ORDER PASSED BY THE RETURNING OFFICER TTFI ELECTIONS, 2022

Date: 29.11.2022

The Maharashtra State Table Tennis Association and the Rajasthan Table Tennis Association are claiming to have filed representations before the Returning Officer with regard to their non-inclusion in the Electoral list. By an Order dated 27.11.2022, the said representations were disposed of with the observation that any change in the Electoral List by the Returning Officer at this stage may jeopardize the entire election process. Moreover, since the associations had already filed applications before the Delhi High Court, the Order dated 27.11.2022 made it clear that any direction by the High Court in this regard would be complied with.

The Delhi High Court, vide Order dated 28.11.2022, passed the order on the applications of the Maharashtra State Table Tennis Association, the Rajasthan Table Tennis Association and Himachal Pradesh Table Tennis Association wherein it requested the Returning Officer to consider the applications of the applicants therein on merits. The relevant extract of the order is quoted below:

"4. Accordingly, even though, no ground is made out for impleadment of the applicants in the present petition, taking into account that the last date for nomination is 29.11.2022, the application is disposed of with a request to the learned Returning Officer to consider the applicants' representations on merits, and preferably decide the same by today itself, to ensure that the election schedule is not, in any manner, disturbed."

Pursuant to the said order of the Delhi High Court, certain officials of the concerned Associations, along with their lawyers, met me yesterday evening for compliance of the order of the Delhi High Court and pleaded that their representations be accepted and the Maharashtra State Table Tennis Association and Rajasthan Table Tennis Association be included in the Electoral List for Elections to be held on 05.12.2022. It was further urged that the names of the representatives/delegates of the Himachal Pradesh Table Tennis Association be included in the said Electoral List.

With Respect to the addition of names of the representatives/delegates of the Himachal Pradesh Table Tennis Association, or substitution of names on applications filed by other associations, it is important to note that once the list in this regard has been finalised on the basis of the names furnished by the respective associations before the issuance of the election notice, any change

Varau

at this stage would disrupt the process of election. Hence, the said prayers stand rejected.

As regards the matter of Rajasthan Table Tennis Association, it is pertinent to note that neither any representation has been received on the official email address nor any original has been filed in person. As such, I am of the opinion that certain the photocopies filed cannot be taken into consideration. Hence such prayer is also rejected.

As regards the representation filed by Maharashtra State Table Tennis Association, it is noted that the same was sent to our email and the originals have also been handed over to me. Besides other averments and assertions, they have given a categorical undertaking that as per the Election Notice dated 23.11.20222, their association undertakes that it will comply fully with National Sports Code by 31.01.2023. Since such undertakings of other associations have also been accepted, I am of the opinion, that the same benefit may be extended to the Maharashtra State Table Tennis Association. Accordingly, the representation stands allowed to the aforesaid extent. As such, the name of Maharashtra State Table Tennis Association is directed to be included at Serial Number 31 in the Electoral Roll and the names of their representatives/delegates will be added at Serial Number 59 and 60 respectively, provided that the same are furnished by 11:30 AM today.

The representations stand disposed of accordingly.

JUSTICE VINEET SARAN (Retd.) RETURNING OFFICER, TTFI ELECTIONS

Date: 29.11.2022 Time: 10:15 AM