

## **Southern Metropolitan Cricket Association**

### **Protests & Disputes Committee – Minutes**

#### **Match: Champion Lakes vs SJ Blues – One Day Division**

**Date of Match: Saturday 17 January 2026**

**Venue: Creyk Park**

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#### **Hearing Details**

**Date of Hearing:** 17 January 2026

**Committee:** Protests & Disputes Panel

#### **Attendees**

##### **Panel / Officials**

- David King – SMCA (Chair)
- Joe Covic – SMCA
- Jacob Landsmeer – SMCA
- Kevin – Thornlie Cricket Club

##### **Champion Lakes Cricket Club**

- Sukumar Banala – Captain
- Vice Captain

##### **Serpentine Jarrahdale Cricket Club (SJ Blues)**

- Shaun Portier – Captain
- Jordan Scardetta – Player / Scorer
- David McGarry – Player
- Club President

#### **Purpose of Hearing**

The Protests & Disputes Panel convened to consider a formal complaint lodged by Champion Lakes Cricket Club arising from the One Day Division match against SJ Blues. The complaint related to umpiring decisions, scoring matters, player conduct, and sportsmanship during the second innings of the match.

#### **Summary of Submissions**

Champion Lakes advised that the first innings proceeded without incident, however submitted that the second innings deteriorated due to disputes regarding wide and no-ball decisions, concerns over scoring and bowler overs, and the conduct of opposition players during disputed incidents. The Champion Lakes captain denied calling opposition players cheats, acting demonstratively, or entering the personal space of SJ Blues players.

SJ Blues acknowledged an incorrect interpretation of a no-ball, which was overturned at the time. SJ Blues denied any deliberate manipulation of scoring or bowler overs and advised that frustration arose due to the match running significantly beyond the scheduled time. David McGarry stated he raised a hand defensively when approached by the CLCC Captain in an aggressive manner and denied initiating physical contact. SJ Blues representatives also raised concern regarding the impact of such disputes on less experienced umpires.

#### **Panel Considerations**

In deliberating the matter, the Panel considered the written complaints and witness statements submitted by both clubs, oral submissions made during the hearing, the conduct of participants during the match and during the hearing, relevant SMCA by-laws and competition expectations, and prior disciplinary history where applicable.

The Panel noted that an umpiring error occurred but was corrected at the time, that no conclusive evidence was presented to substantiate allegations of deliberate cheating or score manipulation, and that the escalation of the incident was primarily attributable to repeated stoppages of play and confrontational conduct late in the match.

#### **Findings and Determinations**

## **Administrative Matters**

SJ Blues failed to nominate a captain on PlayHQ for the fixture, constituting an administrative breach.

### **Conduct**

The Panel determined that the conduct of the Champion Lakes captain during the match met the threshold for aggressive behaviour inconsistent with the spirit of the game. The Panel placed weight on prior disciplinary history in reaching its determination.

### **Penalties**

#### **Champion Lakes – Sukumar Banala**

- Four (4) weeks suspended for a period of two (2) years
- Four (4) weeks immediate suspension from previous caution as found guilty of this offence

#### **Serpentine Jarrahdale Cricket Club (SJ Blues)**

- Administrative fine for failure to nominate a captain on PlayHQ
- Informal reminder issued to David McGarry that any physical contact is not permitted, regardless of circumstance

### **Appeal Rights**

CLCC was advised of their right to appeal. Appeals must be submitted in writing within 24 hours, include any new evidence, and be accompanied by a \$100 appeal fee. A further \$100 may be imposed if an appeal is deemed frivolous. Appeals will be considered by an independent review committee.

### **Meeting Closed**

The Chair thanked all attendees for their participation and cooperation and encouraged all clubs to reflect on the matters discussed to minimise the likelihood of similar incidents in future matches.

[Joe Covic](#)