



Indian Cricket League (ICL) players deserve better

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IndianWatchdogs.com has started a petition for the ICL players. The ICL players deserve better than being marginalised and ostracised by the BCCI and ICC.

PR9.NET June 27, 2008 - UK, London - In a space of less than 18 months, what began as the Indian Cricket League on a crest wave of glorious intentions to target the BCCI for mismanaging cricket and failing to unearth new talent amidst the backdrop of the unwieldy domestic structure that has been blamed for killing, rather than nurturing, fresh talent, has dwindled into the rebels being maligned, boxed into a corner and suppressed by the sheer absurdity of the BCCI's stand and the enormous success of a spectacle called the IPL. It's just a side note that the real reason for launching this league was because Subhash Chandra had an axe to grind. Reeling from the blow of not being able to secure the television rights, he was unwavering in his quest to mortify the BCCI and hit upon a breakaway cricket league as the best way of achieving his goal. That he did and sent a few reverberations towards the nondescript BCCI's officialdom is something that he should take credit for in galvanising the BCCI into frantically reacting and blatantly repackaging the concept.

However, far from being a league that sought to address the malaises of lack of opportunities, the quagmire of favouritism, lack of recognition, nepotism, and political wranglings, the ensuing ostracization has led to a tragic aftermath. In a sport that has no definitive owner, the BCCI has monopolised cricket in India and isn't shy to thwart any attempts that might threaten its stranglehold over the sport in the country and beyond.

Whither the ICL players though? Victimised by the BCCI for embracing a rebel league that couldn't gain its auspices, they're left in the lurch in a league that may have hit a dead end or at best a path that hankers for a modicum of respectability and a share of this lucrative market. With the stupendous success of the IPL, the future looks bleak for the ICL. More so for the players who, like orphans, dared to ask for an extra portion only to be met with an severe and stern reprimand, and find themselves serving time on the sidelines with absolutely no prospect of entertaining a comeback into the mainstream cricketing fold. This is a tragedy of enormous proportions for the players who merely chose to explore an enterprising avenue on the back of constant shunting around by the BCCI. While the majority of ICL's players may never have threatened to break into the Seniors side in their careers, some like Ambati Rayudu are left to bear the brunt in a case of déjà vu. Rayudu's case is an all too familiar example that curtailed a very promising future. Once touted as India's next great batting hope, he was unashamedly sidelined by the ugly nexus between a father-son collaboration that did great harm not just to him but to cricket as well. He has been done twice over by the authorities.

Like a small player in a land of one monopolistic leader, the ICL can and should be allowed to run its course. Not just for cricket's sake but for the players' sake too who have been needlessly caught up in this imbroglio. Cricket ought to be winner at the end and not the egos of a select few.

IndianWatchdogs.com is initiating a petition to highlight the plight of the ICL cricketers. We can make a difference by uniting together for a common cause of granting acceptance to the ICL's players and embracing them into the cricketing mainstream. An exclusion zone does not benefit anyone least of all the players. If cricket ought to be winner, pray what better way than to sign the petition and express your approval for this petition?

Every voice counts, every signature matters, every fan is invaluable and every cricket player, regardless of league affiliations, matters a great deal to us genuine cricket fans.

<http://www.petitionspot.com/petitions/IndianWatchdogs>

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IndianWatchdogs.com is now the quintessential website allowing members from all walks of life to express themselves whilst engaging in healthy debates with others. There never is a dull moment on IWD! With over 50,000 cricket related posts/articles, cricket is definitely the fulcrum that IWD revolves on. It breathes it, feels it and lives it. Let the momentum continue and let cricket find its ally in IWD."

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