



# INTERNATIONAL REPUBLIC MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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## STUDY GUIDE



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## **COMMITTEE- IPL**

### **AGENDA - Restructuring the IPL with Special Emphasis in addition to the new teams and it's repercussions.**

#### **INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE**

The Indian Premier League (IPL) is a professional Twenty20 cricket league, contested by eight teams based out of eight different Indian cities. The league was founded by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) in 2007. It is usually held between March and May of every year and has an exclusive window in the ICC Future Tours Programme. On 13 September 2007, on the back of India's victory at the 2007 T20 World Cup, BCCI announced a franchise-based Twenty20 cricket competition called Indian Premier League. The first season was slated to start in April 2008.

There have been thirteen seasons of the IPL tournament. The current IPL title holders are the Mumbai Indians, who won the 2020 season.

Currently, with eight teams, each team plays each other twice in a home-and-away round-robin format in the league phase. At the conclusion of the league stage, the top four teams will qualify for the playoffs. The top two teams from the league phase will play against each other in the first Qualifying match, with the winner going straight to the IPL final and the loser getting another chance to qualify for the IPL final by playing the second Qualifying match. Meanwhile, the third and fourth place teams from the league phase play against each other in an eliminator match and the winner from that match will play the loser from the first Qualifying match. The winner of the second Qualifying match will move onto the final to play the winner of the first Qualifying match in the IPL Final match, where the winner will be crowned the Indian Premier League champions.

List of the teams competing in the IPL:

- Chennai Super Kings
- Delhi Capitals.
- Kolkata Knight Riders
- Mumbai Indians



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- Punjab Kings
  - Rajasthan Royals
  - Royal Challengers Bangalore
  - SunRisers Hyderabad

The IPL Governing Council is responsible for all the functions of the tournament. The members are:

- Brijesh Patel - Chairman
- Jay Shah - Honorary Secretary
- Arun Singh Dhumal - Honorary Treasurer
- M Khairul Jamal Majumdar - Member
- Pragyan Ojha - ICA representative
- Alka Rehani Bhardwaj - CAG Nominee

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE AGENDA**

The IPL has morphed into a media beast that could soon rival the decades-old major sporting events across the world. No one could have predicted that IPL would become such a huge hit when it was first conceptualized in 2007 and when the franchises were first awarded to a group of corporations, individuals and celebrities. The continued unprecedented response from advertisers, broadcasters, sponsors, affiliates, partners and the viewing public year after year, has made the IPL the most keenly awaited event in the campaign calendar for advertisers and the most viewed sporting event for TV viewers in India.

The 13th edition will conclude on November 10, following which the BCCI-IPL will have only four-and-half months to begin with the 14th. The board intends to allot a similar window as this year - stretching in excess of 50 days to host 60 matches - and make up for what the stakeholders are losing out on this season.

BCCI will not host the mega auction of cricketers as scheduled ahead of the 2021 edition of the Indian Premier League. Covid-19 has ensured that the auction, which would've seen all franchises rebuild



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their teams, almost from scratch, is being postponed indefinitely for now. The 13th edition will conclude on November 10, following which the BCCI-IPL will have only four-and-half months to begin with the 14th. The board intends to allot a similar window as this year - stretching in excess of 50 days to host 60 matches - and make up for what the stakeholders are losing out on this season. The move, expected to be discussed and ratified in the coming weeks, should shed light on what exactly will the BCCI's 'POA' look like over the next 12-18 months.

Franchises too agree with the board's line of thought that there won't be enough time and space available for teams to rebuild because of the following elements:

- a) Restructuring of auction purse - presently at Rs 85 cr per year
- b) Entering into a contract with Indian and overseas players to put together a comprehensive auction list - a time-consuming process
- c) Allowing franchises time to prepare for the bidding - teams usually take 4-6 months to figure out auction strategies
- d) Any kind of brand activation - once new players are on board.

The BCCI is set to increase the salary purse from Rs 85 crore to Rs 90 crore, that will mean adding Rs 50 crore to the total salary pool (among 10 franchises). Franchises must mandatorily spend 75% of the allotted purse. Over the next three years, the purse will increase from Rs 90 crore to Rs 95 and eventually Rs 100 crore ahead of the 2024 season. Player retention has also been finalised. Each franchise will be allowed to retain four players, but with the following conditions - they can either retain three Indians and one overseas player or two Indians and two overseas players.

Franchises retaining players must deduct specified sums from their salary purse before heading into an auction. The salary deduction, in the existing structure, is stipulated as follows: Rs 15 cr, Rs 11 cr and Rs 7 cr if three players are retained; Rs 12.5 cr and Rs 8.5 cr if two players are retained; and Rs 12.5 cr if only one player is retained.



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## NEED TO RESTRUCTURE IPL

It was 12 years ago that the Indian Premier League (IPL) was conceptualized and launched with a huge fanfare. Since then, the tournament has grown leaps and bounds catching the fancy of audiences' world over. The IPL has well and truly built the club loyalty factor in every fan.

Every year the critics claim that the tournament is slowly losing its charm. IPL is recognized as the premier tournament in the world where every cricketer aspires to play. From being the most profitable tournament, IPL now has the opportunity to also become the pioneer in innovation, making the game more entertaining and thrilling to the audiences.

However, some restructuring needs to be done in the IPL to make it a major success.

- **SHORT RUN**

In the 2019 IPL, the short-run had become a huge point of debate after the match between Kings XI Punjab (now Punjab Kings) and Delhi Capitals (DC). The Preity Zinta-co-owned franchise had made an official complaint after her team ended up on the losing side.

- **SOFT SIGNAL**

There has been a debate growing around the cricket fraternity over the "soft signal" decision made by the on-field umpire when referring a decision to the third umpire in case of a debatable call. However, the controversies surrounding the issue, on field umpire giving Soft Signal while referring the decision to the third Umpire will not be applicable in IPL 2021.

- **GOVERNANCE**

Key BCCI officials behave like autocrats, with little accountability to those who matter most—the players and the fans. The role of the IPL governing council is contrary to the primary function of the board which is to monitor and evaluate the activities of the corporation and its top management so that it operates in a responsible and effective manner. The IPL's governing council failed to ensure that it is being run in compliance with laws and ethical code of practices which ultimately led to the crisis of 2009 resulting in the removal of



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the CEO. During this whole fiasco, the board remained in a compromised situation and many commentators were skeptical that the board could have been completely ignorant.

- **POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT**

BCCI and state associations have politicians at the forefront who find it difficult to stay away from the lucrative proposition that is cricket. This leads to mistrust among the spectators who wish to see a politics- free sport. With the exception of Sourav Ganguly, India's former cricket captain who currently serves as BCCI's president, the current administration, too, is stacked with political heavyweights and men of influence. Rajeev Shukla, BCCI's vice-president, previously served as a member of the Rajya Sabha in Maharashtra. The incumbent secretary of the BCCI, Jay Shah, is the son of the Home Minister of India, Amit Shah. To add to that, BCCI's current treasurer Arun Dhumal is the son of former chief minister of Himachal Pradesh and BJP politician Prem Kumar Dhumal.

- **CORRUPTION ALLEGATIONS**

In an environment in which betting is illegal, the doubt of player and franchise involvement in fixing results will always hover. The many allegations of corruption can also not be ignored. During the 2020 edition, a player was approached by a Delhi-based nurse. The nurse claimed to be a doctor and sought information about a match on September 30. The cricketer isn't currently a part of the Indian team but represented the country two years ago. On being approached, he reported the matter to the BCCI Anti-Corruption Unit. Also in 2021, a new 'modus operandi' was observed during one of the games at New Delhi where a designated cleaner was using the time lag between actual match action and live TV coverage to help in ball-by-ball betting, which is also known as court-siding or pitch siding. Pitch-siding is the practice of transmitting information from sporting events for gambling or directly placing bets.



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## **RESTRUCTURING OF THE BCCI**

A restructuring of the BCCI constitution was introduced. It includes the following measures:

1. One association from each state should be a member of the BCCI. At present the BCCI has 34 members, including inactive ones like Railways and Services who don't even play tournaments. The RM Lodha panel has thus recommended relegation of Railways, Services and other members who don't have territory or competitive presence, to affiliate status without voting rights.
2. Separate governing bodies for the BCCI and the Indian Premier League (IPL), with a certain level of autonomy provided to the IPL body, were recommended.
3. Regarding the IPL, the committee's recommendation is that the chief governing body will be known as the governing council, which will comprise nine members. The secretary and the treasurer of the BCCI will be ex-officio members of this IPL governing council. Two other members of the IPL governing council will be nominated or elected by the full members. Of the remaining five, two will be the nominees of franchises, one will be a representative of the players association and one will be a nominee of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India's office. As of now though, there is no IPL players' association in place, and Lodha has recommended its creation.
4. The day-to-day management of the BCCI should be conducted by a CEO, said the committee report. He should be assisted by six professional managers. They will be responsible to an apex council.
5. The governing council of the IPL should take all decisions regarding the IPL, which will include the financial decisions. The governing council will also be answerable to the general body of the BCCI.
6. The apex council of the BCCI on the other hand, will consist of 9 members, of which 5 will be elected, 2 will be representatives of the players' association, and one will be a woman.
7. The RM Lodha Committee has also recommended the creation of three other authorities for the smooth functioning of the BCCI.



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- a. First, an ombudsman, whose task is to preside over the internal disputes resolution mechanism, disputes between BCCI and members, BCCI and associates, breaches by administrators, players, team officials etc.
  - b. The second authority would be an ethics officer whose task is to administer the issues relating to the conflict of interest, misdemeanour, misbehaviour or corruption issues. The third authority proposed is an electoral officer who will oversee the entire BCCI election process relating to the office bearers, namely preparation of voters list, publication, disputes over eligibility of the office bearers etc. All these matters will be overseen by the electoral officer, who should be nominated at least 2 weeks before the election. He will be a former election commissioner of India.
8. The committee has also suggested certain eligibility criteria for important BCCI office bearers like the President, Vice President, secretary, joint secretary and treasurer. The criteria include - not being more than 70 years old, not being insolvent, not holding any post in the government (whether that of a minister or a government servant). He also must not have held office in the BCCI for the last nine years. Each office bearer will have a tenure of three years, and no office bearer can hold the office for more than three terms - with the rider that there will be a 'cooling off period' after each term.
  9. Each of the selection committees would comprise three members. The members of the senior selection committee can only be those who have played international Test matches and the one with most Test caps would be chairman. Talent spotting committee comprising three members. All these selection committees would be appointed at the AGM.





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## **DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE NEW TEAMS**

The BCCI has been very split about the introduction of two new teams in the roster. There have been discussions to include only one new team for now until the challenges it faces are resolved. A few state associations favour a nine-team IPL from 2021 and would consider a tenth team in the future. Either way that would entail the BCCI conducting a mega auction. BCCI is looking to make a move both 'cautious and insightful' in regards to the set of challenges the board might have to face to include two new teams in the IPL from 2022. Some of the challenges are-

### **BCCI looking for a bigger window for IPL**

As per TOI, the Board of Control for Cricket in India is keen on getting IPL's window extended by a month when ICC finalises its next Future Tours Program (FTP). A long window will allow BCCI to derive more value from media rights as well as an auction for the tenth team.

### **Better value later**

Auctioning the tenth team in the current market value might affect the price cap. Thus, the board wants to introduce only one extra team for now and get a better value for the tenth team in the future.

### **Format changes**

One of the major issues for the BCCI will be adjusting the format of the tournament if ten teams are competing. Additionally, the window of the tournament will also have to be increased with extra matches for the two new sides. However, 74 matches in the case of a nine-team IPL is seen as a more feasible option



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## **EMPHASISING ON THE NEED FOR NEW TEAMS**

The IPL has had a successful run for about 13 years now, with fans every year looking forward to two months of pure cricket. However, it has also started becoming monotonous with the dominance of a few teams due to there being no mega reshuffle for a couple of years. IPL needs new teams to inject freshness to the monotony of the tournament. Some reasons for the gradual but definite need for new teams are-

### **OPPORTUNITY**

The IPL has always been seen as a gateway to opportunities for many domestic players. Two new teams would mean more young players would get a chance to showcase their skills on a bigger platform instead of warming the bench. This could be a huge opportunity for India to expand its domestic depth for the upcoming ICC tournaments.

### **INCREASE IN POPULARITY**

The introduction of new teams would also help increase the popularity of the IPL in places where the fans might feel under-represented such as North-East India. It would also shed light on the cities which are often overshadowed if there is a home team.

### **END OF DOMINANCE**

There have been a few teams that have enjoyed a long run of not being challenged due to no mega auction. A reshuffle because of the addition of new teams would mean the IPL would have a level playing field again with each franchise having to rebuild their squad in the mega auction.

## **RULES THE BCCI HAS DECIDED ON**

The BCCI has already made a decision on quite a few changes that will be made to the tournament. Some of them are-

- Have a mega-auction with existing franchises allowed to retain only four players.
- To have a 74-match format instead of 94 matches including playoffs. It will shorten the duration and attract more audiences with more exciting matches.



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- Instead of a 54-day window, two new teams will see it expanded to 60 days maximum.
  - IPL will revert to the 2011 format of five teams each in two groups.
  - BCCI will gain Rs 800 crore more for 14 additional matches with two new franchises bringing in Rs 2,000 crore each.
  - Players will earn more from their IPL contracts as franchises will be allowed to have to increase the salary cap to Rs 100 crore.

As of now, there is no official clarification on updates of the IPL 2022 Mega Auction, but it is expected that there could be some addition to the existing rules due to the inclusion of the two new franchises.

### **Retention and RTM card:**

As per the new rules, only four players can be retained by a franchise. The four players can be – three Indian players and one overseas or two Indian players and two overseas players. The board has also said that all the players barring the retained ones will be sold from the Auction table.

### **Total purse of each IPL Franchise:**

The total purse value for each franchise could be raised in the upcoming IPL 2022 Mega Auction. In IPL 2021, Franchises could only spend INR 85 Crores on the players; however, BCCI should raise the cap this time. The total purse value for each franchise has been increased to INR 90 Crores from INR 85 Crores. The board further said that the purse value will increase in the next two years. It will go INR 95 Crores in IPL 2023 and INR 100 Crores in IPL 2024.

### **IPL 2022 Window and Schedule Change:**

The IPL 2022 schedule window will be increased due to the addition of the two new franchises. The total number of games will reach over 90 and it is not possible to conduct all these in the frame of March-May. BCCI could implement the procedure which was used for the games in IPL 2011. Teams were divided into groups and all the teams first played inside the respective groups before playing with the teams of other groups.



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### **Maximum players in each team:**

Till now each franchise in the IPL is allowed to acquire a maximum of 25 players and a minimum of 18 players (domestic and overseas included) however there could be an increase in the players.

### **PROCEDURE FOR THE NEW TEAMS**

With the next edition of the IPL scheduled for an April start, the BCCI has just four months to achieve several targets if two new teams are to be added.

First, the BCCI would need to issue a tender to invite bidders to buy the two new franchises. Tenders for the new teams will be released either in the month of April or May 2021. The big decision which BCCI and IPL GC will have to take before the tenders are released will be on the FLOOR PRICE for the tender. It is yet to be clear whether BCCI will opt for e-tendering to select the new teams or will they release physical tenders

It would also need to list a set number of cities around India for the bidders to pick their home base from. That would be followed by a mega auction where all 10 franchises would build their squads. Even before that the existing eight franchises would need to be told how many players they could retain including the combination of Indian and overseas players.

Once the teams are finalised, they can start their operational work which takes considerable time.

### **REPERCUSSIONS OF ADDING NEW TEAMS**

Addition of two teams will mean the IPL having to undergo a format change and revert to the one that was in use during the 2011 edition. The ten teams were divided into two groups of five. In the group stage, each team played 14 games: facing the other four teams in their group two times each (one home and one away game), four teams in the other group once, and the remaining team two times.

A random draw was used to determine the groups and who played whom across the groups once and twice. Each team played the team in the same row and the same column twice, and all others once.



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It is complicated, even though it saves time. Despite 10 teams in the fray and a restricted window to play the tournament, a total of 74 matches were played, further leading to added double-headers.

Paucity of time along with the complexities of conducting the tournament during the Covid-19 pandemic are the two main deterrents the BCCI has recognised against adding two new teams in 2021 itself. Complications of the format aside, the value that BCCI may get by selling two new franchises in the middle of Covid is another concern.

The pandemic hasn't gone away anywhere, instead taking a heavy toll on the global economy and zipping up purse strings in general. In a scenario as bleak as this one and expected to take its own time before it regains any momentum, the challenge and onus will be on the board to get the desired value.

Another unseen worry stems from the general sense of hurriedness to pull off this exercise. With the present media rights wheel set to remain in motion until 2022, industry executives can't help but raise questions on whether the Board could've waited to bring in two new teams, instead of one, for now.

## **ADVANTAGES OF ADDING NEW TEAMS**

Addition of teams could have some pros and cons

Here are some of the advantages:

- The BCCI can avoid the complications of another mega-auction in a year from now if two new teams are brought on board together. If only one team gets added for now, with the second to be brought in later, another mega auction will be needed in a year's time or so, which would once again disturb the aesthetics of the first auction and make the process repetitive and cumbersome.
- **EXPANSION**  
With the dynamics of international cricket expected to change over the next few years - once the new Future Tours Program (FTP) of the International Cricket Council (ICC) that is being



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drafted comes into effect post 2023 - the time is ripe for the IPL to expand its existing window and stake claim

- **INCREASE IN VALUE**

Further, with a media rights tender expected to be floated later next year, 10 teams in the fray will probably allow potential bidders to write cheques of a higher value keeping the higher number of matches, a bigger window and renewed interest in mind.

- **EXPOSURE**

From a franchise point of view there would be more revenue more matches and more sponsorship opportunities and thus will get more exposure

- **INCREASE IN INCOME**

IPL with additional teams would lead to an increase in the number of matches and as a result the broadcasting money for each year needs to be revised. The new format will likewise result in the BCCI, franchises, players acquiring more as the general benefits would increase because of the greater number of matches. It additionally must be noticed that the incomes would additionally shoot up when broadcast deals advance beyond the IPL 2023 season.

Finally, it will also allow the board - looking at a huge outgo of cash on multiple fronts - to raise capital. The introduction of two new teams will bring in cash in excess of half a billion dollars - always a shot in the arm given the nasty legal battles the BCCI has found itself entangled in over recent years.



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## CONCLUSION

IPL continues to be a cash cow for the BCCI. It has come a long way since its inception in 2008, steadily expanding its foothold in the global sporting scene. The value created by the IPL in such a short time is significant due to the minimal initial investment by BCCI. The renewed sponsorship deals are testimony to IPL's popularity. Introducing something new to a tried and tested format is always dicey. With the success of the IPL, many wonder if there is any need at all to restructure the tournament by adding two new teams. However, the unchanging nature of the tourney has also led to several questions about finding a way to ramp up the stakes.

It will be tricky to balance the needs of the new franchises while also ensuring the old ones don't feel neglected. IPL needs to plan this very smartly to increase the number of teams without disappointing any stake/holders such as franchises, Broadcaster, ICC, other nations which always look forward to IPL.



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## LINKS FOR RESEARCH

[https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.insidesport.co/ipl-2022-new-teams-format-change-player-retention-revised-salary-structure-ipl-2021-new-dates-venue-live-streaming-all-you-need-to-know/&ved=2ahUKEwjbreNrPfxAhXB7XMBHV\\_EAIgQFjABegQIBRAC&usg=AOvVaw2EhOzf7KvGYVX9nU9bhiJ1](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.insidesport.co/ipl-2022-new-teams-format-change-player-retention-revised-salary-structure-ipl-2021-new-dates-venue-live-streaming-all-you-need-to-know/&ved=2ahUKEwjbreNrPfxAhXB7XMBHV_EAIgQFjABegQIBRAC&usg=AOvVaw2EhOzf7KvGYVX9nU9bhiJ1)

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## **SUGGESTED MODERATED CAUCUS**

- 1) Discussing the cities the two new franchises should be based in
- 2) Deliberating new rules for the mega auction to make it a fairer platform for the new teams
- 3) Considering the possibility of adding only one more team for the 2022 mega auction
- 4) Deciding the base price of the tender for the new teams
- 5) Evaluating the primary concerns in restructuring of teams