

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

WRIT PETITION NO.4101 OF 2024

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Nashik Zilla Kho Kho Association
Through General Secretary
Shri Umesh Athawane and Anr.

...Petitioner

V/s.

The State of Maharashtra
Through Principal Secretary,
Youth Affairs and Sports Department,
Mantralaya, Mumbai and Ors.

...Respondents

Mr.Yugandhara Khanwilkar a/w Mr.Rahul B. Vijaymane i/b.
Mr.S.A.Rajeshirke, Advocates for Petitioner.
Mr.M.M.Pable, AGP, for the Respondents-State.
Mr.Raviraj Parmane, Advocate for Respondent No.3.
Mr.Vaibhav Gaikwad, Advocate for Respondent No.4.

CORAM : M.S.KARNIK &
S. M. MODAK, JJ.

DATE : 3rd FEBRUARY 2026

P. C. :-

1. We have the learned counsel for the parties.
2. The Petitioner as well as the Respondents have not adopted an adversarial position. We appreciate the stand of the Petitioner as well as the Respondents in ensuring that the issue is resolved amicably.
3. The Petitioner submitted that whatever suggestions are made is for the betterment of the game of Kho Kho and nothing beyond that.

Learned counsel for the Respondent No.3 submitted that such suggestions are most welcome and the same shall be given due consideration if it is in aid of development of the game of Kho Kho. It is submitted that presently the sport is not financially viable. It is, however, submitted on instructions that the suggestions made by the Petitioner will be looked into pragmatically and every effort will be made to ensure transparency thereby enhancing the quality of the sport.

4. The parties have accordingly filed "*Minutes of the Order*" duly signed by the Advocate for the Petitioner and Advocate for Respondent No.3. The Minutes are taken on record and marked "X" for identification.

5. The Petition is accordingly disposed of in the following terms:-

-: **TERMS** :-

(A) Upon hearing the learned Advocate for the Petitioner, and the learned Advocate for Respondent No.3 and in view of the amicable settlement between the Petitioner and the Respondent No.3, acting through their respective Advocates on record, it is hereby ordered by consent as follows:-

- (i) The Respondent No.3 – The Maharashtra Kho Kho Association has withdrawn the impugned order / letter dated 10th February 2024, issued pursuant to its

Resolution dated 5th February 2024, as well as the decision and action dated 21st December 2023.

- (ii) The Respondent No.3 confirms that it has handed over all merit certificates issued to the fifteen players, one coach and one Team Manager of the Junior Girls Team of the Nashik District Kho Kho Association (Petitioner No.1) which secured the second position in the 49th Junior State Championship Tournament 2023-2024 held at Nandurbar, and the Runner-up Trophy will be handed over within two weeks.
- (iii) Consequently, and in light of the withdrawal in Clause (1) above, the disqualification of Shri Shanul Deshmukh, Smt.Gitanjalee Savale, and Shri Sagar Katare from the said Championship, and the action debarring them for a period of two years from all games conducted by Respondent No.3, stands withdrawn.
- (iv) The Petitioner, their office bearers, players, and Respondent No.3, its office bearers, and members, hereby undertake not to post any message, comment, or content on social media or any other public platform that is prejudicial to the dignity or interests of the other party, in relation to the subject matter of this Petition or this Order.
- (v) The parties confirm that they have fully and finally settled all claims, disputes, and differences arising from the subject matter of this Petition on the terms

recorded hereinabove. The Writ Petition is disposed of in these terms.

- (vi) There shall be no order as to costs.
- (vii) Liberty is granted to the parties to apply for implementation, if any.

(S. M. MODAK, J.)

(M. S. KARNIK, J.)