

**IN THE OFFICE OF OMBUDSMAN-CUM-ETHICS OFFICER, PCA,**  
**MOHALI**

**Application dated Feb. 02, 2024**

**Decided on July 30, 2024**

**Ashok Singla V/s Bathinda District Cricket Association and others**

**ORDER**

1. By virtue of this order, I intend to dispose of an application dated February 02, 2024 moved by Sh. Anil Kumar Singla @ Anil Bhola S/o Sh. Khushi Ram R/o Afim Wali Gali, Bathinda (Pb.)/ Senior Vice President of Bathinda District Cricket Association (for short BDCA) seeking his impleadment in the complaint pending for disposal before the undersigned captioned as "Ashok Singla V/s Bathinda District Cricket Association and others" fixed for today.
2. This application has been strongly resisted by the respondent Sh. Arun Wadhawan, General Secretary of BDCA, who has filed a detailed reply. However, complainant Sh. Ashok Singla did not opt to file any reply and suffered the statement to this effect which stand recorded in the order dated July 06, 2024.
3. The Ld. Counsel for the applicant has mainly stressed that applicant is an aggrieved person as he has been regularly working for the welfare of BDCA for the last more than two decades. Presently, serving as Senior Vice President but is unhappy with the manipulations made by the respondents on account of which the association is suffering to achieve its goal. Even the respondent has also violated the various provisions of the constitution of Organization by way of admitting various persons directly as Life Members and passing new resolutions to make their own persons as members of the BDCA. Even the respondents have failed to convene any meeting after they were declared elected wrongly. Though, applicant has no interest, either with the parties to the original complaint yet he is only concerned with the fair elections to promote the cricket activity to get high status/position of sportsmen.
4. Per contra, the Ld. Counsel for the respondents Ms. Ruchi Sekhri has vehemently argued that the instant application has been filed by the applicant Sh. Anil Bhola at the behest of the complainant Sh. Ashok Singla with an ulterior motive to protract and delay the disposal of the complaint. Applicant Sh. Anil Bhola is well

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aware of the pendency of the complaint from its very inception and has been in touch as he was appointed as Sr. Vice President of BDCA on Sept. 30, 2019 and was also appointed as a Member of the Disciplinary Committee of the BDCA on December 25, 2019. Even was also authorized to grant Life Membership as per the amended constitution of the BDCA and signed the various receipts. Since the complaint is at its fag-end, the applicant with his ulterior motive to keep the pot-boiling and to blackmail the Office Bearers of BDCA, moved the present application, which deserve dismissal.

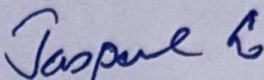
5. I have given a deep thought to the rival submission made by Ld. Counsel for the parties, besides giving a meticulous reading to the documents and pleadings.
6. Undoubtedly, original complaint captioned as "Ashok Singla Vs Bathinda District Cricket Association and others" was filed before the then worthy Ombudsman-cum-Ethics Officer on July 13, 2021 and since then, the said complaint is pending and instant application was moved by applicant Anil Bhola on Feb. 02, 2024 i.e. after lapse of approximately two and half year. It is an undeniable fact that Sh. Anil Bhola was appointed as Sr. Vice President in the month of Sept. 2019 and member of Disciplinary Committee in December 2019 that is much prior to the lodging of the complaint by Sh. Ashok Singla. Applicant has himself disclosed in the application dated Feb. 02, 2024 that he is engaged in the affairs of the BDCA since then.
7. Now, the question arises if such were the position(s), why he slept over the matter for such a long period and did not opt to come forward earlier. There is no explanation what to talk of any plausible explanation in this regard.
8. There is also nothing on record to suggest or could be pointed out the Ld. Counsel during arguments that what compelled or coerced the applicant to approach in this office and institute the application particularly when the matter is at its penultimate and the complainant has already closed his evidence. Moreover, applicant is neither a necessary party nor can be formed to be an aggrieved person, so far as the matter in controversy in the complaint preferred by the Sh. Ashok Singla is concerned.

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9. In these circumstances, it clearly appears that instant application is nothing but a novel device adopted by the applicant just to prolong/protract the disposal of the complaint and to circumvent the real issue involved in the original complaint.

10. In the light of the above said discussions, finding no merit in the instant application dated Feb. 02, 2024 filed by Sh. Anil Kumar Bhola, the same is hereby dismissed. However, any observation made in this order shall have no binding effect on the merits of original complaint.

Date: 30.07.2024

  
(Jaspal Singh) ←

Former Judge Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh  
Ombudsman-cum-Ethics Officer, PCA