

# PCB Highlights

## 1 April – 30 June

### 5<sup>th</sup> Edition



## PCB to spend PKR5.29billion on cricket in 2020-21 season

The Board of Governors of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) held their second meeting of the year via a videoconference in which they approved a PKR7.76billion operating expenditure budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year. This was a 10 per cent reduction from the 2019-20 fiscal year as the PCB continued its austerity drive as part of its financial management exercise.

While budgets were reduced in other functional areas, there was no reduction in cricket-related activities as the PCB committed to spending PKR5.29billion on cricket over the next 12 months. This includes PKR1.8billion in High Performance, PKR1.4billion on international cricket, PKR1.4billion on HBL Pakistan Super League 2021, PKR109million on Medical and Sports Sciences, PKR411million on women's cricket and PKR39million on disabled cricket.

The High Performance has the biggest budget as it incorporates domestic cricket expenses as following restructuring, the academies and domestic cricket have been brought under one umbrella. This cost includes players/match officials/curator contracts, domestic events and their prize moneys and academy programmes.

The following is the department-wise breakdown of the 2020-21 budget:

Departments	2020-21 budget (PKR)
Administration	274,626,961
Commercial	232,395,000
Disabled cricket	39,500,000
Election and Scrutiny	36,520,000
Executive Secretariat	37,066,084
Finance	11,151,836
High Performance (including domestic cricket, academies, curators and match officials)	1,811,443,045
HR	1,343,588,000
Infrastructure	72,976,897
Information Technology	12,500,000
Internal Audit	6,340,953
International cricket	1,447,199,679
Legal	59,778,928
Medical and Sports Sciences	109,438,100
Media, Communications and Digital	35,143,402
Pakistan Super League	1,474,164,087
Security and Vigilance	67,796,620
Women's cricket	411,764,552
Taxation, depreciation and contingencies	285,167,435
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,768,561,579</b>

Another significant approval by the BoG was of the PCB Code of Ethics, first time that the PCB has introduced this code as part of its good governance practices and in line with Article 44(d) of the PCB Constitution 2019. The Code deals with matters such as conflict of interest, declaration of interests and confidentiality, with the sole purpose being to safeguard the integrity and the reputation of the PCB as the custodian of the game in Pakistan.

During the virtual session, PCB Chairman Ehsan Mani also updated the BoG on his meeting with the PCB Patron, including discussions around legislation on criminalising corruption in sports. Mr Mani submitted a draft proposal, which provides a short background on the menace of corruption and its impact on the integrity of sports; reviews the existing legislation enacted within Pakistan

whilst noting that the same fails to adequately target and address corruption/illegal manipulation in sports; recommends the inclusion of certain provisions which, specifically target criminalisation of corruption in sports., illegal manipulation, betting, match and spot-fixing as well as aiding and abetting such conduct; and proposes the penalties to be imposed on individuals found guilty of engaging in such offences.

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## No stopping International Cricket Operations during Covid-19 lockdown

Zakir Khan-led PCB International Cricket Operations is always at the forefront of cricket activities, and the period from April to June was no exception even though the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic had brought the cricket world to a standstill.

In consultation with the PCB Chief Executive, International Cricket Operations used this time to plan and deliver a number of activities for its players, including conducting online fitness tests and holding virtual motivational sessions in which stalwarts like Javed Miandad, Moin Khan, Mohammad Yousuf, Mushtaq Ahmed, Rashid Latif, Shoaib Akhtar, Wasim Akram and Younis Khan engaged with Pakistan's elite cricketers.



Javed Miandad holding a virtual session with Pakistan's elite cricketers

The department in consultation with the PCB Chief Executive and head coach/chief selector Misbah-ul-Haq finalised the men's central contracts for 2020-21, which were announced on 13 May and came into effect from 1 July.

The outcome of this detailed and comprehensive exercise was fast bowler Naseem Shah and middle-order batsman Iftikhar Ahmed earned central contracts for the first time. Separately, Shaheen Shah Afridi was promoted to Category A, whereas Abid Ali, Mohammad Rizwan and Shan Masood were moved to Category B. Furthermore, and as part of its commitment and strategy to reward high-performing young cricketers, the PCB created a new Emerging Players' Category; the initial inductees were Haider Ali, a very promising batsman, and fast bowlers Haris Rauf and Mohammad Hasnain.

The list of central contracts as well as appointments of Azhar Ali as Test captain and Babar Azam as Test vice-captain and ODI and T20I captain for the 2020-21 season were approved by the PCB Chairman Ehsan Mani.



Babar Azam upon his arrival in Manchester on 28 June

The department organised the PCB Cricket Committee's second meeting of the year. The committee, during an online session, discussed the review and appointment process of the coaches for six Cricket Associations and High Performance Centre and was apprised on the PCB Men's Central Contract List for 2020-21. It also received updates on women's and domestic cricket by Urooj Mumtaz and Haroon Rashid, respectively.

However, the standout achievement of the International Cricket Department was the finalisation of Pakistan men's cricket team's tour to England for three Tests and three T20Is.

The tour materialised following a series of meetings with the England and Wales Cricket Board on a wide-ranging matters, including early departure to hold additional training sessions in a bio-secure environment, number of traveling members and their clothing, lodging and boarding.

The touring party comprising 20 players and 11 player support personnel departed on 28 June but not before undergoing a comprehensive PCB testing programme, which the International Cricket Operations had designed with the PCB's Medical and Sports Sciences department. This included initial testing at players' hometowns, followed by final testing in a bio-secure environment in a local hotel in Lahore. A second group of six players left on a commercial flight within four days after their second tests were negative following an initial positive test, which had prevented them from traveling with the original squad on 28 June.

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At the time of preparing this document, 27 players (including and extra member, left-arm spinner Ali Gohar) and 14 player support personnel are in Worcester. They will be transported to Derby on 13 July, before driving to Manchester for the first Test, which will commence on 5 August.

Meanwhile, the International Cricket Operations, and Medical and Sports Sciences Departments will continue to monitor the progress of four cricketers who have twice tested positive. As soon as these players will return two negative tests, they will be sent to England.

Zakir Khan: “I am pleased that the department was able to deliver key objectives while working remotely. This may all sound easy and straightforward, reality is very different as we have spent long hours in the planning and then execution of all these objectives, which were critical to the reputation of the PCB.”

## PCB MEN'S CENTRAL CONTRACT LIST 2020-21



### CATEGORY A

Azhar Ali Babar Azam Shaheen Shah Afridi

### CATEGORY B

Abid Ali Asad Shafiq Haris Sohail  
Mohammad Abbas Mohammad Rizwan Sarfaraz Ahmed  
Shadab Khan Shan Masood Yasir Shah

### CATEGORY C

Fakhar Zaman Iftikhar Ahmed Imad Wasim  
Imam-ul-Haq Naseem Shah Usman Shinwari

### EMERGING PLAYERS' CATEGORY

Haider Ali Haris Rauf Mohammad Hasnain

### PAKISTAN'S FTP COMMITMENTS IN 2020-21

**Jul-Sep 2020** – vs England (three Tests, three T20Is; away)

**Sep-Oct 2020** – vs South Africa (three ODIs, three T20Is; away)

**Nov 2020** – vs Zimbabwe (three ODIs, three T20Is; home)

**Nov-Dec 2020** – vs New Zealand (two Tests, three T20Is; away)

**Jan-Feb 2021** – vs South Africa (two Tests, three T20Is; home)

**Apr 2021** – vs Zimbabwe (two Tests, three T20Is; away)

[pcb.com.pk](http://pcb.com.pk)

[f /PakistanCricketBoard](https://www.facebook.com/PakistanCricketBoard)

[@TheRealPCB](https://twitter.com/TheRealPCB)

[@TheRealPCB](https://www.instagram.com/TheRealPCB)

[PakistanCricketOfficial](https://www.youtube.com/PakistanCricketOfficial)





## Restructuring at the National High Performance Centre

Ahead of the 2020-21 season, the PCB's centre of excellence initiated a robust restructuring process in a bid to enhance the quality of domestic cricket and help current and future cricketers transform into well-rounded top-performing athletes.

The formerly known National Cricket Academy in Lahore was rebranded as National High Performance Centre. A high-powered team under Nadeem Khan, PCB Director – High Performance, took the reins of a reconstituted department, in which domestic cricket and centre of excellence are merged from 1 June and has undertaken various measures to introduce more effectiveness and efficiency.

Saqlain Mushtaq, the spin bowling great, who has had stints as spin bowling coach with Bangladesh, West Indies and England men's teams, was appointed as Head of International Player Development and former fielding coach of the Pakistan men's national cricket team Grant Bradburn took over as Head of High Performance Coaching.

The NHPC undertook assessments of coaches belonging to all six Cricket Associations sides - First XI, Second XI and U19 – along with the evaluation of those associated with the academies and women's cricket all over the country.

In a move, which promises to further improve the quality of cricket in domestic events, the NHPC also initiated the assessment of as many as 140 match officials – umpires and match referees – affiliated with the PCB.

To provide incentive to top performing domestic cricketers and encourage others to upskill themselves, merit and performance-based domestic contracts were introduced in June after the PCB Board of Governors' approval.

According to the new monthly retainer structure, the PCB will again offer 192 leading domestic players (32 from each of the six Cricket Associations) performance-based contracts, but instead of paying a flat monthly retainer of PKR50,000 to all players, this season slab-wise payments will be made.

The new monthly retainer structure is:

Category A+ = 10 players, PKR150,000 per month

Category A = 38 players, PKR85,000 per month

Category B = 48 players, PKR75,000 per month

Category C = 72 players, PKR65,000 per month

Category D = 24 players, PKR40,000 per month

	4-day 1 <sup>st</sup> XI FC	3-day 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	50-over 1 <sup>st</sup> XI	50-over 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	T20 1 <sup>st</sup> XI	T20 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	3-day 1 <sup>st</sup> XI U19	50-over U19
<b>Playing XI</b>	60,000	25,000	40,000	15,000	40,000	15,000	10,000	5,000
<b>Reserves</b>	24,000	10,000	16,000	6,000	16,000	6,000	4,000	2,000

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## PCB took steps to keep women cricketers involved and motivated

Pakistan Cricket Board continued to undertake initiatives for the development and promotion of the women's game during the lockdown enforced due to Covid-19 pandemic.

To keep the players motivated and focused on the game, online fitness tests of the centrally contracted players were arranged along with motivational guest lectures by the legendary Wasim Akram and Babar Azam.

During the second quarter of 2020, the PCB also awarded performance-based central contracts to elite women cricketers. The 12-month contracts, which came into effect on 1 July, were decided by the Urooj Mumtaz-led national women's selection committee.



Wasim Akram giving a motivational talk to the women cricketers

The nine central contracts brought an increase of 33 per cent in the monthly retainers of the Category A players, while players in Category B and C received 30 and 25 per cent rise, respectively. Javeria Khan and Diana Baig received promotions, while the PCB, in line with the men's central contracts, also introduced a nine-player emerging category, which featured 16-year-old Syeda Aroob Shah and 15-year-old Ayesha Naseem, who made her Pakistan debut in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup in February.

In another major boost for domestic cricketers, match fee and event prize money was increased by 100 per cent, while daily allowances were increased by 50 per cent. Meanwhile, it was decided that the women's national cricket team will continue business class travel for flights exceeding five hours.

On the recommendation of the selection committee, PCB Chairman Ehsan Mani approved the extension of Bismah Maroof as captain for the 2020-21 season.

To help the up and coming cricketers understand the importance of maintaining fitness, the PCB also held fitness assessment of U19 cricketers.

## PCB WOMEN'S CENTRAL CONTRACT LIST 2020-21



### CATEGORY A



Bismah Maroof ▲



Javeria Khan ▲

### CATEGORY C



Anam Amin



Nahida Khan



Nida Dar ▼



Omaira Sohail

### CATEGORY B



Aliya Riaz



Diana Baig ▲



Sidra Nawaz

### EMERGING CATEGORY

Ayesha Naseem

Fatima Sana

Kainat Hafeez

Muneeba Ali Siddiqui

Najiha Alvi

Rameen Shamim

Saba Nazir

Sadia Iqbal

Syeda Aroob Shah

### HIGHLIGHTS

- 33% increase in Category A remuneration, 30% and 25% increase in Category B and Category C monthly retainers
- Nine players get emerging player contracts
- Domestic match fee doubled
- 100% increase in domestic events prize money
- 50% increase in domestic daily allowance
- Business class travel for all international flights of more than five hours

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## HBL PSL 2020 remained top priority for the commercial team

The HBL Pakistan Super League 2020 closing and reconciliation process commenced soon after the postponement of the final four games of the tournament. With an outlay of millions of dollars, the HBL PSL event budget involves a large group of national and international stakeholders.

Working closely with its multiple partners, the PCB ensured that players, match officials, broadcast production, and other event operations staff were disbursed their due payments in a timely and efficient manner despite the limitations of a COVID-19 environment. With four group matches washed out and four knockout matches still to be played, well over 60,000 tickets were been refunded with over PKR123million returned to fans who had purchased tickets prior to the postponement.

A lot of work has been done to analyse the possibility of holding the remaining matches of HBL PSL 2020 and its impact on PSL as a governing body and the franchises. The PCB maintained a close liaison with the stakeholders like production and broadcast partners, title sponsors, central pool sponsors and franchises to ensure that all pending matters are resolved and everyone is aligned towards the betterment of the league.

In depth planning was done to prepare budgets for the 20/2021 season, including bilateral, domestic and High Performance Centres and HBL PSL 2021 keeping in view the uncertainties of Covid-19 and its possible impact on production and ticketing.

The PCB commercial rights 2020-2021 for a principal and associate partner for the national men's team, and a principal partner for the national women's team were also tendered. Working with Nielsen Sport, fresh market valuations for these rights were formulated. A comprehensive commercial strategy was developed and it is the first time such detailed work was conducted on the commercial strategy for PCB.

Despite the uncertainty created by the Covid-19 pandemic, a substantial number of companies from the corporate sector were engaged, most for the first time, and each party was provided with a thorough understanding of the rights on offer and the process for bidding. In total, nine companies picked the bid documents, which was also the first time in history of PCB that so many companies showed interest in the bidding process.

Work also commenced on finalising the PCB Ticketing Strategy 2020-2021. The strategy addresses the opportunities that arise from the upcoming conclusion of PCB's ticketing services contract. Key learnings from the 2019-2020 season were applied to compare the pros and cons of a 360\* outsourced ticketing system or implementing an in house ticketing management system.

Work has begun in close coordination with the domestic cricket team to further improve domestic cricket's appeal and make it more accessible and attractive for the fans.



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**1.4million** engagement  
received **16.2 million** minutes  
views on videos



**5.96** million in April  
**9.06** million in May  
**10.8** million in June,  
making almost **283.5K** impressions per day.



**1.1million** followers



**1.6 million** hours watch time  
**56K** new subscribers

## MACD kept fans engaged and media involved

The Media, Communications and Digital (MACD) department ensured Pakistan cricket fans and the local media remained connected with the national teams when they rolled in a number of activations from April to June that not only increased fan following and engagement but also resulted in positive content on the print and electronic media.

The Dream Pairs digital activation received overwhelming support and appreciation from the fans as the PCB provided the cricket followers an opportunity to select their favourite pairs.

The pair of Saeed Anwar and Aamir Sohail was the most popular Test opening pair, while Mohammad Yousuf-Younis Khan (middle-order), Wasim Akram-Waqar Younis (fast bowling), Abdul Qadir-Saqlain Mushtaq (spinners), Imran Khan-Shahid Afridi (all-rounders), Rashid Latif (wicketkeeper) and Imran Khan-Javed Miandad (captain and vice-captain) were the fans' other most admired choices.

Despite no cricket, there was 1.4million engagement on the Facebook page (20.4 per cent more than the first quarter of the year), while the page videos received 16.2 million minutes views (206 per cent more than Jan-Mar). Old matches highlights got the most views followed by the ICC T20 World Cup 2009 win anniversary documentary and the MCC tour of Lahore documentary.

The impressions on the PCB corporate Twitter handle (@therealPCB) also maintained an upward movement, increasing 5.96 million in April, 9.06 million in May, and 10.8 million in June, making almost 283.5K impressions per day. The official Instagram channel (TheRealPCB) had a weekly reach of over 400K during the second quarter and now has 1.1m followers, while the PCB's official YouTube channel achieved 1.6 million hours watch time while gaining 56K new subscribers.

For the local media, the communications team set-up 29 virtual sessions involving PCB Chairman, Chief Executive, player support personnel and leading cricketers, such as Abid Ali, Asad Shafiq, Azhar Ali, Babar Azam, Bismah Maroof, Fakhar Zaman, Haider Ali, Haris Rauf, Imam-ul-Haq, Mohammad Hafeez, Naseem Shah, Sarfaraz Ahmed, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Shan Masood and Wahab Riaz.

In addition to the above, the PCB Media department distributed 52 media releases in the three-month period, including 22 on men's cricket, 27 on corporate and three on women's cricket.

Two top-quality behind-the-scene PCB Podcasts were also released during the second quarter of 2020, which are available for viewing on the PCB [YouTube Channel](#).



## Legal team continued to safeguard PCB's interests

The Department of Legal Affairs continued to play a pivotal role in ensuring the fulfilment of PCB's Strategic Plan by assisting the entire organisation and providing appropriate legal cover, advice and solutions whilst safeguarding PCB's interests at all times.

To highlight a few, some of the significant events and developments that took place with respect to the Legal Affairs Department during the period between April and June 2020 are summarized below:

- completion of the paperwork and submission of Applications for Registration of Cricket Associations under the Societies Acts to the competent authorities in order to implement the new domestic cricketing regime.
- drafting and finalisation of the Central Contracts 2020-21 for the Men's and Women's Cricket Teams
- drafting and approval of:
  - regulations pertaining to the Pakistan Deaf Cricket Associations scrutiny and election procedures
  - Model Constitution for Cricket Clubs and the Club Affiliation and Operation Rules 2020 to complete the regulatory framework of the new domestic cricket structure
  - the new PCB Human Resource Manual and the PCB Code of Ethics to further develop a strong sustainable corporate governance framework for PCB consistent with the ICC regulatory regime
  - preparation of a detailed proposal for Legislation on the Prevention of Corruption in Sports submitted to the Federal Government for consideration
  - provision of legal assistance in:
    - on-going anti-corruption matters relating to Cricketer Umar Akmal as well as Former Cricketers Salim Malik and Danish Kaneria
    - commercial matters pertaining to Media Rights Consultancy, Valuation Services and Team Partnership Rights bidding processes





## PCB's duty of care towards its stakeholders

As many as 161 key stakeholders of Pakistan cricket benefitted from the Pakistan Cricket Board's one-off welfare initiative.

The initiative was launched in May to provide financial relief to first-class cricketers, match referees, scorers and grounds staff facing hardships due to an abrupt halt of cricket activities following the Covid-19 outbreak. This had resulted in the loss of additional income opportunities for these stakeholders during Ramadan after the government announced suspension of all sport activities and events due to the pandemic.

The beneficiaries from the PCB's scheme hail from 51 cities, including far-flung areas such as Chaghi, Dadu, Dera Murad Jamali, Hub, Layyah, Mardan, Thatta and Turbat.

The PCB provided support to 93 grounds staff, 31 scorers, 21 match officials and 16 first-class cricketers through the scheme under the following criteria:

- First-class cricketers who featured in the 2018-19 season and have played at least 15 first-class matches in the past five seasons from 2014-15 to 2018-19
- Match officials and scorers who have officiated in PCB organised events over the past two seasons
- Grounds staff that had been employed by the now defunct regional/district cricket associations before 1 January 2013 (should have approximately eight years of service)

\*Those falling in the aforementioned categories should have been unemployed

First-class cricketers, meeting the above criteria, received PKR25,000 each, followed by the match officials PKR15,000 and, the scorers and ground staff PKR10,000 each.

The PCB also contributed over PKR10million in collaboration with the centrally contracted cricketers and staff to the Prime Minister's Covid-19 Pandemic Relief Fund. The board also offered to turn the Hanif Mohammad High Performance Centre in Karachi into a sanctuary for the paramedic staff on duty in the makeshift hospital at Expo Centre.

The PCB Chief Executive and Chief Operating Officer made voluntary contributions to Chairman's Welfare Fund.

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## Departures and appointments

**30 April** – Former Test opener Agha Zahid ended his time with the PCB as Chief Curator. Agha Zahid had joined the PCB in 2001 after retiring from first-class cricket in 1992-93.

**31 May** – Former Test batsman Haroon Rashid called it a day on his time with the PCB as Director – Domestic Cricket. Haroon was re-employed in April 2017.

**31 May** – Former Test all-rounder Mudassar Nazar finished his four-year contract with the PCB as Director – National Cricket Academy. On 8 December 2019, Mudassar had announced he will not seek an extension to his contract.

**13 May** – Former Test spinner Nadeem Khan was appointed as Director – High Performance. He is responsible for managing and overseeing both the High Performance and Domestic Cricket departments.

**28 May** – Grant Bradburn and Saqlain Mushtaq were appointed as Head of High Performance Coaching and Head of International Player Development, respectively as part of the prestigious High Performance Centre's restructuring.

**9 June** – Former Test spinner Mushtaq Ahmed and Pakistan's most successful Test batsman Younis Khan were appointed as spin bowling coach/mentor and batting coach, respectively, of the Pakistan men's national cricket team for the tour of England.

**13 June** – Azhar Ali was confirmed as Test captain and Babar Azam was appointed Test vice-captain and ODI and T20I captains till the end of 2020-21 season.

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## Obituaries

### **Taufiq Tirmizi (died 9 April 2020)**

An all-rounder who played 12 first-class matches for Karachi Whites during the 1976-77 season and for House Building Finance Corporation (HBFC) between the 1977-78 and 1980-81 seasons. He played regular senior and veterans' cricket and commented on cricket on TV talk shows.

### **Zafar Sarfraz (died 13 April 2020)**

Played 15 first-class matches for Peshawar between 1988 and 1994, scoring 616 runs with four half-centuries. He later coached both the senior and Under-19 Peshawar teams in the mid-2000s. He was the brother of former international Akhtar Sarfraz.

### **Riaz Sheikh (died 2 June 2020)**

A leg-spinning all-rounder, he played 43 first-class matches between 1987 and 2005, scoring 1803 runs and taking 116 wickets, predominantly for Karachi Blues and Public Works Department. He was a popular figure on Pakistan's domestic circuit and after retirement worked as a coach at the Moin Khan Academy.

### **Mohammad Aslam Qureshi (died 6 June 2020)**

Served as Assistant to Chief Curator at the PCB since November 2013 before he passed away due to Covid-19 pandemic.

### **Azhar Iqbal (died 8 June 2020)**

Worked as a ground staff at the Gaddafi Stadium for more than a decade before his death due to Covid-19 pandemic. He joined the PCB in May 2007.

### **Mohammad Irfan (died 20 June 2020)**

A former member of the Pakistan Deaf team, he had a 12-match international career and was famously part of Pakistan's squad for the Deaf Asia Cup Cricket Tournament 2007.