



Bangladesh Cricket Board

Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium | Tel : +880 2 803 1001- 4 | e-mail: info@bcb-cricket.com
Mirpur, Dhaka 1216, Bangladesh | Fax : +880 2 803 1199 | web: www.tigercricket.com.bd

The Sports Editor
The Daily Star
64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue
Dhaka-1215

05 January 2019

REJOINDER

Dear Sir,

It has come to our notice that your esteemed daily in its 05 January 2019 edition (print and web versions) had published a piece on the 6th Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) in the sports page/section titled '3 things to watch as carnival starts'. In the article we have noted with concern some very inaccurate observations made by the reporter citing the Comilla Victorians versus Rangpur Riders eliminator round game of the 5 the BPL as an example.

We strongly protest the irresponsible and unsubstantiated remarks. For your understanding, the part of the report under the subtitle 'ORGANISATION' which we have found to be misleading and wrong, is appended below:

'There is nothing final when it comes to the bylaws of the BPL and it can change overnight. There have been quite a few such instances, with the previous edition's chaos between Comilla Victorians and Rangpur being the most recent in a long line of administrative gaffes. After rain halted the game, match officials decided to extend the cut-off time by two hours to 11:15pm. According to the playing conditions, the team placed higher in the points table would go through to the final in case of rain causing an abandonment, in which case Comilla would have gone through. Instead the match was restarted again the next day and the quite amusing excuse was that it was for the greater good.'

The BCB would like to draw your attention the following clarification circulated on 11 December 2017 which explains in detail that the decisions concerning the said game were all taken strictly within the stipulations of the by-laws which was never compromised:

The Bangladesh Premier League T20 tournament is guided by its Playing Conditions which has been formulated in line with the ICC T20i and standard T20 playing conditions of overseas franchisee leagues (i.e. IPL). The BPL 2017 Playing Conditions had been circulated to all franchises well ahead of the tournament.

It has come to the attention of the BCB that certain reports in the media may have triggered confusion regarding the circumstances surrounding carrying the remainder of Sunday's rain-interrupted 2nd Qualifier of the AKS BPL 2017 between Comilla Victorians and Rangpur Riders into Monday (11 December). It has also been suggested in some reports that the BPL 2017 playing condition lacked clarity and may have been taken advantage of. On this subject the BCB would like to point out (please see Page

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- Clause 16.12 of the BPL 2017 Match Playing Conditions states in regards to Play-off matches -
If any of the Eliminator, Qualifier 1 or Qualifier 2 matches are tied, or there is ***no result**, the following shall apply:

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- a) the relevant teams shall compete in a Super Over to determine which team is the winner of the match in question; and
- b) if conditions do not permit a Super Over within the time available to determine the winner or if the Super Over is tied, then the team which, at the end of the relevant regular Tournament, finished in the higher position in the League table will be deemed the winner of the relevant play-off match.

***As in BPL T20, BCB T20 & ICC T20i Playing Condition Clause 16.1.3 - Save for circumstances where a match is awarded to a team as a consequence of the opposing team's refusal to play (clause 16.2), all matches in which both teams have not had an opportunity of batting for a minimum of 5 overs, shall be declared a No Result.**

(It may be mentioned here that domestic T20 leagues like the IPL also has similar arrangements for Play-off matches)

As the match had effectively ended as a 'no result' contest after weather conditions did not improve sufficiently to allow a minimum of five overs in the second innings for constituting a match within the stipulated time even after using the extra time (30 minutes), therefore both teams were informed by the match officials to prepare for a Super Over.

Had Super Over not been possible, Comilla Victorians would have been declared winners for finishing in the higher position in the League table.

On the other hand, any objection to playing the Super Over would have been interpreted as 'refusal to play' as per the playing conditions and as a consequence the match would have been awarded to the opponent team.

However, management of both teams agreed to resume play on the following day in the greater interest of the tournament and in the spirit of the game. The BPL Technical Committee endorsed the consensus in consideration of the tournament's stature and following.

We hope that this rejoinder will receive your due attention and published in its entirety eliminate any confusion or misunderstanding among your readers.

Thank you.

Nizam Uddin Chowdhury
Chief Executive Officer
Bangladesh Cricket Board

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