

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ELECTIONS TO THE APEX COUNCIL OF TCA 2024

<u>Instruction of the Electoral Officer appointed to conduct Elections to the Apex</u> Council of TCA 2024

- 1. In order to ensure free and fair polls, as envisaged in Temporary Rules of Procedure for conduct of Election to TCA 2024 and MOA and Rules of Tripura Cricket Association as amended, 'Campaign Period' will be allowed to enable prospective candidates to seek support of members of TCA General body in their favour on the voting day. The Campaign period may be used by candidates for campaigning. However, during the campaign period, candidates will not use unfair means like bribery, or appeal to or use of religious symbols, nor distribute gifts of various kinds such as liquor, to induce members for support. They will strictly adhere to the prescribed campaign practices as indicated below.
- i) Electoral campaigns shall be carried out by the candidates in a fair and reputable manner and, more generally, in a spirit of respect for fundamental ethical principles.
- ii) Candidates shall conduct all campaigns with dignity and moderation and with due respect to other candidates, the TCA and its Members. A Candidate may produce no spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image of another candidate or cause his/her prejudice. Criticism of other candidates, when made, shall be confined to their policies and program, past record and work. Criticism based on unverified allegations or distortion shall be avoided. There shall be no appeal to caste or communal feelings for securing votes.
- iii) The promotion of a candidate shall exclude any form of publicity, including the use of news media or social networks. No public meeting or gathering of any kind may be organized in the framework of promoting a candidature.
- iv) All candidates shall avoid scrupulously all activities that are "corrupt practices", such as bribing of voters, intimidation of voters, impersonation of voters, etc.
- v) Candidates may in no case and under no pretext give presents, offer donations or gifts or grant advantages of whatever nature, directly or indirectly, to voting members or their representatives.
- 2. Candidates will not use vehicles to bring members to the voting venue on the date of polling.
- 3. Proxy voting shall not be allowed.
- 4. Candidates will maintain peace and calm in the voting venue during the polling period in order to maintain law and order.
- 5. All candidates are expected to cooperate with the Electoral Officer/Returning Officer for smooth conduct of voting during the entire process.
- 6. As stipulated in Temporary Rules of Procedure for conducted of Election to TCA 2024, "In case of any disputes or objection arising at any stage of the election process from the declaration or publication of electoral roll of qualified members to the declaration of results including but not limited to objection to candidacy, disqualification, eligibility to vote or the admission or rejection of a vote in the election to the Apex Council or any of the committees, the Electoral Officer/Returning Officer shall decide the same and such a decision shall be final and conclusive."

IAS (retd.) & former State Election Commissioner of Tripura
Electoral Officer, Tripura Cricket Association