

NEWSLETTER

Association of Cricket Umpires Karnataka

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Editorial



Dear Member,

These last few months have been extremely challenging times for cricket officials, for there have been several incidents at the international level where the spotlight has fallen on Umpires in particular.

- 1) Johannesburg Test, January 2018: Umpires call off play early on Day III after the South African batsmen express concerns over the fitness of the pitch & possibility of grievous injury.
- 2) Centurion ODI, February 2018: Umpires, after delaying lunch by the permitted 15 minutes to obtain a result, call lunch at the expiry of the extension with India still needing 2 runs to win.
- 3) Colombo T20I, March 2018: Bangladesh captain Shakib al Hasan threatened to call his batsman back to the dressing room after he alleged that the on-field Umpires did not call a No Ball when the bowler bowled a second short-pitched delivery in an over.
- 4) World Cup Qualifier in Harare, March 2018: An allegedly incorrect LBW decision cost Scotland a berth in the World Cup 2019.
- 5) Cape Town Test, March 2018: Attempt by the Australian team to use unfair means to change the condition of the ball.

Almost each one of us would have an opinion on how the Match Officials faced with the above situations handled them; while some would have felt the handling of the situation was correct, some others could be of the opinion that things could have been done differently.

It is important though that we not only have an opinion on how the events were handled, but all Umpires also learn from them. Remember, the Law Book and the Playing Conditions are the gospel and Umpires would do well to be thorough with the minutest detail in print.

Points to Ponder: Changing Condition of the Ball

In context of the events in the Cape Town Test, here's the relevant portion of the ICC's Test Match Playing Conditions:

Legend's Corner

I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career.
I've lost almost 300 games.
26 times, I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed.
I've failed over and over and over again in my life.
And that is why I succeed.



- Michael Jordan

41.3.4 If the umpires together agree that the condition of the ball has been unfairly changed by a member or members of either side, or that its condition is inconsistent with the use it has received, they shall consider that there has been a contravention of this clause and decide together whether they can identify the player(s) responsible for such conduct.

41.3.5 If it is possible to identify the player(s) responsible for changing the condition of the ball, the umpires shall:

41.3.5.1 Change the ball forthwith.

41.3.5.1.1 If the umpires together agree that the condition of the ball has been unfairly changed by a member or members of the fielding side, the batsman at the wicket shall choose the replacement ball from a selection of six other balls of various degrees of usage (including a new ball) and of the same brand as the ball in use prior to the contravention.

41.3.5.1.2 If the umpires together agree that the condition of the ball has been unfairly changed by a member or members of the batting side, the umpires shall select and bring into use immediately, a ball which shall have wear comparable to that of the previous ball immediately prior to the contravention.

41.3.5.2 Additionally, the bowler's end umpire shall:

- award 5 Penalty runs to the opposing side.

In Cape Town, after visuals of Cameron Bancroft using a foreign substance to alter the condition of the ball were played on the big screen, the Umpires inspected the ball, but surprisingly did not change the ball or follow the due processes as laid down in the Playing Conditions.

In a press release related to the events in the Test match in Cape Town, the International Cricket Council clarified that the On-field Umpires did not change the ball and further explained, "The umpires inspected the ball at that

time and elected not to replace the ball and award a 5-run penalty as **they could not see any marks on the ball that suggested that its condition had been changed as a direct result of Bancroft's actions.**"

Now, how does one interpret the ICC's statement? Does it mean just the act of tampering with the ball is not sufficient for the Umpires to change the ball and to initiate due processes? Does it mean that upon seeing the act of tampering the ball, the Umpires can only change the ball and follow the due processes if they can physically establish that the condition of the ball has been changed to an extent that it gives one side the opportunity to gain an unfair advantage over the opposition?

Learnings from other incidents

From the decisions taken in the Johannesburg Test, it is important to learn that Umpires do not take decisions in a haste. After calling off play early on Day III because of the possibility of unpredictable bounce causing grievous injury to the batsmen, the Umpires deliberated if the match should carry on. By doing so, they gave the surface time to settle down, allowed the batting side to use the roller on the fourth day morning, and allowed the match to resume on Day IV by which time the pitch had eased out considerably.

It is important that Umpires stay sensitive to the fact that single decision they make - on and off the field – could

have a significant bearing on the result of a match and/or a player's career. One incorrect decision (not to call a No Ball) nearly cost Bangladesh a T20 match against Sri Lanka and a spot in the Final of the Nidahas Trophy. Similarly, one allegedly incorrect decision in the World Cup Qualifier cost Scotland a place in the World Cup 2019.

It is therefore important that Umpires concentrate hard & work towards getting every one of their decisions correct. It is important to develop switch-on and switch-off techniques and routines that allow you to maintain your concentration through the entire day and keep the concentration level at its peak just when it matters most.

Finally, from the Umpires' decision to call Lunch in the Centurion ODI with India only 2 runs away from victory, one should learn that the Laws & the Playing Conditions are the final word. No matter how big the stage or how big the Umpire, what is written in the Laws & Playing Conditions needs to be followed to the T.

I would be glad if you could share your thoughts on all the incidents listed above, suggestions on how you would have handled them, and any such incidents you may have encountered on the field. Feel free to write to editorial.acuk@gmail.com.

Keep yourself well hydrated for the forthcoming summer. Good luck!

Arun Kumar G.

Secretary's Column



I am happy to inform you that the new season is fast approaching and in preparation for the ensuing season the KSCA organised Refresher Courses for Umpires and Match Observers on 24th & 25th of

March. The workshop was attended by about 150 umpires who walked away enriched.

The seminar was well conducted under the supervision of leading BCCI Umpires and by the young umpires who recently have stepped up the ladder at the National level. Similar workshops were conducted in the various zones and our members took active part in conducting the courses. On behalf of the Working Committee of the ACUK, I wish all our members success in the forthcoming season.

The KSCA organised an Umpire's examination exclusively for club cricketers aspiring to become Umpires. While nearly 150 candidates registered for the examination, 106 candidates appeared for the examination which was held in March 2018.

We have one more reason to share our joy as 12 young umpires were declared successful in the Level-II

examination conducted by BCCI. We wish them all success in the days to come.

Meanwhile, the Association of Cricket Umpires of Sri Lanka (ACUS) has approached us to play two friendly matches in Bengaluru during the month of April 2018. We have requested the KSCA to provide us grounds for the same which they have gracefully consented to. We have sent the ACUS a formal invitation for their proposed visit to India and look forward to finalising the itinerary for their visit shortly.

I am hopeful our members will be excited by the prospect of mingling with our colleagues from Sri Lanka in what could be a first-of-its-kind cultural interaction.

I make a humble request to all our members from Mofussil Forums to interact actively with the parent body and come up with useful suggestions/ideas which would help us chalk out programmes suitably, particularly given the AGM of ACUK is expected to be held outside Bengaluru during the month of June 2018. I keenly look forward to reading your suggestions.

Finally, I extend my good wishes to all our members for the forthcoming season.

yours sincerely ,

B. K. Kumar

Hon-Secretary - ACUK

Hall of Fame



R. Surendranath

R. Surendranath has been a member of the ACUK from its early years; he became a member of the ACUK in 1980. Surendranath started his career in umpiring in 1975 & qualified to state panel in 1991. He officiated in several tournaments conducted by the KSCA, including the League and school cricket tournaments. He also pursued scoring from 1988 until 2015.

Surendranath was employed by the Reserve Bank of India and retired in 2003 as Assistant Manager. Post retirement from umpiring in 2011, he enjoys a quiet life with his family these days.

ACUK wishes a happy, healthy & harmonious life to R. Surendranath & family



S. Raghu

S Raghu, who was a leg-spinner during his playing days, took up Umpiring in 1988 – the same year he also joined the ACUK. He qualified to state panel in 2008 and has officiated in KSCA tournaments & school matches. He also pursued Cricket Scoring actively between 1996 to 2011.

Post retirement from his vocation as Senior Assistant Sales Officer of the Bharat Electronics Limited in 2009 and from active umpiring in 2012, Raghu these days enjoys a quiet retired life with his family.

ACUK wishes Raghu and his family a happy, healthy & harmonious life.

V N Kulkarni



Vinayak Kulkarni, or VNK as he is fondly referred to in the Umpiring circles, is one of the handful of International Umpires to emerge from the state of Karnataka.

Kulkarni began his Umpiring career in 1977, qualified to the State panel of Umpires in 1978 and subsequently qualified to the BCCI Panel in 1991. In 1999, he was promoted to the international panel and officiated two ODIs – India v Sri Lanka at Pune in 1999 and India v Zimbabwe at Rajkot

in 2000. He also officiated in the ACC Fast Track Countries Tournament in Singapore in 2005 and the Afro-Asia Women's T20 matches in 2007.

He extended his association with Umpiring even after retirement as he was appointed by the BCCI as an Umpires Coach. Subsequently, between 2010 to 2013 he also served as Resident Faculty at the BCCI's National Academy for Umpires (NAU).

Closer home, Kulkarni, an ACUK Life Member since 1981, has served the Association in several capacities, including being Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President & most recently as its President (2015-2017). At the KSCA's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, Kulkarni was honoured by the KSCA for his contribution to Cricket Umpiring

Kulkarni continues to serve the fraternity and remains connected with the game; he is a member of the KSCA Umpires Sub-committee.

He has also published a Kannada book titled “Cricket Niyamagalu” – a first such book in Kannada on Cricket Laws, and “Laws of Cricket for Cricketers” – an English book explaining in simple language the laws of cricket for the benefit of players. Kulkarni also co-authored a Level-1 manual for umpires for BCCI – first of its kind in India.

V N Kulkarni, who graduated in B.Sc from the Karnataka University in 1973, joined the State Bank of India in 1975 & retired in February 2014. He now leads a peaceful retired life in the company of his family.

ACUK wishes V N Kulkarni & his family a happy, healthy & harmonious life.



N. Krishnamurthy

N Krishnamurthy started his Umpiring career in early 1980 & qualified to state panel in 1991. He has officiated in KSCA tournaments like the S A S Memorial

Trophy, age-group tournaments from 1992 to 2006 and in the KSCA league. A member of the ACUK since 1985, Sri N Krishna-murthy has been an active contributor in the Shivamogga forum and has helped in organizing various work-shops & seminars. In 2016, he was elected as the President of the Shivamogga forum and continues to hold office.

Post retirement from active umpiring, Sri N Krishnamurthy remained associated with cricket administration in the capacity of Managing Committee member of the Karnataka State Cricket Association representing Shivamogga zone (2001-2004).

Born in 1953, N Krishnamurthy graduated in B.Com from the Mysore University in 1971. He worked in the private sector and retired as an Accountant. He currently leads a peaceful & retired life with his family.

ACUK wishes N Krishnamurthy and his family a happy, healthy & harmonious life.

ICC's Resource Material for Umpires



The International Cricket Council (ICC), the governing body of the game of Cricket, has put together resource material for the development of current Umpires and those aspiring to take up Umpiring. The resource material is available on the website www.iccaccreditation.com and can be accessed using the username *umpireone* and password *umpireone*.

The resource material, which comprises of several modules and has video illustrations and material for download, is classified under the following chapters:

- Umpiring Technique,
- Preparation,
- Attitude & Team work,
- Decision Making,
- Match Management and
- Self-management & Personal Development.

Managing Summer Days

Summer season is upon us. Given the possibility of temperatures touching unprecedented highs at some point in the next two months, it is extremely important that Umpires keep themselves hydrated well. Experts believe that as little as a 1-2% decrease in the body's fluid levels can be enough to negatively affect performance through a drop in energy levels, decision-making and your body's ability to cool-down. Prolonged dehydration in hot and/or humid conditions may increase risk of heat stress.

Below are a few tips, extracted from the **ICC's Resource Material for Umpires**, to help Umpires keep themselves in shape on warm days:

Pre-Match

- Have 1-2 glasses of water upon waking.
- Over the course of the morning aim to drink 4-6 glasses of fluid (water or sports drink best).
- If you suffer badly from cramps add some salt or electrolyte formula to drinks.

During the game

- Look for all opportunities to ingest fluids.
- Add extra scheduled breaks.
- Water or sports drinks are recommended.
- Look for every opportunity to cool down.
- Use of ice vests/cooling fans where possible.
- Recover in shade where possible.

Post-Match

- Weigh yourself after game to measure fluid loss. 1 kg weight loss = 1L fluid loss. Aim to drink 1.5 x fluid lost in the 4-6 hours afterward (water or sports drink best). You should have returned to pre-competition weight within 6 hours.
- Use ice baths or cold showers post-match to cool the body down and assist recovery.
- **Minimise intake of caffeine and alcohol.**



Sadanand Viswanath



S. M. Yusuf



Balendu Mouli

KSCA HONORS UMPIRES

It is a matter of pride that three of our senior life members – and distinguished (retired) BCCI Panel Umpires – were recently felicitated by the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) for their contribution to the game. At the Annual Awards Night held at the M Chinnaswamy

Stadium on March 30, the KSCA feted Sri Balendu Mouli, Sri S M Yusuf & Sri Sadanand Viswanath, in recognition of their services to the KSCA and the BCCI.

On behalf of all the members of the ACUK, the Working Committee congratulates the trio and calls on young and upcoming Umpires to draw on their experience and learn from them. The Working Committee wishes the trio all the best for everything they do in the future.

Cricket Matches in Bangalore

- Apr 13th : RCB v KXIP (8 p.m)
- Apr 15th : RCB v RR (4 p.m)
- Apr 21st : RCB v DD (8 p.m)
- Apr 25th : RCB v CSK (8 p.m)
- Apr 29th : RCB v KKR (8 p.m)
- May 1st : RCB v MI (8 p.m)
- May 17th : RCB v SRH (8 p.m)

Exercise Your Right

Casting a vote is your responsibility

The Karnataka State Legislative Assembly Elections will be held on

Saturday, May 12. Exercising your vote is both a right and responsibility. All eligible voters, please vote and contribute to the development and governance of the state.

Dates to Remember

Monthly Meeting:

Apr 6th May 11th Jun 8th

Public Holidays

- April 14 : Dr. BR Ambedkar's Birthday / Tamil New Year's Day/ Bishu
- April 18 : Basava Jayanthi
- May 1 : Labour Day
- June 16 : Ramzan

OBITUARY



With Profound grief & sorrow we regret to inform the sad demise of our Member

G. N. Vijendra Rao

Born Demise
06.12.1942 13.03.2018
ACUK Managing Committee

With Best Compliments From
SRI. B. SATHYAJI RAO
Founder Member and Former Test Umpire

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