



MASTERS CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel

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MASTERS CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS AND PLAYER SUPPORT PERSONNEL

INTRODUCTION

The *MCL* has outlined the Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel (the “**Code of Conduct**”) to maintain the public image, popularity and integrity of cricket by providing: (a) an effective means to deter any participant from conducting themselves improperly on and off the ‘field-of-play’ or in a manner that is contrary to the ‘spirit of cricket’; and (b) a robust disciplinary procedure pursuant to which all matters of improper conduct can be dealt with fairly, with certainty and in an expeditious manner.

Unless otherwise indicated, references to Articles and Appendices are to articles and appendices of the *Code of Conduct*. Words in italicised text in the *Code of Conduct* are defined terms and their definitions are set out in Appendix 1.

ARTICLE 1 SCOPE AND APPLICATION

- 1.1 All *Players* and *Player Support Personnel* are automatically bound by and required to comply with all of the provisions of the *Code of Conduct*. Accordingly, by their participation (in the case of a *Player*) or assistance in a *Player’s* participation (in the case of a *Player Support Personnel*) in an *MCL Match*, such *Players* or *Player Support Personnel* shall be deemed to have agreed:
- 1.1.1 that it is their personal responsibility to familiarise themselves with all of the requirements of the *Code of Conduct*, including what conduct constitutes an offence under the *Code of Conduct*;
 - 1.1.2 to submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of any *Match Referee*, *Judicial Commissioner* or *MCL Governing Council* convened under the *Code of Conduct* to hear and determine charges brought (and any appeals in relation thereto) pursuant to the *Code of Conduct*; and
 - 1.1.3 not to bring any proceedings in any court or other forum that are inconsistent with the foregoing submission to the jurisdiction of the *Match Referee*, *Judicial Commissioner* or *MCL Governing Council*.



1.5 For the avoidance of any doubt:

1.5.1 all *Umpires* and *Match Referees* officiating in any *MCL Matches* are automatically bound by and required to comply with all of the provisions of the *MCL Code of Conduct for Umpires and Referees*; and

ARTICLE 2 CODE OF CONDUCT OFFENCES

The conduct described in Articles 2.1 – 2.5, if committed by a *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* shall amount to an offence by such *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* under the *Code of Conduct*.

COMMENT: Where considered helpful, guidance notes have been provided in text boxes beneath the description of a particular offence. Such notes are intended only to provide guidance as to the nature and examples of certain conduct that might be prohibited by a particular Article and should not be read as an exhaustive or limiting list of conduct prohibited by such Article.

For the purposes of the Code of Conduct, the phrase “during an MCL Match” should be interpreted broadly to cover all conduct which takes place at the ground on the day of an MCL Match, and not just conduct which takes place on the field of play. It will therefore include conduct which takes place off the field of play, for example in the changing rooms, or during any of the intervals in the match.

For the avoidance of doubt, the MCL’s jurisdiction to take action against a *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* under this Code of Conduct is limited to incidents which take place during, or in relation to, an MCL Match. In circumstances where a *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* is involved in an off-field incident during their stay for the MCL tournament, then this Code of Conduct will apply.

2.1 Level 1 Offences:

2.1.1 Conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game.

NOTE: Article 2.1.1 is intended to cover all types of conduct of a minor nature that is contrary to the spirit of the game and which is not specifically and adequately covered by the specific offences set out elsewhere in

this Code of Conduct. The spirit of the game is defined by reference to the Preamble to the Laws of Cricket and involves respect for (a) your opponents, (b) your captain and team, (c) the role of the umpires and (d) the game and its traditional values.

By way of example, Article 2.1.1 may (depending upon the seriousness and context of the breach) prohibit, without limitation, the following: (a) the use of an illegal bat or illegal wicket-keeping gloves; (b) cheating during an MCL Match, including deliberate attempts to mislead the Umpire; and (c) failure to comply with the provisions of MCL Match Playing Conditions.

2.1.2 Conduct that brings the game into disrepute.

NOTE: *Article 2.1.2 is intended to cover all types of conduct of a minor nature that bring the game into disrepute and which is not specifically and adequately covered by the specific offences set out elsewhere in this Code of Conduct, including Article 2.1.1.*

By way of example, Article 2.1.2 may (depending upon the seriousness and context of the breach) prohibit, without limitation, the following: (a) public acts of misconduct; (b) unruly public behavior; and (c) inappropriate comments which are detrimental to the interests of the game.

2.1.3 Public criticism of, or inappropriate comment in relation to an incident occurring in an MCL Match or any Player, Player Support Personnel, Match official or team participating in any MCL Match, irrespective of when such criticism or inappropriate comment is made.

NOTE: *Without limitation, Players and Player Support Personnel will breach Article 2.1.3 if they publicly criticise the Match officials or denigrate a Player or team against which they have played in relation to incidents which occurred in an MCL Match. When assessing the seriousness of the breach, the context within which the comments have been made and the gravity of the offending comments must be taken into account.*

For the avoidance of doubt, any posting by a Player or Player Support Personnel of comments on a social media platform (including, without limitation, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Google+, Pinterest and LinkedIn) shall be deemed to be 'public' for the purposes of this offence. Consequently a Player or Player Support Personnel may breach Article 2.1.3 where they criticize or make an inappropriate comment in relation to an incident occurring in an MCL Match or any Player, Player Support Personnel, Match official or team participating in any MCL Match in any posting they make on a social media platform.

2.1.4 Using language or a gesture that is obscene, offensive or insulting during an MCL Match.

NOTE: *Article 2.1.4 includes: (a) excessively audible or repetitious swearing; and (b) obscene gestures which are not directed at another person, such as swearing in frustration at one's own poor play or fortune. In addition, this offence is not intended to penalise trivial behaviour.*

When assessing the seriousness of the breach, the Umpire shall be required to take into account the context of the particular situation and whether the words or gesture are likely to: (a) be regarded as obscene; (b) give offence; or (c) insult another person.

This offence is not intended to cover any use of language or gestures that are likely to offend another person on the basis of their race, religion, gender, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin. Such conduct is prohibited under the MCL's Anti-Racism Code and must be dealt with according to the procedures set out therein.

2.1.5 Showing dissent at an Umpire's decision during an MCL Match.

NOTE: Article 2.1.5 includes: (a) excessive, obvious disappointment with an Umpire's decision; (b) an obvious delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket; (c) shaking the head; (d) pointing or looking at the inside edge when given out lbw; (e) pointing to the pad or rubbing the shoulder when caught behind; (f) snatching the cap from the Umpire; (g) requesting a referral to the TV Umpire (other than in the context of a legitimate request for a referral as may be permitted in such MCL Match); and (h) arguing or entering into a prolonged discussion with the Umpire about his/her decision.

It shall not be a defence to any charge brought under this Article to show that the Umpire might have, or in fact did, get any decision wrong.

2.1.6 Excessive appealing during an MCL Match.

NOTE: For the purposes of Article 2.1.6, 'excessive' shall include: (a) repeated appealing of the same decision/appeal; (b) repeated appealing of different decisions/appeals when the bowler/fielder knows the batter is not out with the intention of placing the Umpire under pressure; or (c) celebrating a dismissal before the decision has been given. It is not intended to prevent loud or enthusiastic appealing.

2.1.7 Using language, actions or gestures which disparage or which could provoke an aggressive reaction from a batsman upon his/her dismissal during an MCL Match.

NOTE: Article 2.1.7 includes any language, action or gesture used by a Player and directed towards a batsman upon his/her dismissal which has the potential to provoke an aggressive reaction from the dismissed batsman, whether or not any reaction results, or which could be considered to disparage or demean the dismissed batsman, regardless of whether the batsman himself feels disparaged or demeaned. Without limitation, Article 2.1.7 includes: (a) excessive celebration directed at and in close proximity to the dismissed batsman; and (b) verbally abusing the dismissed batsman.

Nothing in this Article 2.1.7 is, however, intended to stop Players celebrating, in an appropriate fashion, the dismissal of the opposing team's batsman.

2.1.8 Abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings during an MCL Match.

NOTE: Article 2.1.8 includes any action(s) outside the course of normal cricket actions, such as hitting or kicking the wickets and any action(s) which intentionally or negligently results in damage to the advertising boards, boundary fences, dressing room doors, mirrors, windows and other fixtures and fittings.

2.2 Level 2 Offences:

2.2.1 Conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game.

NOTE: Article 2.2.1 is intended to cover all types of conduct of a serious nature that is contrary to the spirit of the game and which is not specifically and adequately covered by the specific offences set out elsewhere in this Code of Conduct. The spirit of the game is defined by reference to the Preamble to the Laws of Cricket and involves respect for (a) your opponents, (b) your captain and team, (c) the role of the umpires and (d) the game and its traditional values.

See guidance note to Article 2.1.1 for examples of conduct that may (depending upon the seriousness and context of the breach) be prohibited under Article 2.2.1.

2.2.2 Conduct that brings the game into disrepute.

NOTE: Article 2.2.2 is intended to cover all types of conduct of a serious nature that brings the game into disrepute and which is not specifically and adequately covered by the specific offences set out elsewhere in this Code of Conduct, including Article 2.2.1.

See guidance note to Article 2.1.2 for examples of conduct that may (depending upon the seriousness and context of the breach) be prohibited under Article 2.2.2.

2.2.3 Serious public criticism of, or inappropriate comment in relation to an incident occurring in an MCL Match or any Player, Player Support Personnel, Match official or team participating in any MCL Match, irrespective of when such criticism or inappropriate comment is made.

NOTE: Without limitation, Players and Player Support Personnel will breach this rule if they publicly criticise the Match officials or denigrate a Player or team against which they have played in relation to incidents which occurred in an MCL Match. When assessing the seriousness of the breach, the context within which the comments have been made and the gravity of the offending comments must be taken into account.

For the avoidance of doubt, any posting by a Player or Player Support Personnel of comments on a social media platform (including, without limitation, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Google+, Pinterest and LinkedIn) shall be deemed to be 'public' for the purposes of this offence. Consequently a Player or Player Support Personnel may breach Article 2.2.3 where they seriously criticize or make an inappropriate comment in relation to an incident occurring in an MCL Match or any Player, Player Support Personnel, Match official or team participating in any MCL Match in any posting they make on a social media platform.

2.2.4 Using language or gesture(s) that is seriously obscene, seriously offensive or of a seriously insulting nature to another Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Referee or any other third person during an MCL Match.

NOTE: It is acknowledged that there will be verbal exchanges between Players in the course of play. Rather than seeking to eliminate these exchanges entirely, Umpires will be required to report such conduct that falls below an acceptable standard. This offence is not intended to penalise trivial behaviour.

When assessing the seriousness of the breach, the Umpire shall be required to take into account the context of the particular situation and whether the words or gesture are likely to: (a) be regarded as seriously obscene; or (b) give serious offence; or (c) seriously insult another person.

This offence is not intended to cover any use of language or gestures that are likely to offend another person on the basis of their race, religion, gender, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin. Such conduct is prohibited under the MCL's Anti-Racism Code and must be dealt with according to the procedures set out therein.

2.2.5 Showing serious dissent at an Umpire's decision during an MCL Match.

NOTE: Dissent, including the examples given in Article 2.1.5 above will be classified as 'serious' when the conduct contains an element of anger or abuse which is directed at the Umpire or the Umpire's decision or where there is excessive delay in resuming play or leaving the wicket or where there is persistent re-reference to the incident over time.

It shall not be a defence to any charge brought under this Article to show that the Umpire might have, or in fact did, get any decision wrong.

2.2.6 Charging or advancing towards the Umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing during an MCL Match.

2.2.7 Inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with a Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Referee or any other Person (including a spectator) in the course of play during an MCL Match.

NOTE: Without limitation, Players will breach this regulation if they deliberately walk or run into or shoulder another Player.

2.2.8 Throwing a ball (or any other item of cricket equipment such as a water bottle) at or near a Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Referee or any other third person in an inappropriate and/or dangerous manner during an MCL Match.

NOTE: This regulation will not prohibit a fielder or bowler from returning the ball to the stumps in the normal fashion.

2.2.9 Changing the condition of the ball in breach of MCL Match Playing Conditions.

NOTE: This offence supplements and does not replace MCL Match Playing Conditions..

Any action(s) likely to alter the condition of the ball which were not specifically permitted under MCL Match Playing Conditions may be regarded as 'unfair'. The following actions shall not be permitted (this list of actions is not exhaustive but included for illustrative purposes): (a) deliberately throwing the ball into the ground for the purpose of roughening it up; (b) applying any artificial substance to the ball; and applying any non-artificial substance for any purpose other than to polish the ball; (c) lifting or otherwise interfering with any of the seams of the ball; (d) scratching the surface of the ball with finger or thumb nails or any implement.

The Umpires shall use their judgment to apply the principle that actions taken to maintain or enhance the condition of the ball, provided no artificial substances are used, shall be permitted. Any actions taken with the purpose of damaging the condition of the ball or accelerating the deterioration of the condition of the ball shall not be permitted.

2.2.10 Dangerous and unfair bowling in breach of MCL Match Playing Conditions.

NOTE: This offence supplements and does not replace MCL Match Playing Conditions.

Article 2.2.10 is intended to cover any breach of Law 42.8, or any dangerous and unfair bowling in breach of Law 42.6 or 42.7 which the umpires determine should be reported under the Code of Conduct due to the seriousness of the breach.

2.2.11 Causing avoidable damage to the pitch during an MCL Match in breach of MCL Match Playing Conditions.

NOTE: This offence supplements and does not replace MCL Match Playing Conditions..

Article 2.2.11 is intended to cover deliberate action by a Player to cause damage to the pitch, including, without limitation, action which is intended to give the Player's team an unfair advantage in the Match.

2.2.12 Deliberate time wasting by any Player or team in breach of MCL Match Playing Conditions.

NOTE: This offence supplements and does not replace MCL Match Playing Conditions.

Article 2.2.12 is intended to cover deliberate action by a Player or team to waste time during a Match in breach of Law 42.9 or 42.10.

2.2.13 Any attempt to manipulate an MCL Match for inappropriate strategic or tactical reasons.

NOTE: Article 2.2.13 is intended to prevent the manipulation of MCL Matches for inappropriate strategic or tactical reasons (such as when a team deliberately loses a pool Match in an MCL Event in order to affect the standings of other teams in that MCL Event). It might also apply to the inappropriate manipulation of a net run rate or accumulation of bonus points or otherwise.

Article 2.2.13 is not intended to cover any corrupt or fraudulent acts (including any use of inside information and/or related betting activity). Such conduct is prohibited under the MCL's Anti-Corruption Code and must be dealt with according to the procedures set out therein.

The Team Captain of any team guilty of such conduct shall be held responsible (and subject to sanction) for any offence found to have been committed under this Article.

2.3 Level 3 Offences:

2.3.1 Conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game.

NOTE: Article 2.3.1 is intended to cover all types of conduct of a very serious nature that is contrary to the spirit of the game and which is not specifically and adequately covered by the specific offences set out elsewhere in this Code of Conduct. The spirit of the game is defined by reference to the Preamble to the Laws of Cricket and involves respect for (a) your opponents, (b) your captain and team, (c) the role of the umpires and (d) the game and its traditional values.

See guidance note to Article 2.1.1 for examples of conduct that may (depending upon the seriousness and context of the breach) be prohibited under Article 2.3.1.

2.3.2 Conduct that brings the game into disrepute.

NOTE: Article 2.3.2 is intended to cover all types of conduct of a very serious nature that brings the game into disrepute and which is not specifically and adequately covered by the specific offences set out elsewhere in this Code of Conduct, including Article 2.3.1.

See guidance note to Article 2.1.2 for examples of conduct that may (depending upon the seriousness and context of the breach) be prohibited under Article 2.3.2.

2.3.3 Intimidation of an Umpire or Match Referee whether by language or conduct (including gestures) during an MCL Match.

NOTE: Includes appealing in an aggressive or threatening manner.

2.3.4 Threat of assault on another Player, Player Support Personnel or any other person (including a spectator) during an MCL Match.

NOTE: This offence is not intended to cover threats of assault against Umpires or Match Referees, which are prohibited under Article 2.4.3.



2.4 Level 4 Offences:

2.4.1 Conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game.

NOTE: Article 2.4.1 is intended to cover all types of conduct of an overwhelmingly serious nature that is contrary to the spirit of the game and which is not specifically and adequately covered by the specific offences set out elsewhere in this Code of Conduct. The spirit of the game is defined by reference to the Preamble to the Laws of Cricket and involves respect for (a) your opponents, (b) your captain and team, (c) the role of the umpires and (d) the game and its traditional values.

See guidance note to Article 2.1.1 for examples of conduct that may (depending upon the seriousness and context of the breach) be prohibited under Article 2.4.1.

2.4.2 Conduct that brings the game into disrepute.

NOTE: Article 2.4.2 is intended to cover all types of conduct of an overwhelmingly serious nature that brings the game into disrepute and which is not specifically and adequately covered by the specific offences set out elsewhere in this Code of Conduct, including Article 2.4.1.

See guidance note to Article 2.1.2 for examples of conduct that may (depending upon the seriousness and context of the breach) be prohibited under Article 2.4.2.

2.4.3 Threat of assault on an Umpire or Match Referee during an MCL Match.

2.4.4 Physical assault of another Player, Player Support Personnel, Umpire, Match Referee or any other person (including a spectator) during an MCL Match.

2.4.5 Any act of violence on the field of play during an MCL Match.

2.5 Minimum Over Rate Offences:

Failure by a fielding team participating in an MCL Match to meet the Minimum Over Rate requirements contained in Appendix 2 constitutes an offence under this Code of Conduct by the relevant Team Captain and each of the Players in that fielding team according to the following:

2.5.1 where the actual over rate in any MCL Match of twenty (20) overs per side, up to (and including) two overs short of the Minimum Over Rate, such an offence shall be considered a "Minor Over Rate Offence".

2.5.2 where the actual over rate in any MCL Match of twenty (20) overs per side, is more than two overs short of the Minimum Over Rate, such an offence shall be considered a "Serious Over Rate Offence".

NOTE: Subjective intent on behalf of the Team Captain to waste time is not required. It is sufficient to establish that the Minimum Over Rate was not met. To avoid liability under this offence the Team Captain would need to establish, on the balance of probabilities, that the shortfall was due to factors beyond his/her control and that the time allowances permitted by the Match officials in calculating the required over rate were not sufficient. The presence or absence of subjective intent and the extent of the shortfall shall be relevant in relation to the issue of penalty.



The identity of the relevant Team Captain for the purposes of this Article 2.5 and Appendix 2 shall be determined in accordance with MCL Match Playing Conditions applicable to the particular MCL Match.

ARTICLE 3 REPORTING AN ALLEGED OFFENCE UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT

NOTE: Where a Code of Conduct offence is alleged to have occurred during, or in relation to an MCL Match that is played as part of an MCL Event, the Code of Conduct shall apply in full, but with a series of amendments to the reporting process (Article 3), disciplinary procedure (Article 5) and appeal process (Article 8) in order to ensure that any matters arising can be dealt with expeditiously. Such amendments are described in detail in Appendix 4.

Where a Minimum Over Rate Offence may have occurred, see Appendix 2 for the reporting process, disciplinary process and sanctions that are to be applied.

3.1 Any one of the following individuals can report an alleged offence under the Code of Conduct (other than Minimum Over Rate Offences - as to which see Appendix 2) by lodging a report in the manner described in Article 3.2, below (a “Report”):

- 3.1.1 an Umpire that officiated in the MCL Match during which the alleged offence was committed;
- 3.1.2 the CEO / ~~COO~~ / ~~Team Manager~~ of either of the two Franchisees whose representative teams participated in the MCL Match during, or in relation to which, the alleged offence was committed;
- 3.1.3 the MCL’s Chief Operating Officer; or
- 3.1.4 provided it is a Level 3 Offence or Level 4 Offence that is alleged to have been committed, the Match Referee that was appointed to officiate in the MCL Match during which the alleged offence was committed. (For the avoidance of any doubt, the Match Referee is not entitled to lodge a Report in relation to an alleged Level 1 Offence or Level 2 Offence).

3.2 All Reports must be completed on Form “Rep 1” (or such other form as may be made available for such purpose by the MCL from time to time). All Reports must be signed and dated by the person lodging the Report.

3.2.1 Where the Report is lodged by any of the individuals described in Articles 3.1.1 or 3.1.2 in relation to:

- 3.2.1.1 a Level 1 Offence or a Level 2 Offence that is alleged to have been committed on the field of play during an MCL Match, then the Report must be lodged with the Match Referee (or, where, for logistical reasons, it is impractical to lodge with the Match Referee, the MCL’s Governing Council) (a) where the Report is lodged by an Umpire, within eighteen hours ~~of the close of the day’s after the closure of~~ play in the relevant MCL Match, Under exceptional circumstances only, or prior to the start of the ~~following day’s play or the start~~ of the next relevant MCL Match of that team, whichever is the sooner or (b) where the Report is lodged by the CEO / ~~COO~~ / ~~Team Manager~~ of either of the two Franchisees, within eighteen hours after the closure of play in the relevant MCL Match. Under exceptional circumstances only, prior to the start of the of the next relevant MCL Match of that team, whichever is the sooner within eighteen hours of the close of the day’s play in the relevant MCL Match ~~or prior to the start of the following day’s play or the start of the next relevant MCL Match;~~ or



3.2.1.2 a *Level 1 Offence* or a *Level 2 Offence* that is alleged to have been committed at any time or place other than on the field of play then the *Report* must be lodged with the *Match Referee* (or, where, for logistical reasons, it is impractical to lodge with the *Match Referee*, the MCL's Governing Council) no later than forty-eight (48) hours (where the *Report* is lodged by an *Umpire*) or ninety-six (96) hours (where the *Report* is lodged by the CEO / COO / Team Manager of either of the two *Franchisees* after: (a) the commission of the alleged offence; or (b) the alleged offence was brought to the attention of the person lodging the *Report*; or

3.2.1.3 a *Level 3 Offence* or a *Level 4 Offence* that is alleged to have been committed, then the *Report* must be lodged with the MCL's *Governing Council* no later than 2 (48 hours) days after either:
(a) the commission of the alleged offence; or (b) the alleged offence was brought to the attention of the person lodging the *Report*.

3.2.2 Where the *Report* is lodged by the individual described in Article 3.1.3 in relation to:

3.2.2.1 a *Level 1 Offence* or a *Level 2 Offence* that is alleged to have been committed at any time or place (whether on the field of play or otherwise), then the *Report* must be lodged with the *Match Referee* (or, where, for logistical reasons, it is impractical to lodge with the *Match Referee*, the MCL's Governing Council) within two (2) days of the commission of the alleged offence; or

3.2.2.2 a *Level 3 Offence* or a *Level 4 Offence* that is alleged to have been committed at any time or place (whether on the field of play or otherwise), then the *Report* must be lodged with the MCL's *Governing Council* as soon as reasonably practicable, and in any event no later than two (2) days after: (a) the commission of the alleged offence; or (b) the alleged offence was brought to the attention of the MCL's *Chief Operating Officer*.

3.2.3 Where the *Report* is lodged by the individual described in Article 3.1.4 in relation to a *Level 3 Offence* or a *Level 4 Offence* that is alleged to have been committed, then the *Report* must be lodged with the MCL's *Governing Council* no later than two (2) days after: (a) the commission of the alleged offence; or (b) the alleged offence was brought to the attention of the *Match Referee*.

3.3 Where it is alleged that a *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* has committed more than one offence under the *Code of Conduct* during, or in relation to an *MCL Match* (whether arising out of the same set of facts or otherwise), then a separate *Report* should be filed in accordance with this Article 3 for each of the offences that are alleged to have been committed.

NOTE: For the avoidance of doubt, only one *Report* should be laid per offence. As such, where the incident in question could fall within more than one offence under Article 2, for example Article 2.2.4 (serious public criticism or inappropriate comment) and Article 2.2.2 (conduct of a serious nature that brings the game into disrepute) a *Report* should be laid only in respect of the offence which most specifically covers the relevant conduct (in the example above, Article 2.2.4) and not both offences.

ARTICLE 4 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

Level 1 Offences, Level 2 Offences and Minimum Over Rate Offences:



4.1 Where a *Match Referee* receives a *Report* lodged under Articles 3.2.1.1, 3.2.1.2, 3.2.2.1 or Article 3.2 of Appendix 2 (in the case of *Minimum Over Rate Offences*), he/she must promptly provide a copy of the *Report*, together with a completed Form "Not 1", (such documents comprising the '**Notice of Charge**'), to the following individuals:

4.1.1 the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* named in the *Report*, or, where appropriate in the case of an offence under either Article 2.2.9 (changing the condition of the ball), 2.2.10 (manipulating an *MCL Match*), or 2.5.1/2.5.2 (failure to meet the *Minimum Over Rate*), the relevant *Team Captain*; and

4.1.2 the CEO/COO/ Team Manager of the relevant *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* named in the *Report*.

~~4.2 The *Notice of Charge* shall specify that the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* shall have the following three options: no option to dispute and the decision of the match Referee is final.~~

~~4.2.3 he/she may admit the offence charged and accede to the proposed sanction specified in the *Notice of Charge* (which sanction shall be strictly at the *Match Referee*'s discretion, but at all times within the appropriate range for the level of offence). In such circumstances, and provided that such admission has been received by the *Match Referee* prior to the commencement of the hearing at the time/place specified in the *Notice of Charge*, the hearing before the *Match Referee* shall not be required and no further action shall be taken, save that the *MCL* may promptly issue a public statement confirming: (a) the commission of an offence under the *Code of Conduct*; and (b) the imposition of the applicable sanction specified in the *Notice of Charge*; or~~

~~4.2.5 he/she may admit the offence charged but dispute the proposed sanction specified in the *Notice of Charge*, in which case the matter shall proceed to a hearing in accordance with Article 5.1; or~~

~~4.2.74.2 he/she may deny the offence charged, in which case the matter shall proceed to a hearing in accordance with Article 5.1.~~

Level 3 Offences and Level 4 Offences:

4.3 Where the *MCL's Governing Council* receives a *Report* lodged under Articles 3.2.1.3, 3.2.2.2 or 3.2.3, he/she must promptly conduct a review to determine whether the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* named in the *Report* has a case to answer in relation to the specific type and/or level of offence identified in the *Report* (i.e. to determine, in the *MCL's* opinion, whether the specific type and level of offence noted in the *Report* is properly identified when reviewed against the conduct complained of).

4.4 If the initial review of the *Report* reveals that there is no case to answer in relation to the specific type and/or level of offence, then the *MCL* shall notify the person who filed the *Report* of that fact, advising them of the reasons that such a determination has been made and, where applicable, providing guidance on which specific type and level of offence the *MCL* considers to be appropriate. Upon receipt of such a decision, the person who filed the *Report* shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3.2 and having considered the *MCL's* guidance in good faith, within a period of twenty-four (24) hours from the time of notification by the *MCL*, notify the *MCL* whether he/she wishes to: (a) revise the specific type and/or level of the offence charged, in which case a revised *Report* must be lodged with the *MCL* within such twenty-four (24) period; (b) proceed on the basis of the original *Report* lodged; or (c) withdraw the *Report*.

4.5 If the initial review of the *Report* reveals that there is a case to answer, or a revised *Report* is lodged with the *MCL* pursuant to Article 4.4, then the *MCL* shall promptly provide a copy of the

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Report, together with a completed Form "Not 1" (such documents comprising the 'Notice of Charge') to the following individuals:

- 4.5.1 the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* named in the *Report*; and
 - 4.5.2 the *Team Manager* of the relevant *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* named in the *Report*; and
 - 4.5.3 the CEO / COO of the *Franchisee* to which the relevant *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* is affiliated.
- 4.6 The *Notice of Charge* shall specify that the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* shall have the following options:
- 4.6.1 he/she may admit the offence charged and accede to the proposed sanction specified in the *Notice of Charge* (which sanction shall be strictly at the *MCL*'s discretion, but at all times within the appropriate range for the level of offence). In such circumstances, and provided that such admission has been received by the *MCL*'s *General Counsel* prior to the commencement of the hearing at the time/place specified in the *Notice of Charge*, the hearing before the *Judicial Commissioner* shall not be required and no further action shall be taken, save that the *MCL* shall promptly issue a public statement confirming: (a) the commission of an offence under the *Code of Conduct*; and (b) the imposition of the applicable sanction specified in the *Notice of Charge*; or
 - 4.6.2 he/she may admit the offence charged but dispute the proposed sanction specified in the *Notice of Charge*, in which case the matter shall proceed to a hearing in accordance with Article 5.2; or
 - 4.6.3 he/she may deny the offence charged, in which case the matter shall proceed to a hearing in accordance with Article 5.2.

ARTICLE 5 THE DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

NOTE: Where a Match Referee appointed to adjudicate any matter brought under this Code of Conduct is not physically present at the relevant MCL Match (and therefore required to perform his/her duties remotely) then all hearings arising under Article 5.1 will be held by telephone conference or video conference (if available) and the provisions of Article 5.1 are to be interpreted accordingly.

Level 1 Offences, Level 2 Offences and Minimum Over Rate Offences:

- 5.1 The decision of the Match Referee is final and there is no hearing and appeal.
Level 3 Offences and Level 4 Offences:
- 5.2 Where a matter proceeds to a hearing under Article 4.6.2 or 4.6.3, then the case shall be referred to a *Judicial Commissioner* for adjudication in accordance with the following procedure:
 - 5.2.1 As soon as reasonably possible, the *MCL* shall appoint a *Judicial Commissioner* to hear the case sitting alone. The appointed member shall be independent of the parties, have had no prior involvement with the case.
 - 5.2.2 The *Judicial Commissioner* shall convene a preliminary hearing with the individual lodging the *Report* pursuant to Article 3.1 (the **Complainant**) and his/her legal representatives (if any), together with the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* and his/her legal



representatives (if any). The preliminary hearing should take place as soon as possible by telephone conference call unless the *Judicial Commissioner* determines otherwise. The non-participation, without compelling justification, of the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* or his/her representative at the preliminary hearing, after proper notice

of the preliminary hearing has been provided, shall not prevent the *Judicial Commissioner* from proceeding with the preliminary hearing, whether or not any written submissions are made on behalf of the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel*. Where the initial *Report* was lodged by someone other than the individual described in Article 3.1.3, the *MCL* will be notified and invited to participate in any such preliminary hearing convened by the *Judicial Commissioner* through its representative.

5.2.3 The purpose of the preliminary hearing shall be to allow the *Judicial Commissioner* to address any preliminary issues that need to be resolved prior to the hearing date. In particular (but without limitation), the *Judicial Commissioner* shall:

5.2.3.1 determine the date(s) upon which the full hearing shall be held. Save in exceptional circumstances or where the parties otherwise agree, the full hearing should take place no longer than fourteen (14) days after the receipt by the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* of the *Notice of Charge*.

5.2.3.2 establish dates reasonably in advance of the date of the full hearing by which:

- (a) the *Complainant* shall submit an opening brief with argument on all issues that the *Complainant* wishes to raise at the hearing and a list of the witnesses that the *Complainant* intends to call at the hearing (and a summary of the subject areas of the witness's anticipated testimony), and enclosing copies of the exhibits that the *Complainant* intends to introduce at the hearing;
- (b) the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* shall submit an answering brief, addressing the *Complainant's* arguments and setting out argument on the issues that he/she wishes to raise at the hearing, as well as a list of the witnesses that he/she intends to call at the hearing (and a summary of the subject areas of the witness's anticipated testimony), and enclosing copies of the exhibits that he/she intends to introduce at the hearing; and
- (c) the *Complainant* may (at its discretion) submit a reply brief, responding to the answer brief of the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* and listing any rebuttal witnesses that the *Complainant* intends to call at the hearing (and a summary of the subject areas of the witness's anticipated testimony), and enclosing copies of any other exhibits that the *Complainant* intends to introduce at the hearing; and

5.2.3.3 make such order as the *Judicial Commissioner* shall deem appropriate in relation to the production of relevant documents and/or other materials between the parties.

5.2.4 Subject to the discretion of the *Judicial Commissioner* to order otherwise for good cause shown by either party, or if otherwise agreed between the parties, hearings before the *Judicial Commissioner* shall take place in the country in which the alleged offence was committed.

5.2.5 The procedure followed at the hearing shall be at the discretion of the *Judicial Commissioner*, provided that the hearing is conducted in a manner which offers the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* a fair and reasonable opportunity to present evidence (including the right to call and to question witnesses by telephone or video-conference where necessary), address the *Judicial Commissioner* and present his/her case.

- 5.2.6 The hearing before the *Judicial Commissioner* shall be in English, and certified English translations shall be submitted of any non-English documents put before the *Judicial Commissioner*. The cost of the translation shall be borne by the party offering the document(s). If required by the *Judicial Commissioner* (at his/her discretion), the *MCL* shall make arrangements to have the hearing recorded or transcribed. If requested by the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel*, the *MCL* shall also arrange for an interpreter to attend the hearing. Such costs of transcription and interpretation shall be paid by the *MCL*.
- 5.2.7 Where video evidence of the alleged offence is available at the hearing before the *Judicial Commissioner*, then it may be relied upon by any party, provided that all other parties shall have the right to make such representations in relation to it that they may see fit.
- 5.2.8 Unless exceptional circumstances apply, each of the following individuals must attend any hearing before the *Judicial Commissioner*: (a) the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* who has been charged with the alleged offence; and (b) the *Complainant* (or, in the case of the *MCL's Chief Operating Officer*, his/her representative/nominee). Where any such individual has a compelling justification for his/her non-attendance, then they shall be given the opportunity to participate in the hearing before the *Judicial Commissioner* by telephone or video conference (if available). In addition, a representative of the *MCL's* legal department shall be entitled to attend any such hearing. Without prejudice to the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel's* ability to call and to question such witnesses as may be necessary and/or to be represented by such other person of his/her own choosing pursuant to Article 5.2.9, one of the *Team Captain*, *Team Vice-Captain* or *Team Manager* of the team that the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* represents may also attend such hearing to provide additional support and assistance to the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel*.
- 5.2.9 Each of the individuals described in Article 5.2.8(a) and (b) shall have the right (at his/her or its own expense) to be represented at the hearing before the *Judicial Commissioner* by such representative (including legal counsel) of his/her or its own choosing. Where the *Complainant* is an *Umpire* or *Match Referee* that officiated in the *MCL Match* in question or the *MCL's Chief Operating Officer*, then such person shall be entitled to be represented prior to, and during, the hearing (if he/she considers necessary) by a representative of the *MCL's* Legal Department.
- 5.2.10 The non-attendance of the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* or his/her representative at the hearing, after proper notice of the hearing has been provided, shall not prevent the *Judicial Commissioner* from proceeding with the hearing in his/her absence, whether or not any written submissions are made on his/her behalf.
- 5.2.11 At the end of a hearing, where the *Judicial Commissioner* considers that further evidence is necessary or further time is required to consider the evidence that has been presented, he/she shall adjourn the hearing for an appropriate period of time and make such directions as may be necessary.
- 5.2.12 Alternatively, at the end of a hearing:
- 5.2.12.1 brought under Article 4.6.2:
- (a) as soon as possible after the conclusion of the hearing (and, in any event, no later than forty-eight (48) hours thereafter), the *Judicial Commissioner* will confirm the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel's* admission that he/she had committed a *Code of Conduct* offence and



announce his/her decision in writing, with reasons, setting out: (a) what sanctions, if any, are to be imposed (including any fine and/or period of suspension); (b) the date that any period of suspension shall come into force and effect.

5.2.12.2 brought under Article 4.6.3 (or where the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* has failed to respond in a timely fashion to the *Notice of Charge*):

- (a) the *Judicial Commissioner* shall adjourn the hearing (for a period of no less than ten (10) minutes and no more than twenty-four (24) hours), following which he/she will reconvene the hearing and verbally announce his/her finding as to whether a *Code of Conduct* offence has been committed;
- (b) where the *Judicial Commissioner* determines that a *Code of Conduct* offence has been committed, the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* may request a short adjournment (of no more than thirty (30) minutes) to prepare any submissions that he/she might wish to make in relation to the appropriate sanction that ought to be applied; and
- (c) as soon as possible after the conclusion of the hearing (and, in any event, no later than forty-eight (48) hours thereafter), the *Judicial Commissioner* will announce his/her decision in writing, with reasons, setting out: (a) the finding as to whether a *Code of Conduct* offence had been committed; (b) what sanctions, if any, are to be imposed (including any fine and/or period of suspension); (c) the date that any period of suspension shall come into force and effect.

5.2.13 The *Judicial Commissioner* shall have the discretion to announce the substance of his/her decision prior to the issue of the written reasoned decision referred to in Article 5.2.12.

5.2.14 A copy of the written reasoned decision will be provided to the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel*, the CEO / *COO* of the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel's Franchisee*, the *Complainant* and the *MCL's Cricket Operations Manager*.

5.2.15 The *Judicial Commissioner's* decision shall be the full, final and complete disposition of the matter and will be binding on all parties.

General Principles of Procedure

5.3 Where a *Report* is filed by more than one of the individuals described in Article 3.1 in relation to the same alleged offence under the *Code of Conduct*, then the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* alleged to have committed the offence will only be served with one *Notice of Charge* in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 4. However, all persons who filed a *Report* (or, in the case of the *MCL's Chief Operating Officer*, his/her representative/nominee) in relation to the alleged offence are required to attend the hearing before the *Match Referee* or *Judicial Commissioner* unless there is a compelling justification for his/her non-attendance, in which case they shall be given the opportunity to participate in the hearing by telephone or video conference (if available).



- 5.4 Where two or more *Players* or *Player Support Personnel* are alleged to have committed offences under the *Code of Conduct*, they may both be dealt with at the same hearing where the proceedings arise out of the same incident or set of facts, or where there is a clear link between separate incidents, as follows:
- 5.4.1 any number of *Level 1 Offences* and/or *Level 2 Offences* can all be determined by a *Match Referee* at the same hearing; and
 - 5.4.2 any number of *Level 3 Offences* and/or *Level 4 Offences* can all be determined by a *Judicial Commissioner* at the same hearing; and
 - 5.4.3 a *Level 1 Offence* and/or *Level 2 Offence* can be determined by a *Judicial Commissioner* at the same hearing as a *Level 3 Offence* and/or a *Level 4 Offence*; but
 - 5.4.3 a *Level 3 Offence* or *Level 4 Offence* cannot be determined by a *Match Referee* at the same hearing as a *Level 1 Offence* or a *Level 2 Offence*, and separate proceedings should therefore be issued in relation to each alleged offence.
- 5.5 Where a *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* is alleged to have committed more than one breach of the *Code of Conduct* during, or in relation to the same *MCL Match*, then all of the alleged offences may be dealt with at the same hearing, as follows:
- 5.5.1 any number of *Level 1 Offences* and/or *Level 2 Offences* can all be determined by a *Match Referee* at the same hearing; and
 - 5.5.2 any number of *Level 3 Offences* and/or *Level 4 Offences* can all be determined by a *Judicial Commissioner* at the same hearing; and
 - 5.5.3 a *Level 1 Offence* and/or *Level 2 Offence* can be determined by a *Judicial Commissioner* at the same hearing as a *Level 3 Offence* and/or a *Level 4 Offence*; but
 - 5.5.3 a *Level 3 Offence* or *Level 4 Offence* cannot be determined by a *Match Referee* at the same hearing as a *Level 1 Offence* or a *Level 2 Offence*, and separate proceedings should therefore be issued in relation to each alleged offence.
- 5.6 Any failure or refusal by any *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* to provide assistance to a *Match Referee* or *Judicial Commissioner* in connection with any charge made pursuant to this *Code of Conduct* may constitute a separate offence (depending upon the seriousness and context of such failure or refusal) under Articles 2.1.8, 2.2.12, 2.3.3 or 2.4.3 of the *Code of Conduct*.
- 5.7 Where a *Match Referee* is, or becomes unwilling or unable to hear a case (for example, where he/she finds him/herself in a position of conflict), then the *MCL's Governing Council* shall have the discretion to appoint the another Referee as the *MCL* deems to be appropriate in all the circumstances. The Referee shall have had no prior involvement with the case and all of the remaining procedure will apply accordingly
- 5.8 Where a *Judicial Commissioner* is, or becomes unwilling or unable to hear a case (for example, where he/she finds him/herself in a position of conflict), then the *MCL's Governing Council* shall have the discretion to appoint another Commissioner (who shall have had no prior involvement with the case, or in



relation to which, the alleged offence was committed) as a replacement to the *Judicial Commissioner* and all of the remaining procedure will apply accordingly.

- 5.9 The *MCL* may issue a public announcement regarding any decision of the *Match Referee* or *Judicial Commissioner* made under the *Code of Conduct*, as soon as is reasonably practicable after the decision has been communicated to the parties. The public announcement of the decision may include details of the offences committed under the *Code of Conduct* and of the sanctions imposed, if any. Until such time as a public announcement is published, all parties and participants in the proceedings shall treat such proceedings as strictly confidential. For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Article shall prevent any party (or any relevant *Franchisee*) publicly confirming the date of the hearing, the offence that is alleged to have been committed and/or the name of the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* charged.

ARTICLE 6 STANDARD OF PROOF AND EVIDENCE

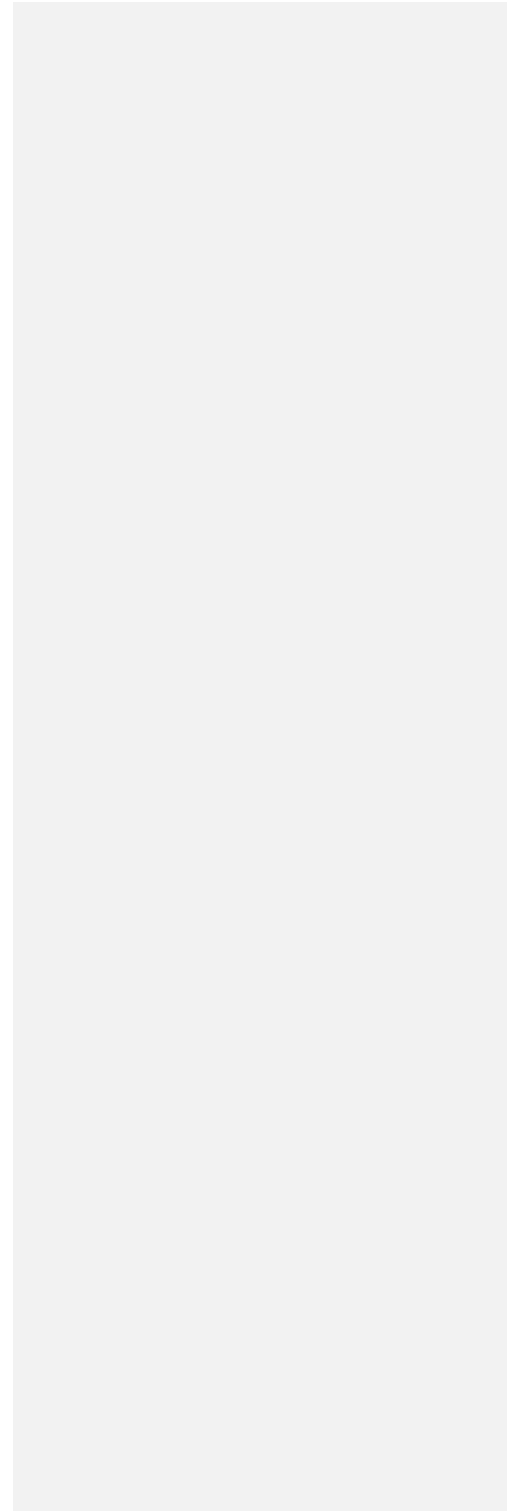
- 6.1 Unless otherwise described herein, the standard of proof in all cases brought under the *Code of Conduct* shall be whether the *Match Referee* or *Judicial Commissioner* is comfortably satisfied, bearing in mind the seriousness of the allegation that is made, that the alleged offence has been committed. This standard of proof in all cases shall be determined on a sliding scale from, at a minimum, a mere balance of probability (for the least serious offences) up to proof beyond a reasonable doubt (for the most serious offences).
- 6.2 The *Match Referee* or *Judicial Commissioner* shall not be bound by judicial rules governing the admissibility of evidence. Instead, facts relating to an offence committed under the *Code of Conduct* may be established by any reliable means, including admissions.
- 6.3 The *Match Referee* or *Judicial Commissioner* may draw an inference adverse to the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* who is asserted to have committed an offence under the *Code of Conduct* based on his/her refusal, without compelling justification, after a request made in a reasonable time in advance of the hearing, to appear at the hearing (either in person or telephonically as directed by the *Match Referee* or *Judicial Commissioner*) and/or to answer any relevant questions.

ARTICLE 7 SANCTIONS ON PLAYERS AND PLAYER SUPPORT PERSONNEL

- 7.1 Where a *Match Referee* or *Judicial Commissioner* determines that an offence under the *Code of Conduct* has been committed, he/she will be required to impose an appropriate sanction on the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel*.
- 7.2 In order to determine the sanction that is to be imposed in each case, the *Match Referee* or *Judicial Commissioner* must first consider whether the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* has previously been found guilty of an offence under the same Article of the *Code of Conduct* within a period of twelve months prior to the date on which the alleged offence took place.
- 7.3 Once the *Match Referee* or *Judicial Commissioner* has established whether this is a repeat offence within the relevant twelve month period, then he/she shall go on to take into account any other factors that he/she deems relevant and appropriate to the mitigation or aggravation of the nature of the *Code of Conduct* offence (including, without limitation, the nature and frequency of any previous offences under the *Code of Conduct*) before determining, in accordance with the following table, what the appropriate sanction(s) should be:



LEVEL OF OFFENCE	RANGE OF PERMISSIBLE SANCTIONS (FIRST OFFENCE)	RANGE OF PERMISSIBLE SANCTIONS (SECOND OFFENCE WITHIN 12 MONTHS SEASON)	RANGE OF PERMISSIBLE SANCTIONS (THIRD OFFENCE WITHIN 12 MONTHS SEASON)	RANGE OF PERMISSIBLE SANCTIONS (FOURTH AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENCES WITHIN 12 MONTHS)
Level 1	Warning/reprimand and/or the imposition of a fine upto 10% of the applicable Match Fee	The imposition of a fine of between 10 - 50% of the applicable Match Fee and/or upto 1 match suspension	The imposition of a fine of between 50-100% and/or upto between two (2) and four (4) match suspension	The imposition of between four (4) and six (6) match suspension
Level 2	The imposition of a fine of 20% of applicable Match Fee and/or upto one (1) match suspension	The imposition of a fine of 20% of applicable Match Fee and/or upto two (2) match suspension	The imposition of a fine of 100% of applicable Match Fee and/or upto between two (2) and four (4) match suspension	The imposition of between four (4) and eight (8) match suspension
Level 3	The imposition of a four (4) match suspension	The imposition of between four (4) and eight (8) match suspension	The imposition of a twelve (12) match suspension or/and an MCL ban for life	NA
Level 4	The imposition of between an eight (8) to twelve (12) match suspension or/and an MCL ban for life	MCL ban for life	NA	NA
Level 5	Minimum Over rate Offences . See specific sanctions described in the table at Article 4 of Appendix 2.			





- 7.6** For the avoidance of any doubt:
- 7.6.1** the *Match Referee* or *Judicial Commissioner* will have no jurisdiction to adjust, reverse or amend the results of any *MCL Match*;
 - 7.6.2** where a *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* is found guilty of committing two separate *Code of Conduct* offences that do not relate to the same incident or set of circumstances arising during an *MCL Match* and sanctioned separately for each offence, then any sanctions should run cumulatively (and not concurrently);
 - 7.6.3** where a *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* is found guilty of committing two *Code of Conduct* offences in relation to the same incident or set of circumstances arising during an *MCL Match* and sanctioned separately, then any sanctions imposed should run concurrently (and not cumulatively);
 - 7.6.4** nothing in this *Code of Conduct* shall permit plea bargaining in relation to any alleged offence committed under this *Code of Conduct*;
 - 7.6.5** where the *Match Referee* or *Judicial Commissioner* finds a *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* not guilty of the offence allegedly committed under the *Code of Conduct*, then it remains open to him/her, at his/her discretion, to find the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* guilty of an offence of a lower level than that with which he/she has been charged. For example where a *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* has been charged with (but been found not guilty of) the *Level 2 Offence* of 'showing serious dissent at an *Umpire's* decision' (Article 2.2.1), the *Match Referee* may, instead, find the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* guilty of the *Level 1 Offence* of 'showing dissent at an *Umpire's* decision' (Article 2.1.3) and impose an appropriate sanction; and
 - 7.6.6** where a fine and/or costs award is imposed against a *Player* or *Player Support Personnel*, then such fine and/or costs award must be paid: (a) by the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* (and not any other third party, including a *Franchisee*); (b) to MCL within one calendar month of receipt of the decision imposing the fine. However, the *MCL* will consider any request from any *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* to make the payment of such fines and/or costs over a prolonged



period of time on the grounds of financial hardship. Should any fine and/or costs award (or agreed part-payment or instalment thereof) not be paid to MCL within such deadline or by the time of the next agreed payment date, the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* may not play, coach or otherwise participate or be involved in any capacity in any *MCL Match* until such payment has been satisfied in full.

7.7 Where a *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* has had match *Suspensions* imposed against him/her, he/she may not play, coach or otherwise participate or be involved in any capacity in the *MCL Match(es)*.

NOTE: For the avoidance of any doubt, a *Player* or (where relevant) *Player Support Personnel* who has had match *Suspensions* imposed against him/her:

(a) be nominated as, or carry out any of the duties or responsibilities of, a substitute fielder; or

(b) enter any part of the playing area (which shall include, for the avoidance of doubt, the field of play and the area between the boundary and perimeter boards) at any time, including during any scheduled or unscheduled breaks in play.

In addition, *Player Support Personnel* so sanctioned shall not be permitted to enter the players' dressing room (including the viewing areas) during any *MCL Match* covered by his/her match *Suspensions*. *Players* so sanctioned will, however, be permitted to enter the players' dressing room provided that the players' dressing room (or any part thereof) for the relevant *MCL Match* is not within the player area described in (b) above (for example, no such *Player* shall be permitted access to an on-field 'dug-out').

7.8 Once any Match *Suspensions* has expired, the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* will automatically become re-eligible to participate (in the case of a *Player*) or assist the participation (in the case of a *Player Support Personnel*) in *MCL Matches* provided that he/she has paid, in full, all amounts forfeited under the *Code of Conduct*, including any fines, compensatory awards or award of costs that may have been imposed against him/her.

7.87.9 Any remaining match suspensions of a particular season are carried forward to the future MCL seasons and only on completion of match suspensions will the *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* be eligible to participate further.

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ARTICLE 8 NO APPEALS

ARTICLE 9 RECOGNITION OF DECISIONS

9.1 Any hearing results or other final adjudications under the *Code of Conduct* shall be recognised and respected by the *MCL* and its *Franchisees* automatically upon receipt of notice of the same, without the need for any further formality. Each of the *MCL* and its *Franchisees* shall take all steps legally available to it to enforce and give effect to such decisions.

9.2 It shall be a condition of membership of the *MCL* that all *Franchisees* shall comply with the *Code of Conduct*.

ARTICLE 10 AMENDMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

10.1 The *Code of Conduct* may be amended from time to time by the *MCL* Governing Council, with such amendments coming into effect on the date specified by the *MCL*.



10.2—The headings used for the various Articles of the *Code of Conduct* are for the purpose of guidance only and shall not be deemed to be part of the substance of the *Code of Conduct* or to inform or affect in any way the language of the provisions to which they refer.

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- 10.3 The *Code of Conduct* shall come into full force and effect on 20 January 2016 (the “**Effective Date**”). It shall not apply retrospectively to matters pending before the *Effective Date*; provided, however, that any case pending prior to the *Effective Date*, or brought after the *Effective Date* but based on an offence that is alleged to have occurred before the *Effective Date*, shall be governed by the predecessor version of the *Code of Conduct* in force at the time of the alleged offence, subject to any application of the principle of *lex mitior* by the hearing panel determining the case.
- 10.4 If any Article or provision of this *Code of Conduct* is held invalid, unenforceable or illegal for any reason, the *Code of Conduct* shall remain otherwise in full force apart from such Article or provision which shall be deemed deleted insofar as it is invalid, unenforceable or illegal.
- 10.5 The *Code of Conduct* is governed by and shall be construed in accordance with [Host Country Board law](#) [the country of choice as decided by the MCL Governing Council](#). Strictly without prejudice to the arbitration provisions of Articles 5 of the *Code of Conduct*, disputes relating to the *Code of Conduct* shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of [the country of choice as decided by the MCL Governing Council](#) [the Host Country Board courts](#).





APPENDIX 1 - DEFINITIONS

Complainant. As defined in Article 5.2.2.

Effective Date. As defined in Article 10.3.

Franchisee. A company/individual who owns a team in MCL.

MCL. Masters Champions League.

MGC. MCL Governing Council or its designee.

MCL's Chief Operating Officer. The person appointed by the MCL from time to time to act as the MCL's Chief Operating Officer (or his/her designee).

MCL's Clothing and Equipment Regulations. The MCL's Clothing and Equipment Regulations, in force from time to time.

MCL Code of Conduct for Umpires and Referees. The MCL's Code of Conduct for Umpires and Referees, in force from time to time.

MCL Events. All matches played under MCL

MCL's Governing Council. The person appointed by the MCL from time to time to act as the MCL's General Counsel (or his/her designee).

~~MCL's Operating Manual. The MCL's Official Operating Manual in force from time to time.~~

~~MCL Match. Each of the following (in men's and women's cricket): Twenty20 MCL Match;~~

Judicial Commissioner. The independent person appointed by the MCL from the MCL Code of Conduct Commission, to perform the functions assigned to the Judicial Commissioner under the Code of Conduct.

Level 1 Offence. Any of the offences described in Articles 2.1.1 – 2.1.8.

Level 2 Offence. Any of the offences described in Articles 2.2.1 – 2.2.12.

Level 3 Offence. Any of the offences described in Articles 2.3.1 – 2.3.3.

Level 4 Offence. Any of the offences described in Articles 2.4.1 – 2.4.4.

Match Fee. The designated match fee (which is to be used for the purposes of calculating sanctions in accordance with Article 7) as set out in Appendix 3 of this Code of Conduct.

Match Referee. The independent person appointed by the MCL (or any other relevant party) as the official match referee for a designated MCL Match, whether such Match Referee carries out his/her functions remotely or otherwise. Where a Match Referee is not physically present at a particular Match, he/she may be assisted in the administrative performance of his/her duties under this Code of Conduct by any official 'Match Manager' who may be appointed to officiate at such MCL Match.

Minimum Over Rate. As defined in Appendix 2 of this Code of Conduct.

Minimum Over Rate Offence. Any of the offences described in Articles 2.5.1 – 2.5.2.

Minor Over Rate Offence. As defined in Article 2.5.1.



Notice of Charge. As defined in Article 4.1 and/or Article 4.5.

Player. Any cricketer who is selected in any MCL team or squad that is chosen to represent a *Franchisee* in any *MCL Match* or series of *MCL Matches*.

Player Support Personnel. Any coach, trainer, manager, selector, team official, masseur, doctor, analyst, physiotherapist or any other person employed by, representing or otherwise affiliated to a playing/touring team or squad that is chosen to represent a *Franchisee* in any *MCL Match* or series of *MCL Matches*.

Report. As defined in Article 3.1.

Serious Over Rate Offence. As defined in Article 2.5.2.

Match Suspensions. The number of matches any *Player* or *Player Support Personnel* is suspended pursuant to Article 7 of the *Code of Conduct*.

Team Captain or Vice Captain. The official captain or vice captain of any team participating in a *Match*.

Team Manager. The official manager of any team participating in a *Match*.

Umpire. Any umpire (including any third or other umpires) appointed to officiate in a *Match*.



APPENDIX 2 – MINIMUM OVER RATE REQUIREMENTS, CALCULATION, REPORTING AND DISCIPLINARY PROCESS AND SANCTIONS

1. *Minimum Over Rate*

The minimum over rate to be achieved by the fielding team in all *MCL Matches* shall be as set out in the playing conditions to the relevant *MCL Match* (the “**Minimum Over Rate**”).

2. **Calculating the Actual Over Rate**

2.1 The actual over rate will be calculated at the end of each *MCL Match* by those *Umpires* appointed to officiate in such *MCL Match*.

2.2 In calculating the actual over rate for an *MCL Match*, allowances will be given for the actual time lost as a result of any of the following:

2.2.1 treatment given to a *Player* by an authorised medical personnel on the field of play;

2.2.2 a *Player* being required to leave the field as a result of a serious injury;

2.2.3 all third *Umpire* referrals and consultations;

2.2.4 time wasting by the batting side (which may, in addition, constitute a separate offence pursuant to any of Articles 2.1.8, 2.2.11, 2.3.3 or 2.4.4 depending upon the context and seriousness of the incident); and

2.2.5 all other circumstance that are beyond the control of the fielding team.

2.3 In addition, the following time allowances will only be given in:

2.3.1 *MCL Matches*:

(a) 1 minute for every 3 full overs that an innings is reduced by as a result of any delay and/or interruption in play.

3. **Procedure**

3.1 Where the actual over rate is calculated by the *Umpires* as being equal to or in excess of the *Minimum Over Rate*, no further action shall be taken.

3.2 Where the actual over rate is calculated by the *Umpires* as being less than the *Minimum Over Rate*, the following shall apply:

3.2.1 only the *Umpires* that officiated in the *MCL Match* during which the alleged offence was committed can report such an offence to the *Match Referee*, and such Report, which must be completed on Form “Rep 1” must be lodged with the *Match Referee* (or, where, for logistical reasons, it is impractical to lodge with the *Match Referee*, the MCL’s Cricket Operations Department) within eighteen hours after the closure of play in the relevant *MCL Match*. Under exceptional circumstances only, prior to the start of the of the next relevant *MCL Match* of that team, whichever is the sooner within 18 hours of the close of the day’s play in the relevant *MCL Match* or prior to the start of the following day’s play, whichever is the sooner;



3.2.2 thereafter, the *Match Referee* shall promptly consult with the *Umpires* and shall be entitled, after such consultation, to make such amendments to the actual over rate calculation as he/she deems appropriate in the circumstances to reflect those circumstances that are beyond the control of the fielding team (including, but not limited to those set out in Article 2 of this Appendix 2).

3.2.3 where the *Match Referee* confirms that the *Minimum Over Rate* has not been achieved by the fielding side in any *MCL Match*, this shall constitute an offence under either Article 2.5.1 or 2.5.2 of the *Code of Conduct* and the *Match Referee* will promptly issue a *Notice of Charge* in accordance with Article 4.1 of the *Code of Conduct* (with the *Team Captain* being charged on behalf of the *Players* in the fielding side as well as him/herself) ~~and the matter will be thereafter be adjudicated by the Match Referee in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 5.~~ The Match referees decision is final and cannot be appealed.

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4. Applicable Sanctions for a *Minimum Over Rate Offence*

4.1 The principles set out in Article 7 (regarding sanctions) shall be applied in full except that:

4.1.1 in order to determine the sanction that is to be imposed in each case, the *Match Referee* must first consider whether the *Player* has previously been found guilty of the same offence under the *Code of Conduct* (or any predecessor regulations that may have applied) in the same format of the game within a period of twelve months prior to the date on which the alleged offence took place.

4.1.2 once the *Match Referee* has established whether or not this is a repeat offence in the same format of the game within the relevant twelve month period, then:

4.1.2.1 in the case of a *Minor Over Rate Offence*, (and subject to the qualifying guidance notes below), he/she shall apply the mandatory sanctions that are set out in the table at Article 4.2, below; or

4.1.2.2 in the case of a *Serious Over Rate Offence*, he/she shall take into account any other factors that he/she deems relevant and appropriate to the mitigation or aggravation of the nature of the *Serious Over Rate Offence* before determining, in accordance with the table at Article 4.2, below, what the appropriate sanction(s) should be.

4.2 For the purposes of *Minimum Over Rate Offences* only, the table at Article 7.3 of the Code of Conduct shall be replaced with the following:

MINIMUM OVER RATE OFFENCE	INDIVIDUAL	RANGE OF PERMISSIBLE SANCTIONS (FIRST OFFENCE)	RANGE OF PERMISSIBLE SANCTIONS (SECOND OFFENCE IN THE SAME FORMAT OF THE GAME WITHIN 12 MONTHS SAME 1st SEASON)
Minor Over Rate Offence (Article 2.5.1)	<i>Player</i>	10% of <i>Match Fee</i> per over short of <i>Minimum Over Rate</i> .	
	<i>Team Captain</i>	20% of <i>Match Fee</i> per over short of <i>Minimum Over Rate</i> .	20% of <i>Match Fee</i> per over short of <i>Minimum Over Rate</i> AND the imposition of a suspension for the immediately subsequent one (1) <i>MCL</i>



			Match which the offence occurred which the offence occurred.
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NOTE: For the avoidance of doubt, where a Team Captain whose team has already been found to have committed two Minor Over Rate Offences [in MCL](#) within ~~the same season~~ [a period of twelve months](#), commits a further offence in the same ~~twelve month period of MCL~~ [season](#), in determining the sanction to be imposed, the latest offence shall be treated as a first offence for the purposes of the table at Article 4.2 above.

Where a Team Captain has been found guilty of a first Minimum Over Rate Offence in an MCL Match and then commits a further Minimum Over Rate Offence during ~~the same~~ [an](#) MCL Event, he/she will be determined to have committed a second Minimum Over Rate Offence for the purposes of this Article 4.2 and consequently will be sanctioned in accordance with the table above. Any suspension so imposed will not, however, be imposed in respect of any subsequent Match in the relevant MCL Event. Rather the suspension shall be applied to the first MCL Match that the Player takes part in subsequent ~~to the~~ [MCL Event](#) [Season](#).

Where a Team Captain has been found guilty of a first Minor Over Rate Offence in an MCL Match and then commits two further Minor Over Rate Offences during an MCL Event, he/she will be suspended for his/her immediately subsequent Match in the relevant MCL Event, and his/her Minor Over Rate Offence count for the MCL Event shall return to zero. In such circumstances, the Minor Over Rate Offence that was committed before the MCL Event shall, however, continue to stand [for the next MCL season](#) and will be considered in determining whether the Player has committed a repeat Minor Over Rate Offence ~~within twelve months~~ [in the MCL matches](#).

In circumstances where the second of the two Minor Over Rate Offences committed during the MCL Event was committed in the Player's final game in the MCL Event, the suspension shall be applied to the first MCL Match that the Player takes part in ~~subsequent to the~~ [next](#) MCL Event.

For the avoidance of doubt, for a Team Captain to be suspended for an Over Rate Offence during an MCL Event, he/she will need to commit two Minor Over Rate Offences or at least one Serious Over Rate Offence [during](#) the MCL Event.

MINIMUM OVER RATE OFFENCE	INDIVIDUAL	RANGE OF PERMISSIBLE SANCTIONS (FIRST OFFENCE)	RANGE OF PERMISSIBLE SANCTIONS (SECOND OFFENCE IN THE SAME FORMAT OF THE GAME WITHIN 12 SAME 1st 1st SEASON)	RANGE OF PERMISSIBLE SANCTIONS (THIRD OFFENCE IN THE SAME FORMAT OF THE GAME WITHIN SAME 1st 1st SEASON 12 MONTHS)
Serious Over Rate Offence (Article 2.5.2)	Player	10% of Match Fee per over short of the Minimum Over Rate for the: (a) first five overs in a Test Match (or other MCL Matches of at least four days in duration); or (b) first two overs in any One Day MCL Match, Twenty20 MCL Match or any other MCL Match of fifty (50) or twenty (20) overs per side AND 20% of Match Fee per additional over short of the Minimum Over Rate.		

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	<i>Team Captain</i>	The imposition of one (1) match <i>Suspension</i>	The imposition of between two (2) and four (4) match <i>Suspension</i>	The imposition of between eight (8) and ten (10) match <i>Suspension</i> and or A lifetime MCL Ban
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APPENDIX 3 – MATCH FEES

Unless otherwise agreed in advance of an *MCL Match* or *MCL Event*, for the purposes of any sanctions that are to be applied pursuant to this *Code of Conduct*, the following designated *Match Fees* shall apply:

<u>Type of MCL Match</u>	<u>Designated Match Fee</u>
Twenty20.	A specific amount which is to be determined A 1 day The match fee is calculated by given match will be equal to dividing the amount for which player is bought in the auction divided by the number of matches a player plays in a given season the franchisee plays in the league matches of the MCL Season by the MCL's Governing Council in consultation with the relevant stake holders

For the avoidance of doubt, the designated *Match Fee* to be applied for the purposes of an offence committed by a *Player Support Personnel* shall be the same as that which would be applied to a *Player* from the same *MCL Match*.