

**IN THE MATTER OF CHARGES BROUGHT BY THE ENGLAND AND WALES CRICKET BOARD
AGAINST LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB**

BEFORE DISCIPLINARY PANELS OF THE CRICKET DISCIPLINE COMMISSION

HELD ON 2nd AUGUST 2021 AND 3rd SEPTEMBER 2021

BACKGROUND

- 1 Between 2 August 2020 and 1 July 2021 (i.e.: a period of less than 12 months), Leicestershire CCC received six fixed penalties for breaches of ECB Directive 3.6. Leicestershire CCC were charged by the ECB and the matter was considered by a Panel of the CDC at a Hearing which was held virtually on 2nd August 2021.
- 2 The decision of the CDC Panel on 2nd August 2021 was that a suspended penalty was imposed. Whether or not that penalty was to be applied would depend on the future good conduct of the Leicestershire CCC players.
- 3 The penalty was to be imposed if one or more fixed penalties were issued to a Leicestershire CCC player within twelve (12) months. Should that occur, the Club would be deducted either 12 LVCC points, or 2 RL points or 2 Vitality T20 Blast points.
- 4 At the Hearing on 2nd August 2021, it was also noted that:

“...Leicestershire CCC had been charged with breaches of the same Directive in 2015 and 2017 which the panel felt was relevant”; and,

“...all three Panel members have played professional 20 over cricket and are aware of the intensity of the cricket and the emotional impact that it can have on players. Nevertheless, it is entirely possible for the players to play within the spirit of the game and to abide by Directives and Regulations relating to conduct.”
- 5 Following a further fixed penalty, the matter was considered again at another Hearing which was held virtually on 3rd September 2021. The Panel at that Hearing decided that the suspended penalty should not be invoked at that time but the original decision would still apply, and so the suspension would be invoked if one or more fixed penalties were issued to a Leicestershire CCC player within twelve (12) months. The decision on the 3rd September 2021 also stated that *“...The normal course of events would be that, where a suspension is imposed, it will be for the next available match. The panel sees no good reason to depart from that in this case”*.
- 6 On 1st July 2022 during a 20 Vitality Blast match against Northamptonshire CCC at Grace Road two more fixed penalties occurred. The first was in respect of Arron Lilley and the second in respect of Naveen ul-Haq.
- 7 The Chair of the Cricket Discipline Commission (CDC) was then asked to consider whether the suspended points deduction should now be imposed.
- 8 The Chair of the CDC convened a virtual hearing on 2 July 2022, at which the ECB and Leicestershire CCC were given the opportunity to make submissions in regard to:
 - 8.1 the two fixed penalties; and,
 - 8.2 on the question of whether the Chair of the CDC should exercise his discretion to override the decision of the CDC Panel that the suspended penalty would be invoked if one or more fixed penalties was issued within twelve (12) months.

- 9 The Chair of the CDC is grateful to Meena Botros (ECB Director of Legal and Integrity), Sean Jarvis (CEO, Leicestershire CCC) and Claude Henderson (Director of Cricket, Leicestershire CCC) for making their submissions.
- 10 It was noted and acknowledged by all parties that there is no right of appeal against a fixed penalty.

THE DECISION

- 11 The Chair of the CDC noted the submissions made but confirmed that since two additional fixed penalties had occurred, the conditions for the imposition of the suspended penalty (being the points deduction) had been fulfilled.
- 12 Given that the two fixed penalty decisions each took place in the Vitality T20 Blast, it is logical that the points deduction should be applied in that competition.
- 13 Accordingly, Leicestershire CCC will be deducted two (2) points from the Vitality T20 Blast total for 2022.
- 14 This deduction of points is to take effect immediately.
- 15 No financial penalty is imposed on Leicestershire CCC.
- 16 There will be no order for costs.
- 17 There is no right to appeal this decision.

Tim O’Gorman
Chair, Cricket Discipline Commission