

To: The International Cricket Council

Attention: Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and Global Integrity Unit

Date: 28 August 2025

Subject: Urgent Concerns Regarding Questionable Tournament and Leadership Crisis at Cricket Kenya

Dear ICC Officials,

We, the Friends of Cricket Kenya, write to you today with profound concern regarding recent developments in Kenyan cricket that threaten the integrity of the sport and violate the core principles of transparency and ethical governance that the ICC upholds. We seek your immediate intervention to address these critical issues.

Questionable Tournament Sanctioning and AOS Partnership

It has come to our attention that a cricket tournament has been launched in Kenya through a partnership with a Dubai-based company known as AOS, which was registered in Dubai in April 2025. There is no publicly available information about this company's operations, financial backing, or cricketing credentials.

We respectfully inquire whether the ICC has sanctioned this tournament or approved this partnership, as the lack of transparency surrounding AOS raises serious concerns about its legitimacy. The association of AOS with individuals previously flagged for corruption allegations further deepens our apprehensions.

Association with Vijay Barate – A Known Match-Fixing Figure

Of grave concern is the documented association between AOS and Mr. Vijay Barate. As per reports from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and multiple news sources, Mr. Barate has been investigated for his involvement in match-fixing activities and cheating budding cricketers.

Specifically, Mr. Barate was arrested for duping young players by promising them selections in IPL and Ranji teams, and investigations revealed his links to notorious bookies like Priyanka Saxena. The ICC's own anti-corruption protocols emphasize the need to avoid such associations to protect the sport's integrity. This connection alone warrants immediate scrutiny into the AOS partnership.

Discomfort within the Cricket Kenya Board

The current Cricket Kenya (CK) board is deeply uncomfortable with this partnership, which is being unilaterally pushed by Mr. Kennedy Obuya (a county representative), without broader board consensus. This action contradicts proper governance procedures and ignores the collective decision-making process.

Mr. Obuya is currently one of the designated delegates to the ICC, following a vote of no confidence against the former chairman, Mr. Manoj Patel. His solo endorsement of AOS does not represent the will of the entire CK board, which has not been adequately consulted or involved in this partnership discussion.

Depleted Leadership and Constitutional Crisis

Cricket Kenya is currently operating with a severely depleted board and leadership crisis. Only two of the elected officials are duly mandated by the council, as the board has been weakened by resignations and suspensions.

For instance:

- The chairman, Mr. Manoj Patel, was passed a vote of no confidence by the board and is no longer authorized to represent CK.
- The treasurer, Mr. Kalpesh Solanki, is suspended but restarted by the authority; a board appeal and ongoing court proceedings against him are still pending.
- The vice chairman, Mr. Maina Kamau, resigned in May 2025.

Additionally, Mr. Kennedy Obuya is currently acting temporarily as the CK treasurer despite the ongoing legal challenges surrounding the treasurer role. This temporary appointment lacks legitimacy given the unresolved tribunal case and court proceedings regarding the lawful occupancy of this position.

This dysfunctional state of affairs means that Cricket Kenya is operating without a properly constituted governance structure, making it vulnerable to decisions that lack legitimacy and oversight.

Appeals to the ICC

In light of these issues, we urgently request the ICC to:

- Investigate the AOS company and its proposed tournament in Kenya to determine whether it complies with ICC's ethical and anti-corruption standards.
- Review the sanctioning status of this tournament and provide clarity on whether ICC approval was granted.
- Intervene in the governance of Cricket Kenya to ensure that its leadership is fully constituted and operates in line with ICC's governance guidelines.
- Provide guidance to ensure that all partnerships and tournaments in Kenya are transparent and benefit the growth of cricket in the country.

We trust that the ICC will act swiftly to protect the interests of Kenyan cricket and uphold the values of the sport globally. We are ready to provide any additional information or cooperation required.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Friends of Cricket Kenya

Advocating for Transparency and Integrity in Kenyan Cricket