



# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE USPL

*Revision 1 (2022)*

## Article 1. TITLE

This combination of member teams shall be called the USPL Cricket League and hereinafter shall be referred to as USPL. It shall consist of those member teams as determined by the Board of Directors (BOD).

## Article 2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the USPL shall be:

- 1) The promotion advancement and protection of the interests of cricket.
- 2) To ensure that all cricket matches organized within and by the USPL are conducted within the laws of cricket and all members uphold the traditions and spirit of the game.
- 3) To make all relevant decisions pertaining to the conduct of the game between and involving member teams and to have binding authority as regards matters pertaining to the game between member clubs.
- 4) US Premier League does not discriminate based on religion, race, sex, creed, color, disability, citizenship, and national origin. Membership in this league is subject to approval of the officers of the League who may determine same in their sole discretion. USPL League, being a private club, with it's appointed officials hold the right to accept or refuse any team's participation in the league.

## Article 3. OFFICES

The principal offices of the USPL for the transaction of business shall be located in New York & New Jersey USA.

## Article 4. MEMBERSHIP

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#### Section 4.01 CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to any bona fide cricket ~~club~~ team (one per state) across the country that maintains a roster of at least 15 players and participates in USPL T20 overs league

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#### Section 4.02 ADMISSION

Applicants shall be admitted to membership upon (a) written application, (b) approval by the Board of Directors, (c) payment of any fees or dues, (d) signed copy of the Team Waiver form (e) possession of the proper documents as the board of directors shall prescribe. Model explained in USPL Franchise agreement .

#### Section 4.03 FEES, Sponsorships & ASSESSMENTS

1) The Membership fees payable to the USPL legal entity (USPL inc.) by each member club shall be determined annually by a resolution of the Board of Directors. . The amount and the date by which the fees or dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The Membership fees are

effective from April 1, each year and are payable .

## Article 5. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Section 5.01 STRUCTURE

USPL shall be governed by a Board of Directors ( USPL League management team). Each Director shall have one vote at any meeting of the Board. On maturity of 3 year cycle , 3 team owners will be added to BOD body on yearly rotational basis which will be decided by simple majority vote of permanent USPL league management BOD's.

### Section 5.02 DUTIES AND POWERS

1) The Directors of the Board shall determine overall policy, approve budgets and set guidelines, priorities, and acting through the executive committee manage the affairs of the USPL

2) The Directors shall supervise all officers, agents and employees of the association to assure that duties are properly performed. The Directors shall also have the responsibility to appoint remove, employ discharge and except as otherwise provided in these by-laws, prescribe the duties and fix the compensation, if any, of all officers, agents or employees of the Association.

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3) The Board of Directors may, in its sole discretion authorize any officer, agent to enter into any contract or execute any instrument in the name of, and on behalf of, the USPL such authority may be general or specific, and unless so authorized by the Board of Directors, no officer, agent or person shall have the power or authority to bind the USPL by any contract or engagement or to pledge its credit or render it liable for any purpose or to any amount.

### Section 5.03 QUALIFICATIONS

Any member over the age of 21 is eligible to be appointed a Director of the Association

### Section 5.06 MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1) Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held once a year before the beginning of a new cricket season. Additional special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held during the cricket season.

2) The AGM shall be held anytime between the first week of November and the last week of January at a date and place decided by the Executive Committee. Proposals other than those related to changes in the Constitution and by-laws and the Standing Rules, shall be carried by a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority of those eligible to vote. Elections to the Executive committee and Disciplinary committees shall be held at the AGM.

3) Special Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held whenever called by the Founder. Notice of Special meeting and its agenda shall be circulated to all member teams at least 2 days before the date of the meeting. No resolution shall be carried without a two-third vote of those present and eligible to vote. No other business except that indicated on the agenda shall be dealt with.

5) **QUORUM:** No resolution or business requiring a vote of the board may be transacted unless a quorum is present. A quorum shall consist of 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of all Directors. Unless a greater number is expressly required by these by-laws every act or decision done or made by the majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors. There is to be no voting by proxy.

#### Section 5.04 NON LIABILITY OF DIRECTORS

The Directors shall not be personally liable for the debts liabilities or other obligations of the league

### Article 6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

#### Section 6.01 NUMBERS & TITLES

The officers of the Executive Committee can be the team owners and extended league management appointed by the league BOD. An officer of the Executive Committee must be member of an existing member club or league management team. No member club can have more than one member serving in the Executive Committee and/or Disciplinary Committee. The Board may appoint other officers or agents as it deems necessary, and such officers shall serve such terms, have such authority, and perform such duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors..

#### Section 6.02 FUNCTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The officers shall deal with all the administrative matters and shall prepare the business and accounts to be dealt with at the meetings of the board. The administrative matters shall consist of routine USPL business activities, including correspondence, accounting, collection of fees, reimbursements, insurance matters, schedules of games, organization of social events and functions, announcements and preparation of notices. It shall also deal with all matters concerning umpires, grounds and general facilities and shall transact any business delegated to it by the board. Executive Officers shall not amend or suspend any provision of the Constitution, By-laws and Code of Conduct, the standing rules of the Association or motions passed by a vote of the Board of Directors.

#### Section 6.03 VACANCIES

Any vacancy in the Executive office shall be filled by election at the next regular meeting or at a Special meeting of the Board of Directors except that the Board may at its

discretion defer replacement of the President until the next Annual General Meeting. Election of officers at a Special Meeting shall be by a 2/3 majority.

#### Section 6.06 MEETINGS

The Executive Officers shall meet periodically as necessary to conduct the business of USPL , at the discretion of the Founder/BOD. Executive Committee shall communicate a list of important administrative actions that were taken at the end of every month.

#### Section 6.07 DUTIES OF THE Founder/President – Sandeep Singh

1) The Founder shall be the Chief Executive Officer of USPL and shall, in general, subject to the control of the Board of Directors, supervise and control the affairs of the Association. He shall perform all duties incident to the office and such other duties that may be required by law, by the Articles of USPL , by these Bylaws, and which may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors.

2) The Founder/s shall preside at all USPL meetings. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees as prescribed by the Board of Directors. Unless he is unable to attend, he shall act as moderator of all meetings of the Board of Directors.

3) The Founder/s shall provide leadership of the USPL and shall strive at all times to ensure the enjoyment of the game by all participants, to promote the game in the local areas and improve the standard of fairness, umpiring, playing and facilities.

#### Section 6.08 DUTIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT – Dinkal Patel

In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President, and when so acting, shall have all the powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions of the President.

#### Section 6.09 DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY – Sushanth Konda

The Secretary shall:

1) Certify the by-laws and code of conduct. Certify and keep the original, or a copy, of these by-laws and Code of conduct as Amended

2) Keep a book of the minutes of all meetings of the Directors and Executive officers, recording there in the time place of holding, whether a Regular or Special meeting and if Special how authorized. The record shall include the manner and date of the notice thereof, the names of the Directors and Executive officers present and the proceedings thereof.

3) Ensure that all notices of meetings and their agenda are duly given in accordance with the provision of these by-laws.

4) Maintain the membership list.

- 5) Exhibit at all reasonable times to any Director or member of the Association, the by-laws, Code of Conduct, membership list, and the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors of the Association.
- 6) Circulate minutes of meetings. Minutes are to be available within 7 days. If no objections they are to be adopted automatically.
- 7) In general, perform all duties incident to the Office of the Secretary as required by these By-laws and which the Board may assign from time to time.

#### Section 6.10 DUTIES OF THE TREASURER – Dinkal Patel

- 1) The Treasurer is responsible for keeping an accurate financial record of all receipts, disbursements, assets liabilities and retained earnings.
- 2) The Treasurer is responsible for filing proper adequate and complete tax returns where required under federal, state and city laws. Treasurer shall seek to maintain the non-profit status under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code
- 3) The Treasurer may not borrow money or issue funds or checks except as he is authorized to do so by these By-laws or the Board of Directors and/or executive committee. The Treasurer or the President must sign all checks, disbursing Association funds.
- 4) At each Board of Directors meeting the Treasurer shall present a brief written report on the finances of the Association, he shall answer all questions on financial matters.
- 5) At the Annual General Meeting the treasurer shall present a complete and detailed financial report showing all disbursements and receipts of the Association for the preceding year. This final Annual Financial Report shall have been audited or by an audit committee appointed by the Board and shall be signed by the Treasurer. Upon acceptance of the report by the Board, the President shall countersign it.
- 6) Following the Board of Directors resolution regarding membership fees, the Treasurer shall send to the membership where applicable, notice of annual membership fees and any assessments fixed by the Board. All such fees and Assessments shall be payable within 30 days of invoice. From time to time the Treasurer shall send out notices of assessments as prescribed by the Board.
- 7) The Treasurer shall maintain complete, accurate and current books relating to the financial status of the Association. An Officer of the Association or a Member of the Board of Directors may inspect these books at all reasonable times. These books shall be subject to audit by an audit committee appointed by the Board of Directors, at such intervals and times as directed by the Board or by the President.

### Section 6.11 DUTIES OF THE FIXTURES SECRETARY

- 1) The Fixtures Secretary is responsible for the preparation of match fixtures and schedules for league games and all knock out competition games.
- 2) The Fixture Secretary shall be responsible for the collection of score sheets of all matches played in the respective divisions and the computation and promulgation of the league standings and players statistics. The Fixtures Secretary has the right to appoint a member of the Board of Directors to help in this regard
- 3) The Fixtures Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining the eligibility roster for all players playing in the league.

### Section 6.12 DUTIES OF THE UMPIRING CO-ORDINATOR

- 1) The Umpiring Co-Ordinator is responsible for the assignment of umpires for all league games and all knock out competition games.
- 2) The Umpiring Co-Ordinator shall be responsible for ensuring umpires enforce league rules and update all umpires of any changes in by-laws and variations to laws of cricket adopted by the league. The Umpiring Co-Ordinator has the right to appoint any umpire for the games in consultation with Executive committee.
- 3) The Fixtures Secretary shall be responsible for notifying any disciplinary issues raised by umpires during a league game.

### Section 6.13 DUTIES OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER (PRO) – Jaideep Singh / Offbeet Media

- 1) The PRO is responsible for all media promotion of the USPL. The PRO is authorized to act on behalf of the Association in dealing with Newspapers, TV, Radio and other forms of mass communication.
- 2) The PRO shall be responsible for maintaining the web site of USPL ~~the Association~~ and can appoint experts to help in this regard.
- 3) The PRO shall be responsible for the promotion and organization of all fundraising events held by the Association.
- 4) All USPL PR related activities needs to be signed off & Reviewed by the PRO .
- 5) Offbeet Media Role Definition - USPL brand , content, digital/Social , PR and Sponsorship Management.
- 6) PR Guidelines : Any queries from media or PR agencies about USPL would be directed to the USPL PR and Media Cell. (PRO Officer) , All announcements and PR engagement would be approved by the USPL PR and Media cell., USPL board would approve (2/3 majority) the PR and Media Strategy proposed by the USPL PR and Media Cell for the year at start of every season. USPL Logo usage and participation in any external events would be in accordance to the USPL branding and promotion guidelines.

### Section 6.14 NON LIABILITY OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Members of the Executive Committee shall not be personally liable for the debts, liabilities or other obligations of USPL .

## Article 7. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE OFFICERS

### Section 7.01 NUMBERS & TITLES

The officers of the Disciplinary Committee shall be the Committee Chair and two committee officers. An officer of the Disciplinary Committee must be member of an existing member of the team. No member teams can have more than one member serving in the Executive Committee and/or Disciplinary Committee. An officer of the Disciplinary

Committee cannot simultaneously serve on the Board of Directors. The Board shall appoint two additional committee officers, and such officers shall perform such duties when one of the primary members of the committee is not eligible to serve as prescribed in Code of Conduct. The total number of officers shall not exceed five.

#### **Section 7.03 FUNCTIONS OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE OFFICERS**

The officers shall deal with all disciplinary matters related to the league games and activities. The disciplinary matters shall consist of issues complaints raised by teams, executive committee members, umpires related to league games and any inappropriate communication and/or behaviour in association's meetings, events and forums. Disciplinary Officers shall not amend or suspend any provision of the Constitution, By-laws and Code of Conduct, the standing rules of the Association or motions passed by a vote of the Board of Directors.

#### **Section 7.04 REMOVAL AND RESIGNATION**

Any officer may be removed for good cause by a Board of Directors at a Special meeting. The motion to remove an officer shall be promulgated in the notice of the meeting and shall be a Special Order of that meeting. The Board must vote by a majority

of two thirds to remove the officer. Any officer may resign at any given time by giving written notice to the President or Secretary of the Association.

#### Section 7.05 VACANCIES

Any vacancy in the Disciplinary office shall be filled by the two additional officers appointed at the BOD. In the event such a vacancy cannot be filled, elections shall be held at the next regular meeting or at a Special meeting of the Board of Directors except that the Board may at its discretion defer replacement until the next Annual General Meeting. Election of officers at a Special Meeting shall be by a 2/3 majority.

#### Section 7.06 MEETINGS

The Disciplinary Officers shall meet as necessary to conduct hearings and/or review complaints/incidents raised by teams, match officials, umpires and Executive committee. Disciplinary Committee shall ensure the Code of Conduct, together with the Rules of Conduct therein is upheld, ensuring the appropriate sanction is applied to any person found to be in breach of the Rules of Conduct as specified in Code of Conduct.

#### Section 7.07 DUTIES OF THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

The Committee Chair along with the Committee Members shall:

- 1) Manage and have ultimate responsibility for the conduct of the hearing, in so far as appropriate, for any charges or complaints from member teams.
- 2) Ensure the Code of Conduct, together with the Rules of Conduct therein, is upheld;
- 3) Investigate and adjudicate alleged breaches of the Rules of Conduct notified to them.
- 4) Ensure the appropriate sanction is applied to any person found to be in breach of the Rules of Conduct;
- 5) Communicate outcome of hearings to the Board of Directors within timelines as prescribed in Code of conduct.

#### Section 7.08 NON LIABILITY OF DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Members of the Disciplinary Committee shall not be personally liable for the debts, liabilities or other obligations of the Association.

### Article 8. COMMITTEES

#### Section 8.01 AD HOC COMMITTEE

Ad Hoc Committees for specific purposes or activities may be appointed from time to time by the Executive Committee.

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## Article 9. AFFILIATIONS

The USPL may affiliate with other cricketing bodies in the USA and elsewhere if deemed to be in the best interest of the USPL.

## Article 10. BY-LAWS

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### Section 10.01 BY-LAWS

These By-laws shall become effective immediately upon their adoption. Amendments to these Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon their adoption unless the Board of Directors in adopting them, as hereinafter provided, directs that they shall take effect at a later date

### Section 10.02 AMENDMENTS

Subject to any limitations imposed by the provision of law applicable to the amendment of By-laws of non-profit organizations, these By-laws may be amended as follows:

By a two thirds vote of the Directors at any Regular meeting or Special Meeting at which a quorum is present.

### Section 10.03 CERTIFICATION AND INSPECTION

The original or a copy of the By-laws as amended to date, certified by the Secretary of the Association shall be kept in the principal offices of the association, and shall be open to inspection by the members at all reasonable times. A copy of the By-laws and amendments shall be provided to all member teams.

## Article 11. CODE OF CONDUCT

### Section 11.01 CODE OF CONDUCT

The Code of Conduct (COC) shall become effective immediately upon their adoption. Amendments to these COC shall become effective immediately upon their adoption unless the Board of Directors in adopting them, as hereinafter provided, directs that they shall take effect at a later date

### Section 11.02 AMENDMENTS

Subject to any limitations imposed by the provision of law applicable to the amendment of By-laws of non-profit organizations, the COC may be amended as follows:

By a two thirds vote of the Directors at any Regular meeting or Special Meeting at which a quorum is present.

### Section 11.03 CERTIFICATION AND INSPECTION

The original or a copy of the COC as amended to date, certified by the Secretary of the Association shall be kept in the principal offices of the association, and shall be open to inspection by the members at all reasonable times. A copy of the COC and amendments shall be provided to all member clubs.

## Article 12. TEAM WAIVER FORM

- 1) All Member teams shall provide a signed copy of the Team Waiver Form every year as part of the application process..
- 2) All teams and its members shall abide by the articles specified in the Team Waiver form to give up their right to sue the league for any reasons as outlined in the Team Waiver form. All actions that are contrary to the articles specified in the Team Waiver form shall lead to disciplinary action specified in the waiver form including suspension and expulsion of member teams and/or individual members of the member team.

### Section 12.01 LAW SUIT - PENALTIES

Legal Waiver addresses teams players to forego their rights to sue the league/team owners for any disputes or disagreements with the USPL League/team owners or it's decisions that affects a team or it's players. Further, it doesn't address any disputes between or among playing teams and it's players, which will be construed as private issue that falls outside the relm of the League.

USPL constitution provides a wider framework for teams and it's players to resolve any disputes or disagreements against the elected official members of USPL League and it's playing teams. The League encourages to use tools such as -a) appeal to EC b) appeal to BODs c) and or reach out to EC for any dispute or complaint before taking any legal course. However, despite of having such arrangements that it provides, if a member team or any of it's players like to pursue the path of Legal course and sue the League, League can exercise the following penalties with no appeal process

- 4) All or any costs resulted out of legal course should be borne by the player(s) who brought the legal suit against the league. League will pursue against those parties to recover the costs for any damages resulted out of the dispute or disagreement against the team or player(s) who have sued the League or it's EC or DC members.
- 5) All or any above actions are true for any legal actions against it's BODs as well as office bearers including Executive Members, Umpiring Coordinators, Disciplinary Committee.
- 6) Above rules and penalties will be effective and applicable not only to USPL but also to other leagues where USPL has similar agreements for this clause. If USPL has any such agreements, it will be notified to all member BODs for a proper approval before it becomes effective.

## Article 13. CONSTITUTION TO BE BINDING ON MEMBERS

Each member of the USPL on being admitted shall be furnished with a copy of the Constitution of the Association and shall thereupon become bound thereby. By accepting membership each club recognizes the USPL as the final tribunal on all matters concerning the game of cricket and shall obey all its decisions.

Appendix 1 -

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>comments</b>
Board of Directors	Sandeep Singh	US operations (USPL mgmt. )
Board of Directors	Dinkal Patel	US operations (USPL mgmt. )
Board of Directors	Offbeet (Jaideep Singh)	India Operations (USPL mgmt)
Board of Directors	Ashok Chopra	US operations (CCW Tennis ball mgmt. )
<b>US League Operations</b>		
President	Sandeep Singh	USPL US operations
Vice President & Treasurer	Dinkal Patel	USPL US operations
Secretary	Sushanth Konda	USPL US operations
PRO (Public relations officer)	Offbeet Media (Jaideep Singh)	USPL US operations
Umpire coordinator	Danny Khan	USPL US operations
FIXTURES SECRETARY	Rinku Singh	USPL US operations
<del>DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE</del>	<del>Danny Khan, Sushanth Konda</del>	<del>USPL US operations</del>