



TATA WPL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MATCH OFFICIALS AND MATCH OFFICIAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL

1. DEFINITIONS

BCCI:	The Board of Control for Cricket in India.
BCCI Chief Executive Officer:	The person appointed by BCCI from time to time to act as Chief Executive Officer (or his/her designee) including any interim Chief Executive Officer.
BCCI Constitution:	The Memorandum of Association and Rules and Regulations of the BCCI registered on 21 st August 2018.
Code of Conduct:	This Code of Conduct as the same may be amended from time to time by BCCI.
Code of Conduct for Players and Team Officials:	The WPL Code of Conduct for Players and Team Officials as amended from time to time by BCCI.
Franchisee:	An entity which owns and operates a Team.
WPL Event:	Any event or function taking place in relation to the League which is designated by BCCI as an official event or function including, without limitation, any opening ceremonies/concerts, closing ceremonies, opening dinners, closing dinners, press conferences, interviews, press launches, receptions, award dinners or ceremonies, promotional events and development clinics.
League:	The Twenty20 cricket league (known at the date of adoption of this Code of Conduct as the (WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE) which has been established by BCCI and which shall take place in Feb/March of each year (or such other time as may be determined by BCCI).
Match:	Any cricket match in the League including for the avoidance of doubt the Play-Off Matches.
Match Official:	Any Umpire or Match Referee officiating at a Match.
Ombudsman:	The person appointed by BCCI under the BCCI Constitution as Ombudsman from time to time to be an independent grievance redressal authority.
Operational Rules:	The operational rules adopted by BCCI relating to the League, as amended by BCCI from time to time.
Play-Off Matches:	The matches which take place at the end of the season to determine the winner, runner-up, third and fourth placed teams in the League.

Support Personnel: Any technical officials (for example, and without limitation, any official with responsibility for operating the communication equipment for Match Officials during a Match) or umpire coaches appointed (by the BCCI) to support the Match Officials in their appointments to any Match.

Team: Any team participating in the League from time to time.

Team Manager: The person appointed as manager of a Team for a Match.

2. CODE OF CONDUCT

Match Officials shall not engage in any conduct which is prejudicial to the interests of the game of cricket, BCCI and/or the League including without limitation the following:

- 2.1 Conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game.
- 2.2 Conduct that brings the game into disrepute.
- 2.3 Match Officials shall not make or cause to be made any public pronouncement or media comment (including via any social media platform) which is detrimental to:
 - (a) the game of cricket in general; or
 - (b) any particular Match between Teams in which any such Match Official is involved; or
 - (c) the League; or
 - (d) the BCCI; or
 - (e) relations between BCCI and any Team and/or Franchisee.
- 2.4 Match Officials shall not disclose or comment upon any alleged breach of this Code of Conduct or the Code of Conduct for Players and Team Officials or any hearing, report or decision arising from any such alleged breach unless such disclosure is required under the provisions of this Code of Conduct or the Code of Conduct for Players and Team Officials.
- 2.5 Match Officials shall not engage, directly or indirectly, in betting or any conduct described in the **Appendix 1**.
- 2.6 Match Officials shall not use or in any way be concerned in the use or distribution of illegal drugs.
- 2.7 Match Officials shall at all times observe and comply with the provisions of any regulation of BCCI which applies to Match Officials in the League including but not limited to the Operational Rules.
- 2.8 Using language or a gesture that is obscene, offensive or insulting to a Player, Team Official or any other third person (including a spectator) during a Match.
- 2.9 Abuse of any cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings during a Match.

2.10 Inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with a Player, Team Official, other Match Official, Match Official Support Personnel or any other person (including a spectator) during a Match.

2.11 Inappropriate distraction or obstruction on the field of play during a Match.

3. APPLICATION OF THIS CODE OF CONDUCT

3.1 An alleged breach of this Code of Conduct shall be dealt with as set out below.

4. PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

4.1 Reports

4.1.1 Eligibility to lodge a Report

An alleged breach of this Code of Conduct by a Match Official may be reported by:

- (a) the Match Referee of the Match in relation to which such breach is alleged to have occurred; or
- (b) the Team Manager (in his own right or on behalf of any of his players) of one of the Teams playing in the Match in relation to which such breach is alleged to have occurred; or
- (c) the Franchisee of one of the Teams playing in the Match in relation to which such breach is alleged to have occurred; or
- (d) the BCCI Chief Executive Officer.

4.1.2 If any person eligible to lodge a report under Articles 4.1.1(a), (b) and (c) becomes aware of any alleged breach of this Code of Conduct by a Match Official, he/she shall report the alleged breach in writing to the BCCI Chief Executive Officer as soon as practicable.

4.2 Enquiry and the Disciplinary Procedure

The provisions of paragraphs 2.1, 2.2 and 3 of Section 6 of the Operational Rules shall apply to all matters arising out of this Code.

4.3 Penalties

4.3.1 In the event that the Ombudsman decides on a balance of probability that a Match Official is in breach of this Code of Conduct, the Ombudsman may in its absolute discretion impose any penalty by way of reprimand and/or fine and/or suspension in respect of the League, including the power to suspend a fine or a suspension in respect of the League.

4.3.2 In deciding what penalty to impose on a Match Official for a breach of this Code of Conduct, the Ombudsman shall have regard to:

- the character of that Match Official;
- the nature of the action on the part of that Match Official giving rise to the breach of this Code of Conduct; and
- any other circumstances of the case which may seem to the Ombudsman relevant to the imposition of a penalty.

4.3.3 BCCI shall co-operate with the Ombudsman in ensuring that a penalty imposed on any such Match Official is carried into full force and effect and BCCI is hereby authorized under this Code of Conduct to take all necessary steps to enforce such a penalty.

5. RECORDS

BCCI shall be responsible for keeping copies of all reports and of all hearings in relation to any alleged or proven breaches of this Code of Conduct.

6. GENERAL

It shall (to the extent not expressly provided) be an implied condition in any contract, agreement, understanding or arrangement involving BCCI and a Match Official that the provisions of this Code of Conduct shall be binding on such a Match Official and that his acceptance of an appointment to act as a Match Official in any Match or to be a member of the panel of Match Officials established by BCCI shall constitute his acceptance of his obligation to be bound by and his undertaking, directly with BCCI, to observe at all times the provisions of this Code of Conduct.

APPENDIX 1

A Match Official shall be in breach of Clause 2.5 of this Code of Conduct if he is found to have:

1. Bet on or in relation to any Match or series of Matches, or on any WPL Event; or
2. Induced or encouraged any other person to bet on or in relation to any Match or series of Matches or on any WPL Event or offered the facility for such bets to be placed; or
3. Gambled or entered into any other form of financial speculation on or in relation to any Match or on any WPL Event or induced or encouraged any other person to do so; or
4. Been a party to contriving or attempting to contrive the result of any Match or to any aspect of any Match or the occurrence of any WPL Event; or
5. Failed to meet the standards of a first-class Match Official owing to an arrangement relating to betting on the outcome of any Match or any aspect of any Match or on the occurrence of any WPL Event; or
6. Induced or encouraged any player not to perform on his merits in any Match owing to any such arrangement of the kind referred to in paragraph 5 above; or
7. Received from another person any money, benefit or other reward (whether financial or otherwise) for the provision of any information concerning the weather, the Teams, the state of the ground, pitch conditions, the status of, or the outcome of, any Match or the occurrence of any WPL Event unless such information has been provided to a newspaper or other form of media in accordance with an obligation entered into in the normal course and disclosed in advance to BCCI; or
8. Received or provided any money, benefit or other reward (whether financial or otherwise) which could bring him, the League or the game of cricket into disrepute; or
9. Received any approaches from another person to engage in conduct such as that described in any of the above paragraphs 1 to 8 and has failed to disclose the same in writing to the BCCI Chief Executive Officer; or
10. Been aware that any other Match Official or individual has engaged in conduct, or received approaches, such as described in any of the above paragraphs 1 to 9 and has failed to disclose the same in writing to the BCCI Chief Executive Officer; or
11. Received or been aware that any other person has received threats of any nature which might induce him to engage in conduct, or acquiesce in any proposal made by an approach, such as that described in any of the above paragraphs 1 to 10 and has failed to disclose the same in writing to the BCCI Chief Executive Officer; or
12. Uses or in any way be concerned in the use or distribution of illegal drugs; or
13. Engaged in any conduct which, in the opinion of the BCCI Chief Executive Officer, relates directly or indirectly to any of the above paragraphs 1 to 11 and is prejudicial to the interests of the game of cricket.