

“Is Cricket still a gentleman's game ?”



Weekly Learnings 01 / 2025

Cricket is no longer played between two teams on the field.

It is now an eco system war between sparring partners.

Look at the current BGT and the situations:

1. The Siraj send off to Travis Head
2. The Virat shoulder bump
3. The Travis Head finger sign
4. All Indians thought Jaiswal was not out on the hook snick.
5. All Australians thought Jaiswal was out lbw well before the snick incident.
6. Cricket doesn't have physical contact but is getting a lot of verbal abuse.
7. The Australian media has roasted Virat and the Indian team. The answer is not retaliation but doing well on the field and beating them.
8. The Irfan Manjrekar spat on the run out has commentators weighing in with their respective players.

I feel everyone involved in the system gains with this massive social media play as each one has their version of the truth.

The monies in some countries like India for the players to be relevant in social media is massive. There is still pride in playing for India, Australia, New Zealand which is not the case in the West Indies now. West Indies players are playing leagues only for money !

I think the cricket bodies need to rethink about the longer term challenges.

I definitely see two rule changes coming :

1. Stuart Broad started the bail switching concept. Today it's become commonplace. The administration will be forced to ban this bail switch in the near term as it's like a in your face thing now.

2. Umpires call will give way to being out if the ball touches any part of the wicket. In cricket, the bails need to fall . Look at tennis as an example, all electronic calls are valid even if a mm of the ball touches the line. This will come to cricket.

The eco system war will only escalate.

Gone are the days of Laxman, Dravid, Sachin, Pataudi.

The game needs. more Federers and Nadals, not many Kyrgios.

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The correct answer is Cricket.

In the early 17th century, it was decided by English aristocrats that cricket would be played in a 'gentlemanly manner'. Often, the phrase, 'gentleman's game' is used to describe cricket which means no sledding, cheating, bodyline bowling, temper tantrums, or excessive appealing.



Pictured: Starc (left) and his teammates are left shocked when Jaiswal is allowed to remain at the crease during India's tense run chase



Aussie cricket fans lashed out after the DRS graphic (pictured) appeared to show that the ball that struck Jaiswal on the pads would have gone on to hit the stumps



© AAP/IMAGE

Pictured: Starc (left) and his teammates are left shocked when Jaiswal is allowed to remain at the crease during India's tense run chase



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Aussie cricket fans lashed out after the DRS graphic (pictured) appeared to show that the ball that struck Jaiswal on the pads would have gone on to hit the stumps

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Siraj fined, Head reprimanded for Adelaide Test altercation

In addition, one demerit point was also added to Siraj and Head's disciplinary records

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Mohammed Siraj bowled Travis Head and had a heated exchange with him *Associated Press*

Mohammed Siraj has been fined 20% of his match fees while Travis Head has been reprimanded following their altercation during the second Test between Australia and India in Adelaide.



