

MINUTES OF THE 18th APEX COUNCIL MEETING OF BOARD OF CONTROL FOR CRICKET IN INDIA (BCCI) HELD ON MONDAY, 9TH APRIL 2023 AT 8.00 P.M. VIA VIDEO-CONFERENCE

Present:

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| 1. Mr. Roger Binny | Honorary President, Chairperson |
| 2. Mr. Jay Shah | Honorary Secretary |
| 3. Mr. Rajeev Shukla | Honorary Vice President |
| 4. Mr. Ashish Shelar | Honorary Treasurer |
| 5. Mr. Devajit Saikia | Honorary Joint Secretary |
| 6. Mr. Khairul Jamal Majumdar | Councillor |
| 7. Mr. C.M. Sane | CAG Nominee |
| 8. Ms. Shubhangi Kulkarni | ICA Representative (Female) |
| 9. Mr. Dilip Vengsarkar | ICA Representative (Male) |

BCCI staff members were invited to speak on specific Agenda items, as and when required.

1. CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Roger Binny, the Honorary President, BCCI (the “Chairperson”) presided over the meeting. He greeted all the members present in the Apex Council and welcomed them to the 18th Apex Council Meeting of the BCCI.

2. QUORUM

After ascertaining that the requisite quorum for the meeting was present, the meeting was called to order.

Thereafter, Mr. Jay Shah, the Honorary Secretary, BCCI, welcomed all the members.

With the permission of all the members present, the notice convening the meeting, having already been circulated, was taken on record.

3. ITEM 1: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 16TH AND 17TH APEX COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Hon Secretary, Mr. Shah took up the first item on the agenda which was which was confirmation of the minutes of the 16th Apex Council Meeting held on December 21, 2022, and 17th Apex Council Meeting held on January 9, 2023.

After some deliberation, minutes of the 16th Apex Council Meeting held on December 21, 2022, and 17th Apex Council Meeting held on January 9, 2023, were approved.

4. ITEM 2: RATIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS BY CIRCULATION PASSED.

Hon Secretary, Mr. Shah took up the next item on the agenda which was ratification of the resolution(s) passed by circulation. The papers relating to the agenda point were circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

The Honorary Secretary apprised the members that three resolutions were passed by circulation. The following are the resolutions passed by circulation:

“RESOLVED THAT in pursuance of the powers granted to the Apex Council under the Rules and Regulations of the BCCI, it has been resolved to waive off 1 (one) match from the scope of Star India Private Limited under the BCCI-Star Media Rights Agreement dated 5th April 2018 for BCCI International and Domestic Matches. The total number of matches during the rights period has now been reduced from 103 to 102.”

“RESOLVED THAT in pursuance of the powers granted to the Apex Council under the Rules and Regulations of the BCCI, it has been resolved to approve the assignment of the Team Kit Sponsor Rights from MPL Sports to Kewal Kiran Clothing Limited (KILLER) under the Sponsorship and License Agreement. MPL Sports will continue as the Merchandising partner till May 31, 2023.

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the rights period under the Sponsorship and License Agreement between Board of Control for Cricket in India and MPL, be amended whereby the new rights period under the Sponsorship and License Agreement shall conclude on May 31, 2023.”

The Honorary Secretary apprised the members that a note was circulated to all the Apex Council members regarding the appointment of Adidas as the Kit and Merchandise Sponsor of the BCCI for a period of 5 years. Upon receiving approval from all Apex Council members, BCCI appointed Adidas as the Kit and Merchandise Sponsor upon the terms agreed between the parties.

The Apex Council ratified the three resolutions above, passed by circulation.

5. ITEM 3: UPDATE ON BYJU'S AND STAR MEDIA RIGHTS PAYMENT.

Hon. Secretary, Mr. Jay Shah took up the next item on the agenda which was updating the members on the agreement with Byju's and payment from Star India as per the BCCI media rights agreement. Mr. Shah requested Mr. Hemang Amin to brief the members regarding the agenda.

Mr. Amin apprised the members that, with respect to the agreement with Byju's, Byju's has requested for additional time to pay the amounts owed by them to BCCI. Further, Byju's had requested BCCI to encash the bank guarantee provided by them. In pursuance of the same, BCCI has encashed the bank guarantee. While Byju's has proposed to make payments in three equal instalments in the months of April, May and June of 2023, BCCI is yet to receive confirmation regarding the payment timelines. Therefore, as things stand, BCCI has encashed the bank guarantee but there remains exposure in terms of amount to be paid from Byju's.

As Byju's term as the team sponsor, which was to continue till the end of ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, has come to an end on March 31, 2023, the members deliberated on the next steps regarding onboarding a new entity as the team sponsor. The Honorary Secretary suggested that BCCI may initiate a tender process to onboard a new team sponsor. After

some deliberations, it was decided to issue a tender to appoint the next team sponsor for a longer term.

Mr. Amin then apprised the members regarding the Star media rights payment. He explained that in the previous Apex Council meeting it was decided that he and Mr. Shelar were authorised on behalf of BCCI to have discussions with Star and they had multiple discussions with Star.

Mr. Amin informed that after negotiations, BCCI has decided to waive off 1 (one) match from the scope of Star India Private Limited under the BCCI-Star Media Rights Agreement dated 5th April 2018 thereby bringing down the total number of matches during the rights period from 103 to 102 (102 was the indicative scheduled matches provided in the BCCI-Star Media Rights Agreement). A resolution was circulated regarding the same which has been unanimously passed and ratified by the members.

The members took note of the update on Byju's and Star agreements and approved the initiation of the process for appointing a team sponsor.

6. ITEM 4: BCCI MEDIA RIGHTS 2023-2027.

Hon Secretary, Mr. Shah took up the next item on the agenda which was updating the members on the BCCI media rights for the cycle 2023-2027.

Mr. Shah apprised the members that the media rights agreement with Star was for the period ending March 31, 2023 and therefore the agreement with Star has concluded. To appoint the new media rights partner, we may use the same approach as before by appointing a consultancy agency who shall advise BCCI on the structure, time period, packages, tender documents, etc. regarding the media rights. The agencies may present their proposals regarding ideas and execution in relation to the media rights and the BCCI may appoint a consultancy agency as well as a legal firm, who shall assist in drafting the tender documents.

The members took note of the update on the next cycle of media rights, i.e., 2023-2027.

7. ITEM 5: DOMESTIC SCHEDULE FOR SEASON 2023-2024.

Hon Secretary, Mr. Shah took up the next item on the agenda which was updating the members on the BCCI domestic schedule for Season 2023-2024. The papers relating to the agenda point were circulated to the members of the Apex Council. Hon Secretary, Mr. Shah requested Mr. Abey Kuruvilla, GM- Game Development, to brief the members regarding the agenda.

Mr. Kuruvilla briefed the members on the various formats for the next domestic season 2023-2024 and presented two options before the members. The first option was the schedule similar to the ongoing season with some tournaments reduced while the second option had a few changes. The second option had plate and elite for all multi day games. This was done as it was noted that matches were one sided which benefitted neither teams. The second option will be more beneficial for the weaker teams to gain experience

The members took note of the update and unanimously approved the second option for the domestic schedule for Season 2023-2024.

8. ITEM 6: RATIFICATION OF MEN'S PLAYER CONTRACT 2022-2023.

Hon Secretary, Mr. Shah took up the next item on the agenda which was ratifying the men's player contract for Season 2022-2023. The papers relating to the agenda point were circulated to the members of the Apex Council. Hon Secretary, Mr. Shah requested Mr. Gaurav Saxena, GM Operations, to brief the members regarding the agenda.

Mr. Saxena apprised the members that a meeting of the selection committee including the head coach and the captain was organised regarding the gradation of the players for Season 2022-2023. The recommendations of the selection committee included promoting Mr. Ravindra Jadeja to the A+ category in view of his performance thereby having 4 players in category A+, 5 players in category A, 6 players in category B and 11 players in category C. A detailed list of players contracted for the season 2022-2023 is attached as **Annexure A**.

The Honorary Secretary apprised the members that the term started on October 1, 2022 and will end on September 30, 2023.

The members took note of the men's player contract for Season 2022-2023 and unanimously ratified the same.

9. ITEM 7: APPROVAL FOR COMMENCEMENT OF PROCESS FOR APPOINTMENT OF COACHES AND SUPPORT STAFF FOR SENIOR WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM.

Hon Secretary, Mr. Shah took up the next item on the agenda which was approving the commencement of process for appointment of coaches and support staff for senior women's national team.

The Honorary Secretary apprised the members that as there is now an increasing number of competition for women cricketers, there is a need to have professional services in relation to coaches and support staff for women. The Honorary Secretary therefore suggested to commence the process of appointment of the coaches and support staff for senior women's national team. Ms. Kulkarni concurred with the views and suggestions of the Honorary Secretary and added that the national team must have longer contracts of the coaches and support staff.

The members took note of the suggestions and approved the commencement of process for appointment of coaches and support staff for senior women's national team.

10. ITEM 8: UPDATE ON ICC MATTERS.

Hon Secretary, Mr. Shah took up the next item on the agenda which was updating the members on the ICC matters.

The Honorary Secretary apprised the members that the ICC has confirmed that there will be no relocation of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 and the world cup will therefore take place in India. However, ICC has informed that they are in receipt of a letter from the Government of India regarding the applicability of TDS. The Honorary Secretary apprised the members that BCCI will discuss the TDS matter with the Government of India.

The members took note of the update on ICC matters.

11. ITEM 9: UPDATE ON STADIUM GAP ASSESSMENT.

Hon Secretary, Mr. Shah took up the next item on the agenda which was updating the members on the stadium gap assessment. The papers relating to the agenda point were circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

Mr. Shah apprised the members that Grant Thornton (GT) had been appointed to survey the stadiums in India. GT initially started with 5 stadiums which were stadiums at Delhi, Mohali, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Mumbai. GT conducted a survey in these stadiums with a view point on facility management and general spectator and hospitality seating. GT has submitted a report detailing how the stadiums can be upgraded to world-class facilities. The report suggest that except couple of stadiums that have come up in the last few years, most stadiums may need upgradation in some manner or form.

The Honorary Secretary suggested that since the State Cricket Associations are a major stakeholders and operate the stadiums, it is important that the discussion on the upgradation of stadiums takes place with the Associations in a general body meeting. The Honorary Secretary requested the members to authorise the office bearers to take suitable steps regarding the upgradation of the stadium infrastructure.

The members took note of the update and concurred with the Honorary Secretary's suggestions. The members authorised the office bearers to take suitable steps regarding the upgradation of the stadium infrastructure.

12. ITEM 10: REVISED TRAVEL POLICY AT BCCI.

Hon Secretary, Mr. Shah took up the next item on the agenda which was regarding the revised travel policy at BCCI. The papers relating to the agenda point were circulated to the members of the Apex Council. Mr. Shah requested Mr. Nikhil Khanna, GM- Finance and Commercial, to brief the members regarding the agenda.

Mr. Khanna apprised the members that the General Body had authorised the office bearers of BCCI to update the policy with respect to travel of representatives of State Cricket Association in relation to BCCI work. The Apex Council also directed the BCCI to make provision of a sitting fee for the Apex Council members for attending the Apex Council meetings. Mr. Khanna apprised the members of the introduction of the meeting allowance in the policy. He further informed the members that the travel allowance for the apex council members as well as the staff of BCCI has not been revised in over 7 years and is therefore

due for revision, keeping in mind the inflation and general costs which have increased post Covid pandemic.

The Apex Council was further clarified that after the last revision in the travelling allowance payable to the apex council members as well as staff of BCCI, in the post-pandemic world, there has been very significant increase in the cost of travel including air fares, rates of hotel accommodation and the cost of food and beverages. The apex council members are working in a pro bono capacity for the BCCI, while they are expected to have meetings with their counterparts of foreign cricket bodies, stakeholders of international cricket as well as in the domestic cricketing world; where some basic courtesies, in terms of meals or snacks are offered based on reciprocation. With regard to meetings which are sometimes held online, the apex council members may have to depend upon external resources for setting up the video conferencing including arranging for Wi-Fi communication and other connected hardware. While these entail cost for the apex council members and staff of BCCI, etc. corresponding savings in logistics arrangements are achieved.

The Apex Council also noted that with this proposed change in travel policy and change in travelling allowance, the next revision could only be after three years or so, and the inflation in the intervening period needs to be provided for.

It was also noted that since the approval to increase the travel allowances was given by the general body in its meeting dated October 18, 2022, the effective date of the policy should be October 19, 2022.

The members took note of the revised travel and meeting policy at BCCI and approved the same.

13. ITEM NO. 2: TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRPERSON MAY CONSIDER NECESSARY TO BE INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA.

(a) **Suggestions with respect to coaching of women's teams:** Ms. Kulkarni congratulated the office bearers, the Apex Council, and the IPL Governing Council on the successful first season of the Women's Premier League. Ms. Kulkarni has suggested certain points with respect to coaching to enhance women's cricket all across. The office bearers suggested Ms. Kulkarni to discuss her points with Mr. VVS Laxman at NCA and if the parties agree, then the suggestions may be approved.

(b) **Award for the women's team:** Ms. Kulkarni further suggested awards for women's team in line with the awards given to men's team. Mr. Vengsarkar also suggested the re-initiation of awards given to the men's teams.



14. VOTE OF THANKS

The Chairperson thanked the Apex Council members and there being no other business, the meeting came to an end.

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Annexure A

The following are the men's players contracted for the Season 2022-2023:

Grade	Sr. No.	Player
A+	1.	Rohit Sharma
	2.	Virat Kohli
	3.	Jasprit Bumrah
	4.	Ravindra Jadeja
A	1.	Hardik Pandya
	2.	R Ashwin
	3.	Mohd. Shami
	4.	Rishabh Pant
	5.	Axar Patel
B	1.	Cheteshwar Pujara
	2.	KL Rahul
	3.	Shreyas Iyer
	4.	Mohd. Siraj
	5.	Suryakumar Yadav
	6.	Shubman Gill
C	1.	Umesh Yadav
	2.	Shikhar Dhawan
	3.	Shardul Thakur
	4.	Ishan Kishan
	5.	Deepak Hooda
	6.	Yuzvendra Chahal
	7.	Kuldeep Yadav
	8.	Washington Sundar
	9.	Sanju Samson
	10.	Arshdeep Singh
	11.	KS Bharat