



SNISMUN VII

IPL

BACKGROUND GUIDE

Letter from the Executive Board

Dear Delegates,

We warmly welcome you to the Indian Premier League Council. We are absolutely elated to be serving as the Executive Board (EB) of The Sharanya Narayani International School Model United Nations 2026, and look forward to having you be a part of SNISMUN '26 - IPL as well, rendering these a magnificent two days, with the passion and fuel of MUNs at its peak — better debates, more incredible research, and an even more admirable element of well-executed diplomacy and the prowess of lobbying displayed to its fullest.

However, many elements that come with the setting of a conference have so adapted and evolved, pushing veterans and newbies alike, ensuring — and even demanding — a sense of exquisite presentation and facilitation of debate and discussion. We will always be present for you at every step: to encourage you, push your boundaries, and re-centre focus when needed. We count on you, as much as you might count on us. We look forward to mutual growth and learning, albeit within a frame of discipline and cooperation. This study guide is a mere framework for your deeper research, offering various angles and viewpoints so you have a good idea of the concepts tied to the agenda.

We cannot stress enough that you need to pursue your own sources, especially because this guide will not cover your individual stances. We wish you all the best, and please don't hesitate to reach out if you have doubts — or even if you just want to have a casual chat about the agenda (post-conference, of course). In closing, we encourage all delegates to approach this Indian Premier League Council with a commitment to cooperation and execution. Looking forward to seeing you at SNISMUN '26!

Constituere cum ausu et flore.

Regards,

Your Executive Board.

Bhuvn Anil

Impana Rakesh

Spoorti Saatiya



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Committee Overview: The IPL Council

You'll be representing stakeholders who all have a legitimate seat at that table but rarely want the same thing: BCCI office-bearers and state association representatives, the ownership groups behind IPL franchises, player representatives through the Indian Cricketers' Association, the BCCI's own Anti-Corruption Unit, broadcasters and title sponsors, and an observer seat for the ICC's Anti-Corruption and Security Unit. Don't just research what your stakeholder says it wants — think about where that interest actually collides with someone else's in the room. A franchise owner and a player are not going to agree on what a fair disciplinary process looks like, and a smaller state association is not going to see a salary cap the same way the richest franchises do.

Agenda and Committee Structure

- Preventing spot-fixing and match manipulation
- Regulating betting syndicates and player-approach reporting
- A binding code of conduct for player misconduct
- Franchise ownership, conflicts of interest, and multi-team holdings

Historical Background: How We Got Here

The 2013 Spot-Fixing Scandal — the foundational crisis

Start here, because almost everything on this agenda traces back to it in some way. In May 2013, Delhi Police arrested three players on spot-fixing charges midway through that season — and what began as a case against three individuals quickly grew into something much bigger, pulling in team officials and franchise associates over their alleged links to bookmakers. Two things came out of it that still shape how the IPL is run: years of criminal proceedings through the Indian courts, and two separate Supreme Court-appointed committees set up to look into what team officials and franchises had actually done.

The first was a probe committee chaired by Justice Mukul Mudgal, which reported back in 2014 that a Chennai Super Kings official, Gurusath Meiyappan, and a Rajasthan Royals co-owner, Raj Kundra, were both guilty of betting during the tournament. On the strength of that finding, the Court then set up a second, three-member committee — chaired by former Chief Justice R.M. Lodha — whose job was to actually decide the punishment. In 2015, the Lodha Committee suspended both Chennai Super Kings and Rajasthan Royals for two seasons and banned Meiyappan and Kundra for life from any BCCI-affiliated cricketing role; two replacement franchises filled in for the years CSK and RR sat out.



What made the case bigger than just two individuals is that Meiyappan was related by marriage to the BCCI's president at the time — a conflict of interest that ended up being just as important to the story as the betting itself.

The Lodha Committee Reforms (2015–2018)

The same committee, still chaired by Justice Lodha, was then handed a much bigger brief: not just punishing what had happened in 2013, but rethinking how Indian cricket should be administered going forward. Its 2016 report recommended a one-state-one-vote system for BCCI membership, age and term limits for administrators, a mandatory cooling-off period between terms, keeping the BCCI presidency separate from state-association roles, and a genuine, formally recognised players' association.

The Supreme Court pushed most of this through between 2016 and 2018, over the BCCI's objections, and it did reshape the BCCI's constitution. Not every recommendation has stuck the same way in practice, though — some of the conflict-of-interest provisions in particular are still applied inconsistently. It's worth digging into how conflict-of-interest complaints against sitting administrators, commentators, and former players wearing more than one hat have actually been handled since.

Ownership and the Franchise Conflict-of-Interest Question

The 2013 case is still the cleanest example of the ownership problem this committee has to grapple with: a team official found guilty of betting on his own franchise's matches, while married into the family running the sport's own governing body. That's exactly why questions about vetting new owners, requiring disclosure of their other business interests, and managing conflicts of interest for administrators with franchise ties haven't gone away — they were never really settled in the first place. Worth asking, as you research this: how strictly are today's fit-and-proper-person checks on incoming owners actually enforced, in practice rather than on paper?

“Corruption in cricket isn't a single event you punish once and move on from. It's a standing vulnerability that has to be managed every season, against a betting market that is bigger, faster, and more global than the sport's own disciplinary machinery.”

— composite framing drawn from BCCI and ICC Anti-Corruption Unit public statements, for the purposes of this guide

Where Things Stand Now

As of this committee, the IPL runs on a BCCI anti-corruption code enforced by its own unit, works alongside the ICC's Anti-Corruption and Security Unit on cross-border intelligence, and hasn't suspended a franchise since the post-2013 cases. That doesn't mean the problem went away — every season still brings reports of players being approached by suspected fixers, the occasional citation under the code of conduct, and ongoing public argument about whether ownership vetting and conflict-of-interest rules are keeping pace with how much bigger, and how much more attractive to bettors, the league has become. That's really the question in front of you: what should the next version of this rulebook actually look like?

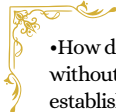
Sub-Issue Briefs

1. Preventing Spot-Fixing and Match Manipulation

It's tempting to treat this as a player-education problem, but the record doesn't really support that. Integrity workshops and after-the-fact prosecutions haven't stopped fixers from approaching players season after season, which suggests the gap is structural rather than a matter of awareness. Treat this sub-issue as the foundation the others sit on.\

Worth debating

- Should the anti-corruption code lean on players reporting approaches themselves, or on proactively monitoring communications and finances?
- What's a proportionate sanction — lifetime bans, as handed out in 2013, or a graded system that treats failing to report an approach differently from actually fixing a match?
- Given that officials, not just players, were implicated in 2013, should support staff, franchise officials, and commentators fall under the same code?



- How do you suspend a player quickly enough to protect the league, without trampling their right to due process before guilt is actually established?

2. Regulating Betting Syndicates and Player-Approach Reporting

Cricket betting is illegal across most of India, which sounds like it should make this simpler — it doesn't. The money just moves offshore and informal instead, and no single anti-corruption unit can realistically watch a market that global on its own. The IPL's unit already works with the ICC's, and picks up intelligence informally from betting operators abroad, but there's a real gap wherever a syndicate is operating entirely outside Indian jurisdiction.

Worth debating

- Should the IPL formally partner with regulated overseas betting operators for real-time market data — and what does that even mean in a country where betting itself is mostly illegal?
- What would actually make a player more likely to report an approach than stay quiet about it?
- Do venues, hotels, and team travel need tighter access controls to cut down informal contact between players and suspected fixers?
- What can the committee realistically do about a syndicate that never sets foot in India at all?

3. A Binding Code of Conduct for Player Misconduct

Fixing isn't the only integrity problem — the code of conduct also covers on-field behaviour, doping, and off-field conduct that embarrasses the league. Enforcement here has a credibility problem of its own: minor on-field incidents get fined quickly and publicly, while more serious off-field allegations can drag on quietly, sometimes without the outcome ever being made public.

Worth debating

- Should on-field discipline (fast, public, fines and suspensions) run through a different track than off-field allegations (slower, more investigation-heavy) — or should everything go through one process?
- How much does the league owe the public when an investigation wraps up, especially if it ends with no sanction at all?

4. Franchise Ownership, Conflicts of Interest, and Multi-Team Holdings

A handful of ownership groups behind IPL franchises also hold stakes in franchises in other T20 leagues around the world. That raises the same questions cross-ownership has raised in other sports — shared scouting, informal player pipelines between sister franchises, and the risk that a transfer between commonly owned teams reflects salary-cap management more than an actual cricketing decision. And separately, the conflict-of-interest principle the Lodha reforms established for administrators hasn't always been applied cleanly at the franchise level, where team officials can still have family or business ties to the people governing the league.

Worth debating

- What level of ownership should actually trigger disclosure or restriction — any stake at all, or only a controlling one?
- Should there be a global cap on how many franchises, across affiliated leagues, a single ownership group can control?
- Building on the 2013 precedent, how should family or close personal ties between a team official and a sitting administrator be disclosed and managed?
- Should incoming owners go through a formal fit-and-proper-person review — and who should actually be running that review?
- How much should the league be required to disclose about franchise finances, given that most franchises are privately owned?

Stakeholder Positions

Do your own research into where each stakeholder actually stands publicly — but if you need somewhere to start caucusing, here's a rough map of who tends to pull in which direction:

- BCCI leadership / Governing Council: Wants enforcement and vetting kept centralised under its own control; tends to resist reform that looks like it's being imposed from outside, even when a court has ordered it.
- Newer / smaller-market franchises: Wants stronger revenue-sharing and salary-cap reform to close the gap with the established teams; generally on board with tighter conflict-of-interest rules, since those tend to level the field in their favour.

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- Player representatives / Indian Cricketers' Association-aligned delegations: Wants better protection for players who self-report, real due process in misconduct cases, and a disciplinary code that's actually consistent rather than case-by-case.
 - BCCI and ICC Anti-Corruption Unit representatives: Wants broader surveillance and information-sharing powers, and a shift from reacting after the fact to catching problems proactively — including closer ties with regulated overseas betting operators for market intelligence.
 - Broadcast and sponsorship interests: Cares most about protecting the league's public image and keeping the schedule predictable; generally happy to see fast, visible discipline, but not especially invested in deeper ownership reform.

Questions a Resolution Should Answer (QARMAs)

- Does this provision actually address what allowed the 2013 scandal to happen, or does it just punish individuals after the fact?
- Who is actually enforcing this, and what happens the moment a powerful franchise, official, or administrator decides to ignore it?
- Does this rule quietly favour franchises or ownership groups that are already dominant — and if so, does the resolution deal with that anywhere?
- Does this reflect genuine input from players and their representatives, or is it another unilateral administrative call — the exact kind of thing the Lodha reforms were meant to move away from?

Further Research

You can start with points including the Lodha Committee's published report and recommendations, the Supreme Court judgments from the BCCI restructuring litigation, the BCCI's published Anti-Corruption Code for the IPL, public reports from the ICC's Anti-Corruption and Security Unit, and recent reporting on franchise ownership and media-rights valuations. Wherever your stakeholder has made an actual public statement, cite it in your position paper.

Good luck, We look forward to seeing what kind of league you build.

Accepted Sources

- 1.BCCI — Anti-Corruption Code, disciplinary regulations and official statements.
- 2.Supreme Court of India — Judgments concerning the IPL/BCCI/Lodha reforms.
- 3.Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports — Sports governance and regulatory material.
- 4.Parliament of India / Parliamentary Committees — Questions, reports and discussions relating to sports governance.
- 5.ICC / ICC Anti-Corruption Unit — International anti-corruption framework and cricket-integrity material.
- 6.Press Information Bureau (PIB) — Government statements and official releases.

*.REUTERS — Any Reuters article which clearly makes mention of the fact or is in contradiction of the fact being stated by a delegate in council.

Under No Circumstances Will the Following Be Accepted

Sources such as Wikipedia (<http://www.wikipedia.org/>), Amnesty International (<http://www.amnesty.org/>), and Human Rights Watch (<http://www.hrw.org/>); or newspapers such as The Guardian (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/>) and The Times of India (<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>), among others.



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