

May 14, 2024

Dr. Donovan Bennett
President
Jamaica Cricket Association
George Headley Stand
Sabina Park
Kingston 4

Dear Dr. Bennett,

I am deeply concerned about the hasty decision taken by the Jamaica Cricket Association (JCA) to offer a significant discount on funds owed to the Association by Cricket West Indies (CWI). CWI owes the JCA US\$1,190,887.00 (J\$184,587,485.00), this was the balance remaining as the JCA had already accepted a 50% cut for six (6) months on monies due to the organization during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Therefore, for the JCA to accept a 'haircut' of US\$522,689.00 (J\$81,016,795.00) which represents a 43.89% reduction is an unprecedented departure from the decision of the previous administration of which you were the 1st VP. This matter came up several times at our meetings and strongly worded letters were sent to CWI on the matter and at no time did you offer an objection. What is equally alarming is that the JCA had given this massive reduction at a time when CWI will earn substantial income from the hosting of the ICC/CWC competition in June 2024.

You being a director of CWI, would have had the benefit of the numerous discussions that took place at that level on the matter. At the last Annual General Meeting (AGM) of CWI on March 25, 2024, the shareholders rejected a resolution to discount funds due to Territorial Boards (TB's).

As the then Chairman of the Finance Committee, I advised CWI against the 'haircut' on outstanding debts to TB's given the negative impact it could have for both CWI and TB's. I outlined to CWI more than once that it is likely to result in potential loss of confidence in the financial stability of the organization and its credit worthiness which can lead to difficulties in raising capital, as well as increasing the cost of capital.

You may recall as well my recommendation to CWI in my capacity as Chairman of the Finance Committee to pay a lump sum that it can afford to TBS and reschedule the balance over a period of time based on cash flow projections.

The audited financial accounts presented by CWI did not identify the debt burden as a matter of emphasis. And therefore CWI, having made a net income of US\$14.25M, was not in any financial distress as indicated in the financial outlook presented by the company.

On the other hand, this financial 'haircut' will have serious implications for the JCA. Throughout the tenure of my presidency, the cricket development programme of the JCA was stymied by the non-payment of funds due by CWI. But even more significantly, is the fact that the JCA had acted in good faith in either making payments or entered into contractual agreements on behalf of CWI for international tours hosted at Sabina Park.

This decision by the Board sets a dangerous precedence and could result in serious implications for the JCA. Apart from negatively impacting the programmes of the JCA, how will you convince sponsors including the Government of Jamaica to support the organization when you took the decision to write down a debt that was not classified as even doubtful. And how will you treat with the debt of J\$63.0M by Sabina Park Holdings Limited (SPHL)? This is a debt that is doubtful given that SPHL is no longer a functional organization. Will your generosity extend to that organization as well?

It is to be noted that your action to write down the debt of CWI makes the decision taken by the previous administration of which you were 1st VP, to pursue the transfer of property owned by SPHL to the JCA in lieu of payment is now prejudicial and should be discontinued.

The cricketing public awaits your response.



Wilford 'Billy' Heaven, OD, JP
Immediate Past President
JAMAICA CRICKET ASSOCIATION