

MINUTES OF THE 21st APEX COUNCIL MEETING OF BOARD OF CONTROL FOR CRICKET IN INDIA (BCCI) HELD ON MONDAY, 18th DECEMBER 2023 AT 6.00 P.M. (GST) (7:30 P.M. IST) AT W DUBAI – THE PALM, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

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 20th 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 20th APEX COUNCIL MEETING.

Hon Secretary, Mr. Shah took up the first item on the agenda which was which was confirmation of the minutes of the 20th Apex Council Meeting held on September 20, 2023. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

The minutes of the 20th Apex Council Meeting held on September 20, 2023, were confirmed, and approved.



4. ITEM 2: DISCUSSION ON SPONSORSHIP FOR BCCI MATCHES.

Mr. Shah took up the next item on the agenda which was discussion on sponsorship for BCCI matches. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

Mr. Shah apprised the members that the BCCI through tender process has already onboarded IDFC First Bank as the Title Sponsor for BCCI matches. The previous Title Sponsor was Paytm, who had further assigned the rights to Mastercard. The previous Title Sponsor(s) were paying INR 3.8 crores per match as the Rights Fee while IDFC First Bank will be paying INR 4.2 crores per match as the Rights Fee.

Further, BCCI had released another tender process to onboard Official Partners for BCCI matches. SBI Life participated in the tender process and was appointed as one of the Official Partners pursuant to its bid of INR 0.82 crores. The previous highest bid was by Dream11 which was INR 1.17 crores.

As 2 (two) spots of Official Partner remained open, the BCCI entered into negotiations with different parties while maintaining the base price of INR 0.75 crores as was the case during the tender process. Upon negotiations, BCCI has received 2 (two) offers for the Official Partnership from Campa Cola and Atomberg. Campa Cola has quoted INR 1 crore per match as the Rights Fee while Atomberg has quoted INR 0.75 crores per match as the Rights Fee.

If the members agree to the offer, all sponsorship slots will be filled and the total per match Rights Fee from all sponsorships for the current period will exceed that of the previous period.

The Apex Council deliberated regarding the appointment of Campa Cola and Atomberg as the Official Partners of BCCI and approved the same.

5. ITEM 3: UPDATE ON APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE PROVIDER FOR VIDEO EQUIPMENT TO COVER DOMESTIC MATCHES.

Mr. Shah took up the next item on the agenda which was updated on appointment of service provider for video equipment to cover domestic matches. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

Mr. Shah apprised the members that the agenda point was taken in the last meeting and the issues concerning the ongoing tender process regarding the appointment of service provider to provide video equipment were discussed. It was further decided that the Apex Council shall decide on the next steps. In this regard, it is proposed that a committee be formed comprising Mr. Ashish Shelar, Mr. Devajit Saikia and Mr. C.M. Sane who shall decide regarding the next steps.



After some discussions the members approved the formation of the committee comprising Mr. Ashish Shelar, Mr. Devajit Saikia and Mr. C.M. Sane to decide on the next steps regarding the tender process to appoint the service provider to provide video equipment.

6. ITEM 4: TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRPERSON MAY CONSIDER NECESSARY TO BE INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA.

(a) **Documents for eligibility criteria:** Mr. Abey Kuruvilla, GM- Game Development apprised the members that currently many players are playing in domestic tournaments in India despite not having an Indian passport and solely with an OCI card. This implies that players are able to play in India without having Indian citizenship. It is therefore proposed that players must have Indian passport to participate in domestic tournaments in India. The members deliberated on the suggestion and approved the same.

(b) **Curators grading:** Mr. Hemang Amin, Interim CEO and IPL COO, apprised the members that currently there are two panels of curators – elite panel and emerging panel. It is proposed that the elite panel have two groups – Group A and Group B. Further, a total of 11 additional curators be included in the panels or curators to increase the number of neutral curators. This, with the existing 22 curators, would bring the total number of curators to 33. The members discussed the proposal and approved the same.

(c) **Multi-day tournaments for women:** Mr. Abey Kuruvilla proposed that multi-day tournaments may be introduced for women from the current season, with the first multi-day tournament being inter-zonal tournaments to be played between 6 (six) zones – north, south, east, west, central and north-east. The members deliberated on the proposal and approved the same.

(d) **Age criteria for U-15 tournament for girls:** Mr. Abey Kuruvilla apprised the members that currently girls aged 13 years to 15 years can participate in the U-15 tournaments. Mr. Kuruvilla suggested that, to widen the participation from girls, BCCI may allow girls aged 12 years to participate in U-15 tournaments subject to bone testing. The members discussed the proposal and approved the participation of 12 year old girls in U-15 tournaments.

(e) **ICC Tax confirmation:** Mr. Shah apprised the members that ICC requires the hosting country to either ensure that no tax is levied on the ICC event to be hosted in that country or that the hosting country is responsible for the payment of any tax levied. For the tournaments hosted by BCCI in 2016 and 2023, BCCI is in talks with ICC regarding the tax levied in each of the tournaments. However, the ICC has now agreed that for the next cycle, i.e. 2023-2031, the ICC shall bear the tax implications of up to 10% in India and any additional tax that is levied over and above 10% shall be borne by BCCI. The members took note of the update regarding the same.

(f) Ms. Shubhangi Kulkarni raised certain points with respect to women's cricket:



- (i) **Venues for international matches:** Ms. Kulkarni suggested that in the recent past, women's international matches as well as WPL have been staged in and around Mumbai. Ms. Kulkarni suggested that such matches may take place in other cities in India for the promotion of the game.
- (ii) **Appointment of support staff for the Senior Women's team:** Ms. Kulkarni suggested that as the head coach for the senior women's team has already been appointed, BCCI may look into appointing other support staff for the team.
- (iii) **Medical benefits for former women's players:** Ms. Kulkarni suggested that a different criterion be explored with respect to grant of medical benefits to former players as the current criteria of 10 First Class games is very strict since not many former players would have played such number of games.
- (iv) **Match Officials:** Ms. Kulkarni congratulated Mrs. Lakshmi and Ms. Vrinda Rathi for their debut as Test Match Referee and Umpire respectively. Ms. Kulkarni further suggested that BCCI should push for promotion of referees and umpires on the ICC panel as BCCI had the most number of experienced match referees.
- (v) **International schedule of Senior Women:** Ms. Kulkarni suggested that the various international matches to be played as per the Future Tours Program for women be spread out throughout the year instead of the same being all conducted in a short window.

The Apex Council took note of all suggestions made by Ms. Kulkarni and proposed to look into the feasibility of implementing the same.

7. VOTE OF THANKS

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

