or persons who may have rendered service to the game of Cricket or for their families, or to donate towards the development or promotion of the game and to organize matches in aid of Public Charitable and Relief Funds;
- (w) To impart physical education through the medium of Cricket;
- (x) To co-ordinate the activities of members and institutions in relation to the Board and amongst themselves;
- (y) To create and maintain a central repository and database of all Cricketers along with their game statistics;
- (z) To introduce a scheme of professionalism and to implement the same;
- (aa) To provide a fair and transparent grievance redressal mechanism to players, support personnel and other entities associated with Cricket;
- (bb) Generally to do all such other acts and things as may seem to the Board to be convenient and/or conducive to the carrying out of the



objects of the BCCI.

3. The income, funds and properties of the BCCI, however acquired, shall be utilized and applied solely for the promotion of the objects of the BCCI as set forth above to aid and assist financially or otherwise and to promote, encourage, advance and develop and generally to assist the game of cricket or any other sport throughout India.
4. The BCCI shall not be dissolved unless the dissolution is decided upon by a resolution passed at a General Meeting of the Board convened for the purpose, by a majority of 3/4th of the Members present and entitled to vote. The quorum for such meeting shall be 2/3rd of the Members who have a right to vote. In the case of dissolution of the Board, if there shall remain after satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, it shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to those of the BCCI and not running for profit.



RULES AND REGULATIONS

CHAPTER ONE: SCOPE

1. (A) DEFINITIONS

In these Rules and Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:-

- (a) “ADMINISTRATOR” shall mean and include present and former Presidents, Vice Presidents, Honorary Secretaries, Honorary Treasurers, Honorary Joint Secretaries of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (“BCCI”), past and present Presidents and Secretaries of Members affiliated to the Board, a representative of a Member of the Board, and any person connected with the Governance and Management of the affairs of the Board or of its Committees.
- (b) “AGENTS’ REGISTER” is the register maintained by the BCCI under the Regulations for Registration of Players’ Agents.
- (c) “APEX COUNCIL” is the principal body of the Board tasked with its governance as set out in Rule 14.
- (d) “AUDITOR” is the auditor of the Board appointed by the Apex Council of the Board to discharge the functions set out in Rule 34.
- (e) “BCCI” or “BOARD” is the Board of Control for Cricket in India registered under Act XXI of 1860 at Chennai (Madras) on 28-11-1940.
- (f) “CEO” is the Chief Executive Officer of the BCCI appointed by the Apex Council as set out in Rule 23.
- (g) “CONFLICT OF INTEREST” refers to situations where an individual associated with the BCCI in any capacity acts or omits to act in a manner



that brings, or is perceived to bring the interest of the individual in conflict with the interest of the game of cricket and that may give rise to apprehensions of, or actual favouritism, lack of objectivity, bias, benefits (monetary or otherwise) or linkages, as set out in Rule 38.

- (h) "COUNCILLORS" are the members of the Apex Council.
- (i) "CRICKET COMMITTEES" are the Committees as set up in Rule 26 which consist only of former Players and are charged with selection, coaching and evaluation of team performance.
- (j) "CRICKET PLAYERS' ASSOCIATION" refers to the association of Players so constituted and governed by the Code for the Cricket Players' Association.
- (k) "ELECTORAL OFFICER" is the person appointed to conduct, supervise and deal with issues concerning elections as set out in Rule 33.
- (l) "ETHICS OFFICER" is the person appointed to administer the Conflict of Interest principles as set out in Rule 39.
- (m) "EXISTING MEMBER" is an association or other body corporate that was a Member of the Board immediately before the Effective Date.
- (n) "FRANCHISEES" are the various commercial entities who have entered into franchise agreements with the BCCI for participation in the Indian Premier League.
- (o) "GENERAL BODY" is the supreme body of the BCCI which is constituted by its Members.
- (p) "GOVERNING COUNCIL" is the Standing Committee constituted by the



Board which shall be in charge of and conduct the Indian Premier League.

- (q) “IPL” refers to the Indian Premier League which is the franchise-based Twenty/20 tournament conducted by the BCCI for a maximum period of 7 weeks.
- (r) “JOINT SECRETARY” is the Honorary Joint Secretary of the BCCI as set out in Rule 7(4).
- (s) “JUNIOR TOURNAMENT” shall mean any age group tournaments conducted by the BCCI from time to time.
- (t) (i) “MEMBER” is a “Full Member” and an “Associate Member” of the Board.
(ii) “FULL MEMBER” is a State Cricket Association having voting rights and as enumerated in Rule 3(a)(ii) of these Rules;
(iii) “ASSOCIATE MEMBER” is a Member of the Board not having voting rights and as enumerated in Rule 3(a)(iii) of these Rules.
- (u) “MATCH OFFICIAL” includes Umpires, Match Referees, Observers, Statisticians, Ground Staff and Scorers so appointed by the Board or a Full Member from time to time.
- (v) “OFFICE BEARER” means the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Joint Secretary, and Treasurer.
- (w) “OMBUDSMAN” is the independent grievance redressal authority set up under Rule 40.
- (x) “PLAYER” is any Cricketer past or present registered with BCCI or any of its Members as a player and shall include any person selected in any



squad to represent India in a Test Match, ODI tour match, Twenty/20 or Junior Tournament Match in India or Abroad.

- (y) "PRESIDENT is the Honorary President of the BCCI and of the Apex Council as set out in Rule 7(1).
- (z) "REPRESENTATIVE" of a Member means a person duly nominated as such by the respective Full Member or Associate Member as the case may be.
- (aa) "RULE" shall refer to any rule or sub-rule in these Rules and Regulations, and "RULES" refer to these Rules and Regulations.
- (bb) "SECRETARY" is the Honorary Secretary of the BCCI as set out in Rule 7(3).
- (cc) "TEAM OFFICIAL" refers to the support staff appointed by the BCCI including coaches, managers, physiotherapists, nutritionists, trainers, analysts, counsellors and medics.
- (dd) "TOURNAMENT RULES" means the rules governing the conduct of various domestic tournaments organized by the BCCI including the IPL and such other tournaments as may be conducted by the BCCI from time to time.
- (ee) "TREASURER" is the Treasurer of the BCCI as set out in Rule 7(5).
- (ff) "VICE PRESIDENT" is the Vice President of the BCCI as set out in Rule 7(2).
- (gg) "YEAR" means financial year commencing from the 1st day of April and ending on the 31st day of March of the following year.



(hh) "ZONE" means any of the 5 zones namely North Zone, South Zone, East Zone, West Zone and Central Zone, comprising such teams as may be decided by the BCCI from time to time, and subject to the following:

- (i) Only Full and Associate Members are entitled to field teams for Zonal tournaments.
- (ii) The BCCI may decide on realigning the Zones in accordance with principles of expediency and competition.
- (iii) The BCCI may, if it is expedient, combine teams for the North East and Union Territories.

B. INTERPRETATION

- (i) In these Rules, all references to Players, Match Officials and Administrators shall be deemed to include Players, Match Officials and Administrators of the IPL and its Franchisees as well.
- (ii) The EFFECTIVE DATE shall be the date on which these Rules come into force.

2. HEADQUARTERS:

The Headquarters of the Board shall be located at Mumbai.

3. MEMBERSHIP AND JURISDICTION OF MEMBERS:

(a) Membership

- (i) Membership of the Board shall be confined to

(a) Full Members; and

(b) Associate Members;

(ii) Full Members

A. Each State shall be represented by a state cricket association duly recognized by the BCCI and such associations shall be Full Members. No State shall have more than one Full Member.



B. The associations who are the controlling bodies for cricket in the following States shall be the Full Members of the BCCI:

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Arunachal Pradesh
3. Assam
4. Bihar
5. Chhattisgarh
6. Delhi
7. Goa
8. Gujarat
9. Haryana
10. Himachal Pradesh
11. Jammu & Kashmir
12. Jharkhand
13. Karnataka
14. Kerala
15. Madhya Pradesh
16. Maharashtra
17. Manipur
18. Meghalaya
19. Mizoram
20. Nagaland
21. Orissa
22. Punjab
23. Rajasthan
24. Sikkim
25. Tamil Nadu
26. Telangana
27. Tripura
28. Uttar Pradesh
29. Uttarakhand



30. West Bengal

C. In States with multiple Existing Members, the BCCI shall recognize one of them to represent the State, while the remaining shall become Associate Members.

D. Where disputes are pending regarding the duly recognized association to represent a particular State, the State shall be represented by the recognized association, subject to any order of the Court or resolution of the BCCI as the case may be.

(iii) Associate Members

A. Any Existing Member who does not fall within the definition of a Full Member shall be an Associate Member of the Board.

B. The Board may induct any other entity as an Associate Member, subject to all the conditions and disqualifications laid down in Rule 3(b) below.

(b) Grounds for sanction & derecognition of a Full Member

(1) No Member shall be entitled to any grant from the BCCI if its Constitution fails to provide for, or comply with the following within One Year after the Effective Date:

(i) The Association shall not have any provision for any post to be held for more than 9 years.

(ii) The governing body of the Association shall include representatives of players and women, and a nominee of the Accountant General of the State.

(iii) The Association shall grant automatic membership to former international players hailing from the State.

(iv) The Association shall not have proxy voting.

(v) There shall be a provision whereby the Office Bearers of the



Association stand disqualified under any of the grounds laid down in Rule 14(3) below.

- (vi) The Association shall appoint an Electoral Officer, an Ethics Officer and an Ombudsman.
- (vii) The Association shall abide by the principles of Transparency laid down in Chapter 8 of these Rules.

(2) In the event of the grant being denied to any Member under (1) above, the BCCI shall directly spend the grant in respect of the State concerned in its capacity as *parens patriae*.

(3) If any Association continues to be disentitled for a grant under (1) above for a continuous period of 2 years, the BCCI may derecognize the Association as a Member, and if it is a Full Member, in its place, recognize any other Association from that State which complies with the requirements of (1) above.

(c) Annual Updates

All Members shall, on or before 15th November of each year, inform and update the Board as to the names of their Office Bearers and the members of their Executive Committees, their respective tenures, the Audited statement of Accounts and the Balance Sheets.

(d) Jurisdiction

The territorial jurisdiction of the Full Members classified under Rule 3(a)(ii) shall be of the administrative State so defined under the Constitution. If a State were to be bifurcated, the newly created State would be entitled to an independent Full Membership, and shall be so inducted within 3 months of such Statehood coming into force.



4. VOTE & ACCOUNTS OF TOURNAMENTS

- (1) Each Full Member shall have one vote, to be exercised through its authorized Representative.
- (2) An Associate Member shall be entitled to participate in the General Body Meetings but shall not be entitled either to vote or have its representative elected to the Apex Council.
- (3) A Member, required to submit the annual or other accounts, balance sheets or statements of expenditure either under these Rules or under the Rules of the tournament/match, or under the resolutions or decisions of the BCCI relating to any grant, fails to submit the accounts or the statements of expenditure relating to such grant, tournament, match or otherwise, within the period stipulated thereunder, shall not be entitled to any further financial grants from the BCCI till the requirement is complied with.

Provided that notwithstanding anything stated above, nothing shall prevent the Apex Council, for good reason, from extending for a maximum period of 6 months, the time for submitting of accounts and statements beyond the period referred to above.



CHAPTER TWO: THE GENERAL BODY AND OFFICE BEARERS

AND THEIR POWERS & FUNCTIONS

5. CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

- (1) The General Body is constituted of all the Members of the BCCI.
- (2) The authorized Representatives of the various Full Members shall cast their votes on behalf of their respective Full Member. The Associate Members shall have no right to vote.
- (3) All powers of governance, management and decision-making shall vest in the General Body. In addition to the powers already given to the Apex Council, the Governing Council and the CEO under these Rules, the General Body may delegate such powers as it deems fit to any of them.
- (4) In addition to, and without prejudice to the generality of powers vested in it, the General Body shall have the power:
 - (a) To collect funds and wherever necessary borrow, with or without security, for purposes of the Board and to raise loans with or without security and to purchase, redeem or pay off any such security.
 - (b) To frame the Laws of Cricket in India and to make alterations, amendments or additions to the Laws of Cricket in India whenever desirable or necessary.
 - (c) To direct and control the Governing Council, to lend oversight and assistance to the IPL conducted by the Council and to ensure that the interests of the franchises and the players are protected.
 - (d) To review any decision of the Apex Council or the Governing Council.
 - (e) Generally to do all such other acts and things as may appear to



the General Body to be expedient, convenient and/or conducive to the carrying out of the above functions of the Board.

6. ELECTION & TERM OF OFFICE BEARERS

- (1) The following Office Bearers of the BCCI shall be elected by the Full Members of the Board from amongst their representatives at an Annual General Meeting:
 - (a) The President
 - (b) The Vice-President
 - (c) The Secretary
 - (d) The Joint Secretary
 - (e) The Treasurer
- (2) The Term of office of an Office Bearer shall be 3 years. Their position shall be Honorary.
- (3) No person shall be an Office Bearer for more than 3 terms in all.
- (4) No Office Bearer shall be eligible to contest a succeeding election i.e. no Office Bearer shall have a consecutive term as an Office Bearer.
- (5) A person shall be disqualified from being an Office Bearer if he or she:
 - (a) Is not a citizen of India;
 - (b) Has attained the age of 70 years;
 - (c) Is declared to be insolvent, or of unsound mind;
 - (d) Is a Minister or Government Servant;
 - (e) Holds any office or post in a sports or athletic association or federation apart from cricket;
 - (f) Has been an Office Bearer of the BCCI for a cumulative period of 9 years;



7. POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICE-BEARERS:

(1) THE PRESIDENT

- (a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the General Body and the Apex Council.
- (b) The President shall also exercise such functions and duties as he may be empowered with by the General Body or the Apex Council.
- (c) The President shall, in the event of a vacancy or indisposition of an Office Bearer, delegate the functions to another Office Bearer until the vacancy is duly filled up, or the indisposition ceases.

(2) THE VICE PRESIDENT

- (a) The Vice President shall officiate in the President's absence when the President is unavailable.
- (b) The Vice President shall also exercise such functions and duties as he may be empowered with by the General Body or the Apex Council.

(3) THE SECRETARY

The Secretary shall:

- (a) Keep and maintain the minutes of Annual General and Special General Meetings of the General Body, the Meetings of the Apex Council and of the Committees appointed by the General Body in appropriate books and shall cause them to be properly and correctly recorded and confirmed.
- (b) Sign all contracts for and on behalf of the BCCI and carry on all correspondence in the name of the BCCI save as otherwise directed by the Apex Council.
- (c) Be in charge of the records of the General Body, the Apex Council, the Governing Council and all Committees, and such properties as may be entrusted to his care by the Board, the



Apex Council or the Governing Council as the case may be.

- (d) Convene the Annual General Meeting, the Special General Meeting and the Meetings of the Apex Council and Governing Council with the concurrence of the President.
- (e) Circulate to all Members of the BCCI the statement of accounts prepared by the Treasurer.
- (f) Have the power to delegate any work to the Honorary Joint Secretary.

(4) THE JOINT SECRETARY

The Joint Secretary shall:

- (a) Convene and keep minutes of the Committees that may be placed in his charge at the Annual General Meeting or by the Secretary.
- (b) Assist the Secretary in all matters pertaining to the affairs of the Board.

(5) THE TREASURER

The Treasurer shall:

- (a) Receive all subscriptions and donations and the monies payable and / or receivable by the BCCI;
- (b) Make payments and incur expenditure out of the funds of the BCCI in accordance with the decisions of the BCCI, the Apex Council or any Committee appointed by the Board, provided that all transfers or payments must be with the signatures of two elected Office Bearers, of which the Treasurer shall be one.
- (c) Keep accounts of all monies received and expended by the BCCI, in respect of assets, credits and liabilities of the BCCI.



- (d) Prepare statement of accounts.
- (e) Place before the Apex Council:
 - (i) Annual Balance Sheet;
 - (ii) Statement of Accounts of the BCCI;
 - (iii) Annual Budget;
- (f) Place before the Annual General Meeting duly audited:
 - (i) Annual Balance Sheet;
 - (ii) Statement of Accounts of the BCCI;
- (g) Invest and/or disburse the funds of the BCCI, to withdraw any or all of the existing fixed deposits before the date of maturity in accordance with any general or special directions of the General Body or the Apex Council.
- (h) Prepare budgets to be presented at the Annual General Meeting, Special General Meetings and Meetings of the Apex Council.
- (i) Liaise with the Auditor and the Finance Committee to obtain oversight on how the Full Members are utilizing funds allotted to them by the BCCI.



CHAPTER THREE: MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL BODY

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- (1) The Annual General Meeting of the General Body shall be held every year, not later than 30th September at such place and time as the President may fix.
- (2) Elections and Nominations to the Apex Council shall take place every 3 years at the Annual General Meeting.
- (3) The following business shall be transacted at every Annual General Meeting of the General Body:
 - (a) Confirmation of the minutes of the previous General Meetings.
 - (b) Adoption of the Report of the Secretary for the year under review.
 - (c) Adoption of the Treasurer's Report and the audited accounts for the year under review.
 - (d) Adoption of the Annual Budget.
 - (e) Appointment of Auditor or Auditors for the year and fix their remuneration.
 - (f) Appointment of the Ombudsman and Ethics Officer.
 - (g) Appointment of the Cricket Committees and Standing Committees as mentioned in Rules 26 and 25 respectively.
 - (h)
 - (i) Consideration of the Report and recommendations of the Apex Council, the CEO and the Committees and to propose policy directions to the Apex Council.
 - (ii) Consideration of the Report and recommendations of the Governing Council and to propose policy directions to the Apex Council.
 - (iii) Consideration of any amendments to the Rules and Regulations of the BCCI, provided no amendment to the



- Rules and Regulations of the BCCI proposed by a Full Member shall be considered unless the proposals for amendments are received by the Secretary before 31st July.
- (iv) Consideration of the Reports of the Ombudsman and Ethics Officer and any recommendations made therein.
- (i) Consideration of any motion, notice whereof is given by a Full Member to the Secretary twenty-one days before the meeting. (Such a motion shall be circulated in advance to all members).
- (j) To appoint the BCCI's Representative or Representatives on the International Cricket Conference or similar Conferences.
- (k) (i) Consideration of any other business which the President may consider necessary to be included in the agenda.
- (ii) Transaction of any other business of an informal character as may be permitted by the Chairperson.
- (4) The record of the proceedings of the Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings shall, after the approval of the Chairperson of the Meeting be circulated within two months of the Meeting to the Members of the BCCI and then entered in the Minutes Book. The minutes shall be duly confirmed after correction, if any, and signed by the Chairperson at the subsequent Annual General Meeting.
- (5) The Secretary shall, at least Twenty One (21) days prior to the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting, forward to each member a notice setting out the agenda of business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting along with:
- (a) Copies of the Minutes of the previous meeting or meetings to be confirmed at the Annual General meeting;
- (b) Copies of audited Statement of Accounts to be adopted and to be passed at the Annual General Meeting;
- (c) Copies of the audited Statement of Accounts of any tour or tours;



- (d) Treasurer's Reports and the Annual Budget;
 - (e) Report of the Ombudsman; and
 - (f) Copies of all documents and papers having a reference to any item on the Agenda of the General Meeting;
- (6) Any Member desiring to raise any point relating to the Agenda or Accounts at the Annual General Meeting shall give seven days' notice thereof to the Secretary. The Secretary shall circulate such notice to all Members before the date fixed for the meeting.

9. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

- (1) A Special General Meeting of the General Body may be convened by the Secretary:
- (a) on a directive of the President,
 - (b) on a resolution of the Apex Council, or
 - (c) on a requisition signed by not less than 10 Full Members specially stating the business to be transacted at such Meeting.
- No business other than the one for which the Special General Meeting is called will be transacted at such meeting.
- (2) In the event of the Secretary failing to convene a Special General Meeting within thirty days of the receipt of a requisition, the requisitionists may themselves convene a Meeting for the purpose specified in the requisition at such place and time as may be decided by the requisitionists.
- (3) The President may at his discretion direct the Secretary to convene a Special General Meeting at shorter notice in which case a notice of at least 10 days shall be given.
- (4) For any Special General Meeting the Secretary shall give Twenty One days' notice specifying the business to be transacted at that meeting.



- (5) In the event of the Secretary failing to convene a Special General Meeting at the direction of the President or on a resolution of the Apex Council within Ten days, the President may convene a meeting under his own signature.

10. QUORUM AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

- (1) Ten Full Members present and entitled to vote shall be a quorum for an Annual General Meeting. No business shall be transacted at the Annual General Meeting unless the quorum requisite is present at the commencement of the business of the meeting. If within an hour from the time appointed for the Annual General Meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same date of the following month and at the same place and time. If at the adjourned meeting the quorum is not present within an hour from the time of the meeting, the Full Members present shall form the quorum.
- (2) For a Special General Meeting ten Full Members, present and entitled to vote shall be quorum. If no quorum is present at the appointed time of the meeting, the meeting shall stand adjourned for an hour. If at the adjourned meeting the quorum is not present, the Full Members present shall form the quorum.

11. CHAIRPERSON AT MEETINGS

The President shall preside as Chairperson at the Annual General Meeting or the Special General Meeting of the General Body and in his absence the Vice-President shall preside. In the event of the Vice President also being absent, the Meeting shall elect one amongst them as the Chairperson of the Meeting.



12. VOTING AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS / SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

- (1) At the Annual General Meeting / Special General Meeting, each Full Member shall have one vote. The Associate Members shall have no vote.
- (2) At an Annual General Meeting / Special General Meeting, a resolution placed before the Meeting duly moved and seconded shall be put to vote and shall be decided either on a show of hands or by a secret ballot as the Chairperson may decide.

13. CASTING VOTE OR DRAWING LOTS

Save as provided otherwise by these Rules, questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes and in the event of a tie, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote. If the Chairperson of the Meeting declines to exercise his casting vote, the issue shall be decided by drawing lots.



CHAPTER FOUR: GOVERNANCE

14. THE APEX COUNCIL

- (1) There shall be an Apex Council for the BCCI which shall be primarily responsible for the governance of the affairs of the Board.
- (2) The Apex Council shall comprise of 9 Councillors of whom 5 shall be the elected Office Bearers as per Rule 6 and the remaining 4 shall be:
 - (a) One to be elected by the Full Members of the BCCI from among their representatives;
 - (b) Two to be nominated by the Players' Association from amongst themselves, one male and one female;
 - (c) One to be nominated by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India from among the serving senior functionaries of the C&AG's office, co-terminus with the nominee's tenure;
- (3) A person shall be disqualified from being a Councillor if he or she:
 - (a) Is not a citizen of India;
 - (b) Has attained the age of 70 years;
 - (c) Is declared to be insolvent, or of unsound mind;
 - (d) Is a Minister or a government servant [except for the nominee under Rule 14(2)(c)];
 - (e) Holds any office or post in a sports or athletic association or federation apart from cricket;
 - (f) Has been an Office Bearer of the BCCI for a cumulative period of 9 years;
- (4) Each of the elected Councillors shall have a term of 3 years in office, subject to a maximum of 3 Terms on the Apex Council. No elected Councillor shall hold two consecutive Terms on the Apex Council.
- (5) No individual, including one filling up a vacancy under Sub-Rule (9) below shall be a Councillor for more than 9 years. In the event of a Councillor completing 9 years before the expiry of his term, he shall



- cease to hold office on completion of 9 years.
- (6) No nominated Councillor shall have more than one term of 3 years.
 - (7) A former President of the BCCI shall not be entitled to be elected or nominated to the Apex Council in any capacity except for a second and final term as President, subject to sub-Rules (4) and (5) above.
 - (8) No Councillor, once elected, shall hold any office in a Full Member Association. The Full Member shall take steps to fill up the vacancy so created immediately.
 - (9) Any vacancy in the Apex Council due to death, resignation, insolvency, unsoundness of mind, nomination to the ICC or other disqualification shall be filled up for the remaining period:
 - a. In the case of an elected Councillor, by elections at a Special General Body meeting of the BCCI convened by the Secretary for that purpose within 45 days;
 - b. In the case of a nominated Councillor, in the same manner as prescribed for the respective nominee in Rule 14(2) above;
 - (10) For the purposes of the Societies Registration Act, the governing body of the BCCI shall be the Apex Council.

15. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE APEX COUNCIL

- (1) The affairs of the Board shall be governed by the Apex Council and its framework of governance shall:
 - i. Enable strategic guidance of the entity;
 - ii. Ensure efficient monitoring of management;
 - iii. Clarify the respective roles, responsibilities and powers of the CEO, Managers, Cricket Committees and Standing Committees, except the Governing Council;
 - iv. Ensure a distribution and balance of authority so that no single individual has unfettered powers;
- (2) The Apex Council shall have all the powers of the General Body and



authority and discretion to do all acts and things except such acts as by these rules are expressly directed or required to be done by the General Body. Exercise of such powers, authorities and discretion shall be subject to the control and regulation of the General Body. No regulation shall retrospectively invalidate any act of the Apex Council which was otherwise valid.

- (3) The Apex Council shall exercise superintendence over the CEO, the Cricket Committees and the Standing Committees in the discharge of their duties generally, and in particular, in accordance with any general or special direction of the General Body, except for the Governing Council of the IPL which is directly accountable to the General Body.
- (4) In addition to and without prejudice to the generality of powers conferred directly or by necessary implication under these Rules and regulations and the Memorandum of Association, the Apex Council shall exercise the powers and perform the duties hereafter mentioned:
 - a. To control, permit and regulate all aspects regarding the visits of foreign cricket teams to India and visits of Indian teams to foreign countries and to settle the terms on which such visits shall be conducted.
 - b. To lay down conditions on which Players shall take part in a tour to any foreign country and by which such Players shall be governed, including terms of payments to such Players.
 - c. To control, expand and regulate the finances of the BCCI.
 - d. To institute or defend any action or proceedings for or against the BCCI or against any Office-Bearer or employee of the BCCI.
 - e. To mediate in regard to issues between Members, failing resolution of which a reference may be made to the



Ombudsman;

- f. To interact and consult with the Cricket Players' Association regarding representations made on their behalf.
- g. To purchase, sell and/or mortgage, exchange and/or otherwise dispose of immovable property wherever situated, in order to promote the objects of the BCCI.
- h. To collect funds and whenever necessary borrow not exceeding 25% of the General Fund with or without security for purposes of the BCCI and to raise loans with or without security and to purchase, redeem or pay off any such security.
- i. To fill up, till the following Annual General Meeting, any vacancy occurring of a member of a committee by reason of death or being adjudged insolvent or being of unsound mind or being convicted of a criminal offence involving moral turpitude or by resignation or any other disqualification.
- j. To frame rules and lay down conditions including those of travel, accommodation and allowances under which Indian Players shall take part in cricket tournaments/matches or Exhibition, Festival and Charity matches organized by the BCCI or by a Member under the authority of the BCCI in the course of a visit or tour of a foreign cricket team to India.
- k. To frame rules for the National Championship of India for the Ranji Trophy matches or for University, Schools or other tournaments or for any Exhibition matches between members and / or between the Universities in India.
- l. To frame rules regarding the appointment, service conditions and disciplinary action concerning employees and officers of the BCCI.
- m. To make the Tournament Rules for various domestic tournaments and exhibition matches involving Members, Universities and other entities.
- n. To frame, in consultation with the CEO, rules for the



appointment of Managers, Secretaries, Administrative Officers, Peons and other service personnel and staff and for payment to them and other persons in return for their services rendered to the BCCI, salaries, wages, gratuities, pensions, honorariums, compensations, any ex-gratia payment and/or provident fund and to regulate discipline by suspending, fining, removing or dismissing such employees.

- o. To make rules generally for the management of the affairs of the BCCI.
- p. To start or sponsor and/or to subscribe to funds or stage a match for the benefit of cricketers or persons who may have rendered service to the game of cricket or for their families or to donate for the development or promotion of the game to be regulated by rules framed in this regard from time to time.
- q. To appoint BCCI's representative or representatives on the International Cricket Council, Asian Cricket Council or similar conference.
- r. To either on its own, or through its delegate, entertain, hear and decide administrative appeals by employees or other directly affected parties against the orders of the CEO or the Cricket Committees as the case may be.
- s. Generally to do all such other acts and things which are delegated to it by the Board and all other functions to be expedient, convenient and/or conducive to the carrying out of the above functions of the Apex Council.

Provided that the exercise of powers under Clauses (j),(k), (l), (m), (n) and (o) shall be subject to ratification by the Board at its next meeting, failing which the rules shall lapse.

- (5) The Apex Council shall meet at least once every 3 months at such time and place and shall conduct proceedings in such manner as it may from time to time decide.



- (6) A Special Meeting of the Apex Council may be convened at any time by the President and shall be convened on a requisition to that effect being made in writing by not less than three Councillors. Any such requisition shall express the object of the meeting proposed to be called and shall be sent to the Secretary.
- (7) Fourteen days' clear notice of the Meeting of the Apex Council together with the Agenda shall be given to the Councillors. For a Special Meeting of the Apex Council convened for the purposes stated in Sub-Rule(5) above, Seven days' clear notice shall be given. An Emergent meeting of the Apex Council may be convened with Two days' notice.
- (8) Five members of the Apex Council shall form a quorum for its meetings. The President or in his absence a member elected by those present at the meeting shall be the Chairperson. In the event of a tie, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote.
- (9) A resolution by circulation by all members of the Apex Council shall be as valid and effective as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Apex Council. Such a resolution shall be ratified at the next meeting of the Apex Council.
- (10) The Secretary shall keep the minutes of every Meeting in a book which shall be signed by the Chairperson when approved.

16. BCCI JURISDICTION OVER PLAYERS, MATCH OFFICIALS & TEAM OFFICIALS OF MEMBERS

The BCCI shall have concurrent jurisdiction and control over Players, Match Officials and Team Officials within the jurisdiction of a Member. Such individuals participating in cricket under the aegis of a Member shall be deemed ipso facto to submit to the jurisdiction of the BCCI.



17. CONDUCT OF PLAYERS

The Apex Council shall have the power to enquire into the conduct of any Player within its jurisdiction and may take such disciplinary action against the Player as the Apex Council may deem fit, which decision shall be final.

18. ENQUIRY INTO CONDUCT OF PLAYERS, MATCH OFFICIALS, ADMINISTRATORS, ETC.

In the event of the BCCI enquiring into the conduct of a Player, Match Official, Administrator, etc., the BCCI shall proceed in the manner prescribed in Rule 41.



CHAPTER FIVE: MANAGEMENT

19. ADMINISTRATION OF THE BCCI

- (1) Mumbai shall be the administrative headquarters where the office of the BCCI shall be permanently situated. It shall be the Central Secretariat of the BCCI.
- (2) The day-to-day management of the BCCI shall be conducted by professionals in both cricketing and non-cricketing matters.
- (3) The Governing Council of the IPL shall be accountable directly to the General Body and not to the CEO or the Apex Council.

20. NON-CRICKETING MATTERS

- (1) The day to day management of non-cricketing matters including operations, technical, human resources, finance and media shall be conducted by the CEO under the supervision of the Apex Council aided by the advice of the Standing Committees as set out in Rule 24.
- (2) The CEO shall be assisted by Managers as may be appointed under Rule 23.

21. CRICKETING MATTERS

- (1) The management of cricketing matters such as selections, coaching and evaluation of team performance shall be exclusively handled by the Cricket Committees comprising only of Players as set out in Rule 26.
- (2) The management, evaluation and selection of umpires shall be done by the Umpires Committee comprising only of Umpires as set out in Rule 27.
- (3) The reports of the Cricket and Umpires Committees shall be sent to the CEO for being forwarded to the Apex Council, but the CEO shall not in any way be involved in the preparation, approval or amendment of the same.



22. EFFICIENCY IN FUNCTIONING

- (1) The bankers, lawyers and others offering professional services to the BCCI shall be appointed in a fair and transparent manner, and may be changed from time to time, as the BCCI may deem expedient.
- (2) The bank account of the BCCI shall be operated by the Treasurer along with the Joint Secretary and in the absence of the Joint Secretary, by the Secretary.
- (3) The CEO and the Cricket & Umpires Committees shall function independently in their respective domains without any interference or approval from each other.

23. THE CEO

- (1) The day-to-day management of the affairs of the BCCI shall vest in a full time CEO to be appointed by the Apex Council, who shall be a management professional with management experience of at least 5 years as the CEO/MD of a company with a turnover of at least Rs.100 crore.
- (2) The CEO shall be assisted by not more than 6 full-time professionals (Managers) who shall be appointed by the Apex Council in consultation with the CEO essentially to govern the streams of finance, technical, infrastructure, law, media and human resources. The CEO may however realign or reallocate these streams as he deems fit.
- (3) The eligibility criteria for the CEO and Managers shall be laid down by the Apex Council keeping in mind the following guidelines:
 - a. Knowledge and familiarity with cricket or other sports;
 - b. Understanding of financial position and fiscal direction of the BCCI;
 - c. Knowledge of operations of cricket administration and overall policy;
 - d. Clarity on role, division of responsibilities and hierarchy;



- e. Familiarity with regulatory and legal responsibilities as well as attendant risks;
- (4) There shall be an appropriate induction process laid down by the Apex Council for the CEO and the Managers, which shall include a fair and transparent process of appointment.

24. THE FUNCTIONS OF THE CEO

The CEO shall have the following functions on behalf of the BCCI:

- (1) To implement all the Rules and Regulations made by the Governing Body and the Apex Council in regard to non-cricketing matters;
- (2) To issue guidelines in respect of travel, accommodation, allowances, etc., to be paid to players, support staff and officials participating in matches, other than international matches;
- (3) To lease and manage immovable property of the BCCI wherever situated, in order to promote the objects of the BCCI.
- (4) To lay down parameters for the laying of grounds for playing the game and to provide pavilion, canteen and other conveniences and amenities in connection therewith.
- (5) To appoint Team Officials for the Indian teams which shall compulsorily include qualified coaches, managers, physiotherapists, nutritionists, trainers, analysts, counsellors and medics.
- (6) To secure Players' welfare to ensure that the logistics manager will arrange for accommodation and travel, to ensure that tickets given to Players for matches will be on par with those given to the Members, and to also ensure that no expenditures towards the game (baggage handling, injury related, etc.) will be undertaken by the Player, failing which such expenses will be reimbursed to the Player within 30 working days of the requisition being made. Also, to process requests made by Players to make arrangements for the accommodation and travel of their respective wives / partners / family members, wherever permitted.



- (7) To ensure that all measures are adopted to eliminate any form of racial, communal, casteist or other hatred from the game, with stringent action taken against the offenders including the initiation of criminal proceedings.
- (8) To start and maintain a library of books, periodicals, DVDs and other databases on Sports in general and Cricket in particular, and to publish journals, books and other material as well as the official website of the BCCI.
- (9) To produce by itself the Cricket content for telecast of cricket matches and/or ceremonies by hiring or owning equipment and hiring necessary crew, technicians, etc.
- (10) To publicize the stadium capacity of all stadia across the country with compulsory seat numbers, to provide transparent online and offline ticket booking services with reasonably priced tickets and maximize the access of the public to the games.
- (11) To provide at stadiums, wholesome and hygienic food and beverages at affordable rates, clean and hygienic restrooms for all genders and for the differently-abled, adequate fire and emergency entries and corridors, sufficient access avenues and wheelchairs for the differently-abled, proper signage, parking and transport facilities as well as efficient security systems.
- (12) To arrange and organize the National Championship of India for the Ranji Trophy matches or for University, Schools or other tournaments or for any Exhibition matches between members and / or between the Universities in India including regulations and bye-laws in respect of travel, accommodation, allowances to be paid to players and officials participating in such matches.
- (13) To frame guidelines generally for the convenience and ease of day-to-day management of affairs of the BCCI.
- (14) To prescribe guidelines to lay out or convert any ground into high quality turf wickets at all levels in all areas of the country and to provide Pavilions, Canteens, Public Conveniences and other amenities



- with disabled access and suitable signage, especially to involve more Indians in the game of cricket and to encourage participation of all sections of society.
- (15) To assist the Cricket Committees and facilitate the implementation of their tasks and recommendations.
 - (16) To collate monthly reports concerning the functioning of the various Committees, to create action plans in advance and upload the same on the website of the BCCI.
 - (17) To create a database of all cricketers at all levels, maintain records and statistics, track performances and certify age and identity of participants.
 - (18) To take steps to create world class infrastructure at all levels in all areas across the country. To coordinate with State associations, to conduct tournaments, to provide better access to the public, with particular reference to women and the disabled.
 - (19) To put in place mechanisms to encourage Indian cricketers to play internationally and hone their skills so that a wider talent pool is available to represent the country.
 - (20) To enter transparently into contracts with third parties and vendors for the purposes of the various Committees of the BCCI, and to ensure that in all contracts for television and media rights, the interests of the public remain uncompromised, and full, unhindered broadcasts of all deliveries and their replays are shown with the screen offering a full and complete view without advertisement banners or margins, and to restrict commercial time only to the refreshment and other team breaks during and between innings.
 - (21) To report to the Apex Council every quarter or as often as required by the Apex Council on the functioning of the management and the progress made in developing cricket in India.
 - (22) To consider the reports of the Auditor, to verify whether Full Members are meeting their objectives and to assess whether cricket is being suitably developed and promoted across the country.



- (23) To consider all applications for financial aid or any other benevolence to cricketers, Umpires and administrators as per the rules framed by the General Body in this behalf from time to time and recommend the same to the Apex Council for their approval.
- (24) To examine all the expenditure exceeding the Budget and to control such outlays as are required for the proper administration of the BCCI.
- (25) To advise the BCCI regarding investments.
- (26) To process requests made for increase in all types of allowances, subventions/subsidies to be paid to the Associations, tariff for Coaching Camps, Coaching Subsidies to the Associations, allowance to the players for matches of different Trophies and when playing against foreign sides, both at home and away and to recommend the same to the Apex Council.
- (27) To do all acts and things which are delegated by the Board and Apex Council to him, and all other functions as are necessary and expedient to carry out the objects of the BCCI as aforesaid.

25. THE STANDING COMMITTEES

(1) The Standing Committees are the Committees that provide guidance and advice on behalf of the Members to the CEO.

(2) The Standing Committees are:

A. The Senior Tournament Committee

(i) The Senior Tournament Committee shall consist of FIVE persons appointed by the Board at the Annual General Meeting, one from each Zone.

(ii) The Committee shall advise the CEO on the conduct of the following Tournaments in accordance with their respective rules as framed by the Board:

- a. National Championship of India for the Ranji Trophy;
- b. Match between the National Champions and the Rest of



- India for the Irani Trophy;
- c. National Zonal Championship for the Duleep Trophy;
- d. Limited Overs Zonal Tournament for Prof.D.B.Deodhar Trophy;
- e. Limited Overs One Day Inter State Tournament for Vijay Hazare Trophy;
- f. The Vizzy Trophy for Universities;

B. The Tours, Fixtures & Technical Committee

- (i) The Tours, Fixtures & Technical Committee shall consist of FIVE persons appointed by the Board at the Annual General Meeting, one from each Zone. At least three of these five persons ought to have played a minimum of 25 First Class games.
- (ii) The Committee shall, subject to any directions of the Board, advice the CEO on the making of draws and fixing of dates and venues in respect of the following:

- a. Tours of Indian Team visiting abroad;
- b. Tours of foreign teams visiting India;

Provided that all Test Centers shall be awarded Tests on a rotational basis without any repetition until the entire cycle is complete, and all One Day Internationals and Twenty/20 matches shall be similarly rotated among all International Centers in such a manner that no State shall host more than one match (regardless of format) on a single tour.

- c. All matches and Tournaments conducted/organized by the BCCI.

- (iii) The Committee shall, subject to any directions of the General Body or the Apex Council, advice the CEO on the following:

- a. Appointment of Observers for Tests and other matches during the tours of foreign teams in India;



- b. Considering the laws of the game and amendments thereto, experimental laws, technical matters that may be referred to it by the General Body and matters regarding the Laws of the game to be discussed at the International Cricket Council.
- c. Framing and finalizing the playing conditions for all tours to and from India.

26. THE CRICKET COMMITTEES

(1) The Cricket Committees are the Committees comprised exclusively of former Players who are tasked with the Selection, Coaching and Evaluation of Team Performances.

(2) The Cricket Committees are:

A. The Men's Selection Committee

- (i) The Men's Selection Committee shall select the Senior National Team for representation in Tests, One Day Internationals, Twenty/20 and any other format. This Committee shall also be responsible for vetting and selecting Coaches and Support Staff (physiotherapists, trainers, therapists, analysts and medics) for the respective teams, as well as providing evaluation reports of the respective team performances to the Apex Council on a quarterly basis.
- (ii) The Men's Selection Committee shall consist of THREE persons to be appointed by the Board at the Annual General Meeting, on such terms and conditions as may be decided by the Apex Council from time to time. Only former Players who have represented the Senior National Team in Test Matches shall be eligible to be appointed to this Committee, provided that they have retired from the game at least 5 years previously. The senior most Test cap among the members of



the Committee shall be appointed as the Chairperson.

- (iii) The Men's Selection Committee shall appoint a Captain for the team in each format, who shall be an ex-Officio member of the Committee. The Captain, however, shall not be entitled to vote. In the event of there being an equality of votes for the appointment of a Captain, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote. In the event of there being no majority agreement over the selection of the players, the Captain's wishes in that regard shall prevail.
- (iv) On an overseas tour, the Cricket Manager/Coach, Captain and Vice-Captain shall constitute the Selection Committee. The Administrative Manager shall convene the meeting and keep a record of the proceedings.

B. The Junior Cricket Committee

- (i) The Junior Cricket Committee shall consist of THREE persons to be appointed by the Board at the Annual General Meeting, on such terms and conditions as may be decided by the Apex Council from time to time. Only former Players who have played a minimum of 25 First Class games shall be eligible to be appointed to this Committee, provided that they have retired from the game at least 5 years previously. The senior most amongst the members of the Committee shall be appointed as the Chairperson.
- (ii) The Junior Cricket Committee shall:
 - a. Select all age group teams upto Under-22 years for the purpose of coaching camps or for playing against local or foreign teams within India or abroad in any format of the game.
 - b. Appoint a Captain for the team in each format, who shall be an ex-Officio member of the Committee. The Captain, however, shall not be entitled to vote. In the



event of there being an equality of votes for the appointment of a Captain, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote. In the event of there being no majority agreement over the selection of the players, the Captain's wishes in that regard shall prevail. On an overseas tour, the Cricket Manager/Coach, Captain and Vice-Captain shall constitute the Selection Committee. The Administrative Manager shall convene the meeting and keep a record of the proceedings.

- c. Vet and select Coaches and Support Staff (physiotherapists, trainers, therapists, analysts and medics) for the respective teams, as well as providing evaluation reports of the respective team performances to the Apex Council on a quarterly basis.
- d. Organize and conduct junior tournaments of the BCCI;
- e. Organize junior tours of foreign countries;
- f. Decide any dispute in regard to junior tournaments;
- g. Inculcate proper ethics in the youth, particularly through interactions with senior and former Players on issues such as drugs, betting, match-fixing, etc.

C. The Women's Selection Committee

- (i) The Women's Selection Committee shall select the National Team across all age groups for representation in Tests, One Day Internationals, Twenty/20 and any other format. This Committee shall also be responsible for vetting and selecting Coaches and Support Staff (physiotherapists, trainers, therapists, analysts and medics) for the respective teams, as well as providing evaluation reports of the respective team performances to the Apex Council on a monthly basis.



- (ii) The Women's Selection Committee shall consist of THREE persons to be appointed by the Board at the Annual General Meeting, on such terms and conditions as may be decided by the Apex Council from time to time. Only former Players who have represented the Women's National Team shall be eligible to be appointed to this Committee, provided that they have retired from the game at least 5 years previously. The senior most international amongst the members of the Committee shall be appointed as the Chairperson.
- (iii) The Women's Selection Committee shall appoint a Captain for the team in each format, who shall be an ex-Officio member of the Committee. The Captain, however, shall not be entitled to vote. In the event of there being an equality of votes for the appointment of a Captain, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote. In the event of there being no majority agreement over the selection of the players, the Captain's wishes in that regard shall prevail.
- (iv) On an overseas tour, the Cricket Manager/Coach, Captain and Vice-Captain shall constitute the Selection Committee. The Administrative Manager shall convene the meeting and keep a record of the proceedings.

D. The Women's Cricket Committee

- (i) The Women's Cricket Committee shall consist of THREE former women Players who have played at least First Class cricket. One Player shall be nominated from each Zone at the Annual General Meeting of the Board, the senior most of whom shall be the Chairperson.
- (ii) The Committee shall:
 - (a) Draw up programmes of coaching at zonal and national levels.
 - (b) Plan and conduct Women's Junior and Senior domestic



tournaments.

- (c) Organize tours to foreign countries or tours of others countries to India.
- (d) Decide any dispute in regard to Women's Tournaments.
- (e) Generally have control over Women's Cricket activities, outside of those covered by the Women's Selection Committee.

E. The Zonal Selection Committee

- (i) The Zonal Selection Committee shall select the respective Zonal Team for inter-zonal competitions and trophies. This Committee shall also be responsible for vetting and selecting Coaches and Support Staff (physiotherapists, trainers, therapists, analysts and medics) for the respective teams.
- (ii) The Zonal Selection Committee shall consist of ONE Selector from each Zone as laid down in Rule 1(A)(hh), who shall be nominated by the respective Associations at the Annual General Meeting of the Board. Only former Players who have played at least 10 First Class games are eligible to be appointed to this Committee, provided that they have retired from the game at least 5 years previously. The senior most amongst the members of each Zonal Committee shall be appointed as the Chairperson for the respective Committee.
- (iii) The Zonal Selection Committee shall appoint a Captain for the team, who shall be an ex-Officio member of the Committee. The Captain, however, shall not be entitled to vote. In the event of there being an equality of votes for the appointment of a Captain, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote. In the event of there being no majority agreement over the selection of the players, the Captain's wishes in that regard shall prevail.



F. The Differently-Abled Cricket Committee

- (i) The Differently-Abled Cricket Committee shall consist of THREE persons to be appointed by the Board at the Annual General Meeting, on such terms and conditions as may be decided by the Apex Council from time to time. Only former Differently-Abled Players who have represented the country in any format of the game shall be eligible to be appointed to this Committee. It is preferable that different categories of impairment (visual, physical, etc.,) be represented among the members of the Committee. The senior most among the Players shall be the Chairperson.
- (ii) The Differently-Abled Cricket Committee shall, in selection with the Cricket Talent Committee select the National Team across all age groups for representation in Tests, One Day Internationals, Twenty/20 and any other format. In addition, this Committee shall also propose to the CEO the best practices to be inculcated including coaching, counselling and special equipment. This Committee shall also endeavour to bring the various existing cricket associations for various types of impairment under the common umbrella of the BCCI and evolve training programmes and raise awareness.
- (iii) This Committee shall appoint a Captain for the team in each format, who shall be an ex-Officio member of the Committee. The Captain, however, shall not be entitled to vote. In the event of there being an equality of votes for the appointment of a Captain, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote. In the event of there being no majority agreement over the selection of the players, the Captain's wishes in that regard shall prevail. On an overseas tour, the Cricket Manager/Coach, Captain and Vice-Captain shall constitute the Selection Committee. The Administrative Manager shall convene the meeting and keep a record of the proceedings.



G. The Cricket Talent Committee

- (i) The Cricket Talent Committee shall consist of THREE persons to be appointed by the Board at the Annual General Meeting, on such terms and conditions as may be decided by the Apex Council from time to time. Only former Players who have played at least 20 First Class games and have the highest level of coaching certification shall be eligible to be appointed to this Committee. The seniormost among the Players shall be the Chairperson.
- (ii) This Committee shall:
 - a. Be responsible for scouting for talent in men, junior, women and disabled cricket.
 - b. Organize the framework within which the National Cricket Academy and the various State/District/Zonal Cricket Academies will be established and perform.
 - c. Create the programmes and coaching centers for coaching at regional and national levels;
 - d. Improve infrastructure in all areas of the country;
 - e. Make provisions for making the game of cricket accessible to the general public by creating turf wickets, pay-and-play facilities and converting existing fields and grounds into high quality pitches;
 - f. Encourage the youth to take up cricket by setting up promotional camps and other avenues of engagement with the game;
 - g. Provide evaluation reports of the targets set and achieved and the details of its programmes to the Apex Council on a quarterly basis;

(3) No person who has been a member of a Cricket Committee for a total of 5 years shall be eligible to be a member of a Cricket Committee.



- (4) No person who has been a member of a Cricket Committee shall write, comment or publicize any discussions or decisions of the Selections made except where so authorized by the Board or the Apex Council. Any violation of this confidentiality provision will invite removal and substitution by the Apex Council.
- (5) The Chairpersons of the respective Cricket Committees shall submit a quarterly report to the CEO which shall then be forwarded by him to the Apex Council for assessment and action, if any.
- (6) The Apex Council is empowered to add any further Cricket Committees as may be required, particularly to cater to weaker sections of society.

27. THE UMPIRES COMMITTEE

- (1) The Umpires Committee shall consist of THREE persons appointed by the Board at the Annual General Meeting, each of whom shall have been a former International umpire from India. In the event of such a person not being available, any umpire who has officiated in at least 25 First Class matches shall be eligible to be appointed. No person may be a member of this Committee for more than 5 years. The senior most umpire shall be the Chairperson of the Committee.
- (2) The function of the Umpires Committee shall be to standardize umpiring throughout India and to draw up and maintain a panel of Umpires to officiate matches in India and classify them into Elite Panel, All India Panel and Ranji Trophy Panel of Umpires, according to the merits of the Umpires (subject to reclassification), as per criteria worked out by the Committee. The Committee shall hold examinations from time to time for this purpose.
- (3) The Committee shall appoint umpires for all National and International matches and shall assist Members in the formation of the panels of Umpires in their respective areas. The Committee shall endeavour to promote umpiring by conducting camps and programmes.



- (4) The Committee shall draw a format to obtain confidential reports from captains on umpires, match referees or any other designated persons to assess the merits / de-merits of the Umpires.
- (5) The Committee may hold, organize and arrange seminars and conventions of umpires to discuss the laws of the game, experimental rules and suggestions of International Cricket Council in regard to amendments, alterations and additions to the laws of the game.

28. THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

- (1) The Governing Council of the IPL shall consist of NINE members who shall be inducted at every Annual General Body Meeting of the Board. The term of the members of the Governing Council (other than the Secretary, Treasurer, C&AG nominee and CEO) shall be one year.
- (2) The composition of the Governing Council shall be as follows:
 - i. Four representatives of the General Body; of which two shall be the Secretary and Treasurer, and two others to be elected by the General Body;
 - ii. Two representatives of the IPL Franchisees;
 - iii. One representative of the Cricket Players' Association (other than the representatives on the Apex Council);
 - iv. The Councillor who is the nominee of the Comptroller & Auditor General on the Apex Council;
 - v. The CEO of the BCCI;
- (3) One of the two elected Member representatives shall be the Chairperson of the Governing Council.
- (4) The nominees of the IPL Franchisees shall be rotated annually so that no Franchisee is represented again until all Franchisees have been represented at least once.
- (5) All decisions relating to the IPL would be taken by the Governing Council by majority and in case of equality of votes the Chairperson shall have a casting vote.
- (6) The Governing Council shall maintain a separate Bank Account which



shall be operated by the Treasurer and the CEO.

- (7) The Governing Council shall, at the following Meeting of the General Body, submit a report along with all decisions taken by it.

29. ACCIDENTAL OMISSION TO GIVE NOTICE OF MEETING

Accidental omission to give notice of an Annual General or Special General Meeting or Meetings of the Apex Council or of any of the Committees to any member entitled thereto or the non-receipt thereof by such individual shall not invalidate the proceedings of such meetings.

30. PERMISSION TO CONDUCT TOURNAMENTS

- (1) No Club affiliated to a member shall conduct or organize any tournament or any matches in which players/teams from the region within the jurisdiction of a member are participating or are likely to participate without the previous permission of the member affiliated to the BCCI.
- (2) No member or a Club affiliated to a member shall conduct or organize any tournament or any match/matches in which players/teams from regions outside their jurisdiction are participating or are likely to participate without the previous permission of the BCCI.
- (3) Permission for conducting or organizing any tournament or match/matches will be accorded only to the members of the BCCI and will be in accordance with the rules framed by the BCCI in this regard from time to time.
- (4) No member or a Club affiliated to a member shall conduct or organize any international Tournament or International match/matches in which foreign players/teams are participating or are likely to participate without the previous permission of the BCCI. Permission



for conducting or organizing any International Tournaments or International match/matches will only be accorded to the Members of the BCCI on special occasions.

- (5) Members or their affiliates desirous of undertaking tours abroad or inviting foreign teams shall obtain the previous permission of the BCCI, which may be granted in accordance with the Rules framed by the BCCI.

31. BAN ON PARTICIPATION IN UNAPPROVED TOURNAMENTS

- (1) No Member shall participate or extend help of any kind to an unapproved Tournament.
- (2) No Player, Umpire, Scorer, Official or other person associated with the BCCI shall participate in any unapproved tournament.
- (3) The Apex Council shall take appropriate action including suspension and stoppage of financial benefits and any other action against individuals / Members contravening the above.



CHAPTER SIX: ELECTIONS

32. PROCEDURE FOR ELECTIONS

The General Body shall from time to time frame rules of procedure for the elections. Any amendments to the procedure adopted shall be made at least 3 months prior to the elections.

33. THE ELECTORAL OFFICER

- (1) At least two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting at which an election is to be held, the Apex Council shall appoint an Electoral Officer, who shall be a former member of the Election Commission of India.
- (2) The Electoral Officer shall oversee and supervise the entire election process for Councillors and the Players' Cricket Association, which shall include all nominations and candidatures being subject to his scrutiny in accordance with the Rules.
- (3) In case of any dispute or objection as to candidacy, disqualification, eligibility to vote, or the admission or rejection of a vote in the elections to the Apex Council, the Players' Cricket Association or any of the Committees, the Electoral Officer shall decide the same and such decision shall be final and conclusive.



CHAPTER SEVEN: AUDIT & ACCOUNTS

34. AUDITOR(S):

- (1) The General Body shall at every Annual General Meeting appoint one or more auditors to hold office for a 1 year period and shall fix their remuneration. The Auditor shall be eligible for reappointment by the General Body.
- (2) The Auditor(s) of the BCCI shall have the right of access at all times to the Books of Accounts, Vouchers and any other documents relating to the accounts of the BCCI and shall be entitled to obtain from the Office-bearers and Committees such information and explanation as may be necessary in the discharge of his/their duties.
- (3) The Auditor(s) shall provide an opinion on the financial statements of the BCCI and recommendations on the financial controls within the system, which shall be contained in a Financial Report.
- (4) The Auditor(s) shall also ascertain how the funds of the BCCI are being utilized by the respective Members. It will be the responsibility of the Auditor(s) to verify the statements made by the Member associations in this regard and to give findings, which shall be contained in a Compliance Report.
- (5) Both the Financial Report and the Compliance Report of the Auditor(s) shall be considered at the Annual General Meeting.

35. ACCOUNTS

True accounts shall be kept by the Treasurer of all moneys received and expended by the BCCI and the matters in respect of which such receipts and expenditure take place and of all assets, credits and liabilities of the BCCI. This shall include the separate account maintained for the IPL as well.



36. SETTLEMENT OF ACCOUNTS & BALANCE SHEET

The accounts shall, unless the General Body fixes any other date there for, be settled by the Treasurer on the 31st of March in each year, and a balance sheet of the assets and liabilities of the BCCI on that day shall be made out by him. The Balance Sheet duly audited with the Auditor's remarks shall be laid before the General Body at the Annual General Meeting.



CHAPTER EIGHT: TRANSPARENCY & CONFLICT OF INTEREST

37. TRANSPARENCY

- (i) The Memorandum of Association, Rules and Regulations and all other resolutions, orders and memoranda of the BCCI (including the Apex Council and the General Body) shall be freely available to the general public at a reasonable price. The same shall also be available on the Website of the BCCI.
- (ii) The composition of the various Committees (including the Governing Council), their reports of work done, financial outlay and expenditure shall be uploaded on the Website of the BCCI on a quarterly basis at distinct links dedicated to each Committee. It shall be the responsibility of the CEO to ensure that this is done.
- (iii) All payments and expenditures made by the BCCI which is in excess of Rs.25 lakh shall be enumerated and uploaded on the website.
- (iv) All proceedings and conclusions of the Ombudsman and the Electoral Officer shall be uploaded on the Website of the BCCI annually.
- (v) The audited accounts, balance sheets, profit & loss accounts and annual reports shall be uploaded on the Website of the BCCI annually.
- (vi) The Financial and Compliance Reports of the Auditor shall be placed on the uploaded on the Website of the BCCI annually.
- (vii) All notices on or behalf of the BCCI including tenders for goods and services, for contractual arrangements and the like shall be promptly uploaded on the Website of the BCCI.
- (viii) The website of the BCCI shall have dedicated links to all the stadia in the country which host international matches, along with their



complete seating capacity, pricing and transparent booking procedures for all tournaments whether international, domestic or IPL. All sponsor and other free allotments shall also be disclosed, in no event being more than 10% of the entire seating capacity in any particular category.

38. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

(1) A Conflict Of Interest may take any of the following forms as far as any individual associated with the BCCI is concerned:

- (i) *Direct or Indirect Interest:* When the BCCI, a Member, the IPL or a Franchisee enter into contractual arrangements with entities in which the individual concerned or his/her relative, partner or close associate has an interest. This is to include cases where family members, partners or close associates are in positions that may, or may be seen to compromise an individual's participation, performance and discharge of roles.

Illustration 1: A is an Office Bearer of the BCCI when it enters into a broadcast contract with a company where A's son B is employed. A is hit by Direct Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 2: C is a Member of the IPL Governing Council. The IPL enters into a contract with a new franchisee, the Managing Director of which is C's partner in an independent commercial venture. C is hit by Indirect Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 3: D is the Office Bearer of a State Association. D's wife E has shares in an IPL Franchisee which enters into a stadium contract with the State Association. D is hit by Indirect Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 4: F is President of the BCCI. His son-in-law is a Team Official of a Franchisee. F is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 5: G is an employee of the BCCI. His wife runs a catering agency that is engaged by the BCCI. G is hit by Conflict of Interest.



- (ii) *Roles compromised:* When the individual holds two separate or distinct posts or positions under the BCCI, a Member, the IPL or the Franchisee, the functions of which would require the one to be beholden to the other, or in opposition thereof.

Illustration 1: A is the Coach of a team. He is also Coach of an IPL Franchisee. A is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 2: B is Secretary of the BCCI. He is also President of a State Association. B is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 3: C is the Vice President of the BCCI. He is also President of a State Association and member of a Standing Committee. C is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 4: D is a Selector. He is also coach of an IPL franchisee. D is hit by Conflict of Interest.

- (iii) *Commercial conflicts:* When the individual enters into endorsement contracts or other professional engagements with third parties, the discharge of which would compromise the individual's primary obligation to the game or allow for a perception that the purity of the game stands compromised.

Illustration 1: A runs a cricket academy. He is appointed as a selector. A is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 2: B is a BCCI commentator. He also runs a sports management company which contracts members of the team. B is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 3: C is a selector. He is contracted to write a column on a tour that the national team is on. C is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 4: D is a team captain. He is also co-owner of a sports management agency which is contracted to manage other team members. D is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 5: E is a member of the IPL Governing Council. He is engaged by a cricket broadcaster to act as an IPL commentator. E is hit by Conflict of Interest.

- (iv) *Prior relationship:* When the individual has a direct or indirect independent commercial engagement with a vendor or service



provider in the past, which is now to be engaged by or on behalf of the BCCI, its Member, the IPL or the Franchisee.

Illustration 1: A is President of the BCCI. Prior to his taking office, he has been engaged professionally for his services by a firm B. After A becomes President, B is appointed as the official consultants of the BCCI. A is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 2: B is the Secretary of a State Association. Prior to his election, he ran a firm C, specializing in electronic boundary hoardings. Upon becoming Secretary, the contract for the Association's stadium hoardings is granted to C. B is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 3: D is the Commissioner of the IPL. Before he came into this office, he used to engage E as his auditor for his business. After becoming Commissioner, E is appointed as auditor to the IPL. D is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 4: F is the Captain of an IPL team, and G is the team's manager. When F is made Captain of the national team, G is appointed as the national team's manager. F is hit by Conflict of Interest.

- (v) *Position of influence:* When the individual occupies a post that calls for decisions of governance, management or selection to be made, and where a friend, relative or close affiliate is in the zone of consideration or subject to such decision-making, control or management. Also, when the individual holds any stake, voting rights or power to influence the decisions of a franchisee / club / team that participates in the commercial league(s) under BCCI;

Illustration 1: A is a selector. His son is in the zone of consideration for selection. A is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 2: B is the Secretary of a State Association. He also runs a cricket academy in the State. B is hit by Conflict of Interest.

Illustration 3: C is an umpire. His daughter D is a member of a team which is playing a match in which C officiates. C is hit by Conflict of Interest.



Illustration 4: E is the President of a State Association and his company F owns 12 cricket clubs in the State from which probables are selected for the State team. E is hit by Conflict of Interest.

EXPLANATION: The Illustrations which refer to a President / Secretary / Vice-President may be read as illustrations referring to any other Office Bearer, and also to the members of the Apex Council, the Governing Council and the Committees.

- (2) Within a period of 15 days of taking any office under the BCCI, every individual shall disclose in writing to the Apex Council any existing or potential event that may be deemed to cause a Conflict of Interest, and the same shall be uploaded on the website of the BCCI. The failure to issue a complete disclosure, or any partial or total suppression thereof would render the individual open to disciplinary action which may include termination and removal without benefits. It is clarified that a declaration does not lead to a presumption that in fact a questionable situation exists, but is merely for information and transparency.
- (3) A Conflict of Interest may be either Tractable or Intractable.
 - a. Tractable conflicts are those that are resolvable or permissible or excusable through recusal of the individual concerned and/or with full disclosure of the interest involved;
 - b. Intractable conflicts are those that cannot be resolved through disclosure and recusal, and would necessitate the removal of the individual from a post or position occupied so that the conflict can cease to exist;

Explanation: In Illustration (iii) of Rule 38(1)(i), if the wife held 51% shares, the conflict will be treated as intractable. If the wife holds 3% shares, whether the conflict is tractable or intractable will have to be decided by the Ethics Officer on the facts of the case. If the wife holds only 100 shares out of 1 crore shares, a disclosure of the same may be sufficient.

- (5) It is clarified that no individual may occupy more than one of the following posts at a single point of time except where prescribed under these Rules:



- a. Player (Current)
- b. Selector / Member of Cricket Committee
- c. Team Official
- d. Commentator
- e. Match Official
- f. Administrator / Office-Bearer
- g. Electoral Officer
- h. Ombudsman & Ethics Officer
- i. Auditor
- j. Any person who is in governance, management or employment of a Franchisee
- k. Member of a Standing Committee
- l. CEO & Managers
- m. Office Bearer of a Member
- n. Service Provider (Legal, Financial, etc.)
- o. Contractual entity (Broadcast, Security, Contractor, etc.)
- p. Owner of a Cricket Academy

(6) As far as incumbents are concerned, every disclosure mandated under Sub-Rule (3) may be made within 90 days of the Effective Date.

39. THE ETHICS OFFICER

- (1) The Board shall appoint an Ethics Officer at the Annual General Meeting for the purpose of guidance and resolution in instances of conflict of interest. The Ethics Officer shall be a retired Judge of a High Court so appointed by the Board after obtaining his/her consent and on terms as determined by the BCCI in keeping with the dignity and stature of the office. The term of an Ethics Officer shall be one year, subject to a maximum of 3 terms in office.
- (2) Any instance of Conflict of Interest may be taken cognizance of by the Ethics Officer:
 - a. Suo Motu;



- b. By way of a complaint in writing to the official postal or email address; or
 - c. On a reference by the Apex Council;
- (3) After considering the relevant factors and following the principles of natural justice, the Ethics Officer may do any of the following:
- a. Declare the conflict as Tractable and direct that:
 - i. The person declare the Conflict of Interest as per Sub-Rule (3); or
 - ii. The interest that causes the conflict be relinquished; or
 - iii. The person recuse from discharging the obligation or duty so vested in him or her;
 - b. Declare the conflict as Intractable and direct that:
 - i. The person be suspended or removed from his or her post; and
 - ii. Any suitable monetary or other penalty be imposed; and
 - iii. The person be barred for a specified period or for life from involvement with the game of cricket;

The Ethics Officer is wholly empowered to also direct any additional measures or restitution as is deemed fit in the circumstances.



CHAPTER NINE: THE OMBUDSMAN

40. THE OMBUDSMAN

- (1) The Board shall appoint an Ombudsman at the Annual General Meeting for the purpose of providing an independent dispute resolution mechanism. The Ombudsman shall be a retired Judge of the Supreme Court or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court so appointed by the Board after obtaining his/her consent and on terms as determined by the BCCI in keeping with the dignity and stature of the office. The term of the Ombudsman shall be one year, subject to a maximum of 3 terms in office.
- (2) The Board shall, in consultation with the CEO frame Regulations regarding the discipline and conduct of the Players, Match Officials, Team Officials, Administrators, Committee Members and others associated with the BCCI.

41. GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

- (1) The types of disputes/differences that form the Ombudsman's ambit and the procedures for redressal are:

- a. Member, Association & Franchisee Disputes

Any disputes between or among the BCCI, its Members, IPL Franchisees, Zones and the Cricket Players' Association shall be automatically referred to the Ombudsman.

Procedure: Both parties would submit their arguments and a hearing would be conducted following the principles of natural justice and exercising all powers of enquiry and hearing as the Ombudsman deems fit before appropriate orders are passed.

- b. Detriment caused by Member or Administrator

If any Member or any Administrator of the BCCI commits any act of



indiscipline or misconduct or acts in any manner which may or likely to be detrimental to the interest of the BCCI or the game of cricket or endanger the harmony or affect the reputation or interest of the BCCI or refuses or neglects to comply with any of the provisions of the Memorandum and/or the Rules and Regulations of the BCCI and/or the Rules of conduct framed by the Board, the Apex Council, on receipt of any complaint shall issue a Show Cause Notice calling for explanation and on receipt of the same and/or in case of no cause or insufficient cause being shown, refer the same to the Ombudsman.

Procedure: The Ombudsman shall, after providing opportunity of hearing to the parties concerned, pass an appropriate order.

c. Misconduct or Breach by Others

In the event of any complaint being received from any quarter or based on any report published or circulated or on its own motion, of any act of indiscipline or misconduct or violation of any of the Rules and Regulations by any Player, Umpire, Team Official, Selector or any person associated with the BCCI, the Apex Council shall refer the same within 48 hours to the CEO to make a preliminary enquiry.

Procedure: The CEO shall forthwith make a preliminary inquiry and call for explanations from the concerned person(s) and submit his report to the Apex Council not later than 15 days from the date of reference being made by the Apex Council. On receipt of the report, the Apex Council shall forward the same to the Ombudsman, who shall call for all particulars and unless it decides that there is no prima facie case and accordingly drops the charge, hearing shall commence on the case and the same shall be completed as expeditiously as possible by providing a reasonable



opportunity to the parties of being heard. If, despite due notice, any party fails to submit any cause or submits insufficient cause, the Ombudsman shall after providing reasonable opportunity of hearing to the parties concerned, pass appropriate order. In the event any party refuses and or fails to appear despite notice, the Ombudsman shall be at liberty to proceed ex-parte on the basis of the available records and evidence.

d. By the Public against the BCCI

Where a member of the public is aggrieved concerning ticketing and access and facilities at stadia, the same may be brought in the form of a complaint to the Ombudsman.

Procedure: The Ombudsman would adopt the same procedure as laid down in (c) above after referring the complaint to the CEO to solicit a report on the complaint.

- (3) The Place of hearing shall be decided by the Ombudsman from time to time. The Ombudsman shall have the power to impose penalties as provided in the Regulations for Players, Team Officials, Administrators, Managers and Match Officials of the BCCI.
- (4) The decision of the Ombudsman shall be final and binding and shall come into force forthwith on being pronounced and delivered.
- (5) Any Administrator, Player, Match Official, Team Official, Selector or other individual associated with the BCCI on being found guilty and expelled by the Board shall forfeit all their rights and privileges. He or she shall not in future be entitled to hold any position or office or be admitted in any committee or any role on the BCCI.
- (6) A Member or Franchise once expelled, may, on application made after expiry of three years since expulsion, be readmitted by the Board, provided the same is accepted at a General Body meeting by 3/4th members present and voting.



- (7) Pending inquiry and proceeding into complaints or charges of misconduct or any act of indiscipline or violation of any Rules and Regulations, the concerned Member, Administrator, Player, Match Official, Team Official, or other individual associated with the BCCI (along with their respective privileges and benefits) may be suspended by the Apex Council until final adjudication. However, the said adjudication ought to be completed within six months, failing which the suspension shall cease.



CHAPTER TEN: MISCELLANEOUS

42. NOTICE

- (1) Any notice required to be served on any Member of the BCCI or any Administrator or other entity shall be addressed to their registered addresses.
- (2) All notices shall be served by way of electronic mail to the official e-mail addresses as are furnished to the BCCI.
- (3) Any notice sent via post or e-mail shall be deemed to have been served at the time when the same was sent, and it shall be sufficient to prove either that the letter containing the notice was properly addressed and posted or that the email was sent to the correct e-mail address.

43. INDEMNITY

Every Office-bearer, Councillor, CEO, Manager or a Member of a Committee of the BCCI shall be indemnified out of the BCCI's funds against all losses and expenses incurred in the discharge of his or her duties, except those which have occurred through wilful act or default and if so, each one shall be chargeable only for so much moneys or properties as they shall actually receive for or in the discharge of the business of the BCCI and shall be answerable only for their own act, neglect or default and not for those of any other person.

44. SUITS BY OR AGAINST THE BCCI

The BCCI shall sue or be sued in the name of the Secretary.

45. AMENDMENT AND REPEAL

These Rules and Regulations of the BCCI shall not be repealed, added to, amended or altered except when passed and adopted by a 3/4th majority of the members present and entitled to vote at a Special General Meeting of



the General Body convened for the purpose or at the Annual General Meeting.



ANNEXURE-B

THE CODE FOR THE CRICKET PLAYERS' ASSOCIATION (CPA)

1. NAME

The name of the association shall be the Cricket Players' Association ("CPA").

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the CPA shall be as follows:

- (a) To conserve, promote and advance the welfare and interests of the members;
- (b) To provide insurance and other medical and other benefits for Players;
- (c) To negotiate with the Board of Control for Cricket in India ("BCCI"), securing best commercial and other terms to Players, and welfare measures and benefits, for both current and former players. (It is clarified that CPA will not be and act as a Trade Union).

3. DEFINITIONS

(a) For the purpose of this Code, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

- (i) "Association" shall mean the CPA.
- (ii) "Ex-Cricketer" shall mean any Player who has retired from competitive cricket in all forms of the game.
- (iii) "Executive Committee" shall mean the committee managing the affairs of the CPA and as constituted under these rules.
- (iv) "Member" shall mean a person who has been granted membership into the CPA.



(v) “Membership” shall mean the rights, privileges, and benefits granted to a member by the CPA.

(vi) “Rules” means the regulations in this Code.

(b) Terms for which meanings are defined in this regulation shall apply equally to singular and plural forms and also masculine/feminine gender.

4. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the CPA shall comprise:

- (a) Male and female Ex-cricketers, who have played at least one International Cricket Match in any format of the game at the senior level;
- (b) Male ex-cricketers, who have played at least Ten First Class Matches in any format of the game at the senior level;
- (c) Female ex-cricketers, who have played at least Five First Class Matches in any format of the game at the senior level;
- (d) Differently-abled ex-cricketers, who have played either International Cricket or first class cricket in any format of the game at the senior level;

5. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Every application for membership shall be made in writing to the Executive Committee / Steering Committee as per a form prescribed by the Committee;
- (b) No application shall be rejected on any ground if the player satisfies any of the eligibility criteria laid down in regulation 4.



6. DUTIES/OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

- (a) Members shall not form a trade union of any sort and player(s) involved in any such measure will get automatically disqualified to continue as members of this Association;
- (b) Members shall strictly adhere to all provisions of the BCCI Regulations including the Code of Conduct and all other Regulations made by BCCI or IPL, as the case may be, with special emphasis on Conflict of Interest and BCCI Code of Behaviour;

7. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- (a) A member may resign from the association by:
 - 1. Giving notice, in writing, to the Executive Committee to that effect; and
 - 2. Paying any outstanding levies due at the date of such notice;and upon receipt of such written notice and such payment, the Executive Committee shall remove the member from the Association.
- (b) The Executive Committee may by resolution, and by following a process consistent with the principles of natural justice, remove any Member from the association in the event of conviction for the commission of a criminal offence or for breaching the obligations laid down in Regulation 6.

8. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- (a) The Executive Committee shall be the governing body of this association comprising a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and two Members;
- (b) At least one of the members of the Executive Committee shall be a woman;
- (c) The Executive Committee shall have the power to do all such acts, deeds, matters as may be necessary for the furtherance of the objectives of this association.



9. ELIGIBILITY

- (a) Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by a simple majority through elections conducted by the Electoral Officer of the BCCI;
- (b) Such member elected must have either played at least five International Test Matches for India, or a minimum number of twenty-five (25) First Class matches, if it is a male or a minimum number of ten (10) First Class matches, if it is a female.

10. TERM

- (a) The term of the Executive Committee shall be 2 years.
- (b) Each Member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to hold office for a maximum of 2 terms, after which he or she shall be ineligible to stand for office.

11. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- (a) The Executive Committee shall ensure that the funds provided by the BCCI are utilized exclusively for the purpose of this association and for no other purpose;
- (b) A report and audited balance sheet and statement of accounts for the preceding financial year shall be furnished to the BCCI for the funds assigned by the BCCI;
- (c) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for observance of measures mandated for the constitution of the Apex Council of the BCCI or for any of its Committees or under any Regulations of the BCCI or IPL;
- (d) The Executive Committee shall elect/nominate two of the members for being appointed as Members of the Apex Council of BCCI, and one member to the IPL Governing Council.



12. AMENDMENT / MODIFICATION

The CPA may add, modify or delete any of the provisions of this Code in consultation with the BCCI.



ANNEXURE-C

THE REGULATIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS' AGENTS

1. APPLICABILITY OF REGULATIONS

No person (other than a Player representing himself) shall be permitted to conduct individual contract negotiations on behalf of a Player and/or assist in or advise with respect to such negotiations after the Effective Date unless he is registered/certified as a Player Agent pursuant to these Regulations.

2. ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY FOR THE AGENTS

(a) A Committee on Agent Regulation ("Committee") shall be constituted by the BCCI to administer matters relating to registration of Player Agents.

(b) This Committee shall consist of 5 members, of which 2 shall be nominees of the Players' Association and 3 (including the Chairperson) shall be nominees of the BCCI.

(c) In addition to performing the function of reviewing and acting upon all applications for Registration, the Committee on Agent Regulation also serves as the Disciplinary Committee. In the latter capacity, it shall have the authority and responsibility of initiating and then presenting disciplinary proceedings against Player Agents who violate disciplinary provisions and/or engage in prohibited conduct.

3. PREREQUISITES FOR REGISTRATION

(a) The Applicant must necessarily be a natural person: All applications must be signed by and filed on behalf of a single individual applicant. The Committee shall not accept any Application filed by, nor will it certify as a Player Agent, any company, partnership, corporation, or other artificial legal entity.



- (b) Each applicant, who shall not be less than 25 years of age, must pass a written examination which will be followed by a personal interview: A test and personal interview shall be conducted by BCCI to enable the committee to ascertain whether the applicant is capable and suitable to be a Player agent and has adequate knowledge of cricket regulations, including the relevant disciplinary and ethics regulations laid down by the BCCI and/or the IPL as also knowledge in the fields of legal, accounting and business management.
- (c) Clearance Certificate from Anti-Corruption and Security Unit (ACSU): The applicant must submit a clearance certificate issued by the Anti-Corruption and Security Unit (ACSU) of the International Cricket Council (ICC) which ensures that strict anti-corruption protocols are followed by all stakeholders.
- (d) No Criminal Record: The applicant will be required to satisfy the committee of his good character and reputation, on terms that shall be stipulated by the committee from time to time. This shall include, but not be limited to, consideration of the Applicant's criminal record and financial history.
- (e) Disclosure Statement: The applicant shall disclose on his application and thereafter upon request of the Committee all information relevant to his or her qualifications to serve as a Player agent. He/she shall also authorize the Committee to perform a background investigation.
- (f) Non-refundable Application fee and Annual Fee: Apart from the payment of a non-refundable Application Fee, in order to retain his or her registration, the Player Agent will have to pay to the BCCI an annual administrative fee which shall be determined by the Committee.
- (g) Maximum agent fee: The applicant shall furnish an undertaking that he shall charge no more than a maximum agent fee of 2% of the total annual revenue earned.



4. ADHERENCE AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- (a) The agent shall strictly adhere to all provisions of the BCCI Regulations including the Code of Conduct and all other Regulations made by BCCI or IPL, as the case may be, with emphasis on:
- Conflict of Interest
 - No Dual Representation (Representing both an individual and a club/franchise)
 - No borrowing of money from Players
 - Failure to disclose Relevant Information
 - Breach of Confidentiality
- (b) The Committee shall have the authority to initiate disciplinary procedures against Player Agents who violate any of the relevant provisions and Regulations made by the BCCI or the IPL as the case may be. The principles of natural justice shall be followed before the registration of the agent is either suspended or cancelled.
- (c) Without reference to the Agent concerned, if reliable information is received from the ACSU or any other investigative body of the Government concerning the actions of an agent, the Committee may in its discretion take any action it deems fit.

5. MAINTENANCE OF REGISTER

The Committee shall maintain an up to date register of all the registered agents, and also provide their contact details and Player list transparently. This shall also be uploaded on a distinct link on the website of the CPA.