

HYDERABAD CRICKET ASSOCIATION

Notification for A1 Division Multi-Day League Championship 2025–26

Date: 14-06-2025

1. Tournament Structure:

a. League Phase:

The 22 teams will be divided into three pools. During the league phase, each team will play 2-day matches against all other teams within their respective pool. Since the A1 Division league matches were not conducted during the 2024–25 season, the same 22 teams—based on their positions in the 2023–24 season and the results of subsequent promotion/relegation matches—will continue to compete in the 2025–26 season.

b. Championship Phase:

The top two teams from each pool (total of six teams) will qualify for the Championship Playoffs. This stage will feature 4-day matches. Each of the six teams will play five matches in the playoff round. The top two teams at the end of the playoffs will compete in the final to determine the League Champion and Runner-up.

Note:

Clubs/Institutions that have not paid the subscription fees for the 2025–26 season shall not be permitted to participate in the league matches. Compliance with this requirement is mandatory.

2. League Start Date: The A1 Division League will commence on **19th June 2025**.

3. Player Registration Guidelines:

A. Fresh Registration of Players:

- a. This is only applicable to those players who are not registered with HCA in the 2024-25 season.
- b. Player registrations must be completed online. Login credentials will be sent to each Club Secretary via email, as was done last year.
- c. Club Secretaries are responsible for registering players using their club login credentials.
- d. Required documents of the player to be uploaded include:
 - i. Recent passport-size photograph
 - ii. Aadhaar card
 - iii. Birth certificate

B. Re-Registration of Players:

- a. This is only applicable to those players who were registered with HCA in the 2024-25 season.
- b. For re-registration of previously registered players, club secretaries must submit player details in the prescribed format (**Annexure 1**)

C. General Guidelines for Player Registration

- a. Each club/institution may register a maximum of **18 players**. A **minimum of 12 players must be registered by 17th June 2025, 5:00 PM** to participate in the first round of matches.
 - b. The remaining players can be registered up to 24 hours before the match (i.e., by 09:30 AM).
 - c. Transfers of registered players are allowed only after 2 rounds, provided the player has not played any match. Once a player has played a match, no transfer is allowed.
 - d. Transfers between divisions or across different formats within the same division are not permitted.
 - e. Each club is allowed to register up to **2 guest players**. Any player not meeting the HCA Domicile criteria is considered a guest player. Such players are **not eligible for state selection**.
 - f. It is the **responsibility of the Club Secretary** to verify player eligibility and domicile status. If any discrepancy is found in the documents, the player will be banned from all HCA tournaments. The nature of such ban will follow the BCCI guidelines for age fraud.
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4. Player Eligibility Criteria:

Players must fulfil at least one of the following conditions:

- a. **Born in Telangana, OR**
- b. **Born outside Telangana but domiciled in the state for the past 3 years**, supported by the following documents:
 - i. School/college report cards for 3 years
 - ii. Bonafide certificate for 3 years
 - iii. Original birth certificate
 - iv. Aadhaar card with Telangana address, valid for the last 3 years, including Aadhaar Update History
- c. **Central Government or Defence employees** (including their spouse and children) posted in Telangana are exempt from conditions (1) and (2), provided valid supporting documents are submitted.

Note:

- The HCA reserves the right to request additional documentation as deemed necessary.
 - Players who have been **previously banned or suspended** due to age-related discrepancies **shall not be eligible to participate**. However, players who have obtained orders from the court will be permitted.
 - If any player is found to be **involved in corrupt practices**, both **the player and the club they represent will be disqualified** from the tournament.
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5. Players Born Abroad / Holding Foreign Passports:

- a. Fresh registrations will **not be accepted** for players **born outside India or holding foreign passports**, except in the following case:
 - i. Players who are in the **process of acquiring Indian citizenship** may be permitted to participate, subject to verification of supporting documents such as applications submitted to the Post Office, Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK), or proof of citizenship relinquishment and Indian citizenship application.
 - b. The same rules apply to previously registered players also.
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6. Team Composition Rules:

- a. Minimum of **2 players who were in the Ranji Playing XI in the last 5 years** and minimum of **3 players who were in the Playing XI for Hyderabad** in Vijay Hazare/ Syed Mushtaq Ali/ U-23/ U-19/ U-16 in the last 5 years. This rule is **exempted for Combined Districts XI**.
 - b. Institution teams must include a **minimum of 7 permanent employees** in their playing XI. Valid employee ID cards must be submitted to the HCA before the registration deadline.
 - c. There is an **age limit of 40 years** for players. The cutoff date of birth is **1st September 1985**. This rule **does not apply to institution teams**.
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7. Match Guidelines:

- a. Matches abandoned due to uncontrollable factors (e.g., rain, natural disasters) will **not be replayed**. Points will be shared equally.
 - b. In the case of forfeiture, the opposing team will be awarded points as per the league rules. No replacement match will be scheduled.
 - c. Any team that **forfeits more than 2 matches** will be removed from the remainder of the league.
 - d. Matches will be conducted **strictly according to the Playing Conditions** published by HCA
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8. Home Grounds:

- a. HCA will lease grounds for conducting the matches. To ensure neutral playing conditions, teams will not be allowed to nominate or use any ground as their home ground.
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9. Relegation Rule:

- a. At the conclusion of the A1 Division league phase, the bottom two teams from each pool will participate in relegation matches. Based on the results, the two lowest-performing teams will be relegated to the A2 Division for the following season
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Fixture details, draws and playing conditions will be announced shortly.

Issued by:

T. Basava Raju

Joint Secretary

Hyderabad Cricket Association