



IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT DHARWAD
DATED THIS THE 8TH DAY OF JUNE, 2026
BEFORE
THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SACHIN SHANKAR MAGADUM
WRIT PETITION NO. 100768 OF 2026 (GM-POLICE)

BETWEEN:

GOOD HOURS SPORTS ASSOCIATION,
OFFICE AT: DHUNDSHI-ARATAL VILLAGE,
TQ: SHIGGAON, DIST: HAVERI-581 193,
REPRESENTED BY ITS PRESIDENT,
SHRI PRAKASH S/O PEERAYYA PADAVALLI,
AGE 39 YEARS, OCC: AGRICULTURE,
R/AT KAMANHALLI VILLAGE, TQ: SHIGGAON,
DIST: HAVERI-581 205.

... PETITIONER

(BY SRI. G. H. MOT, ADVOCATE)

AND:

1. THE STATE OF KARNATAKA,
REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY,
HOME DEPARTMENT, VIDHANA SOUDHA,
DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR VEEDHI,
BANGALURU-560 007.
2. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
HAVERI-581 110.
3. THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
HAVERI, DIST: HAVERI-581 205.
4. POLICE INSPECTOR,
HULGUR POLICE STATION, AT HULGUR,
DIST: HAVERI-581 104.

... RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI. SHARAD V. MAGADUM, ADVOCATE)





THIS WRIT PETITION IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 AND 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA PRAYING TO ISSUE A WRIT OF MANDAMUS OR ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE WRIT, ORDER OR DIRECTIONS, DIRECTING THE RESPONDENTS NO. 4 NOT TO INSIST UPON THE PETITIONER TO OBTAIN THE LICENSE TO CARRY IN LAWFUL ACTIVITIES PERTAINING TO THE PETITIONERS CLUB, EITHER UNDER THE LICENSING AND CONTROLLING OF THE PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT AMUSEMENT ACT OR UNDER KARNATAKA POLICE ACT AND NOT TO INTERFERE IN THE PLAY OF SKILL DART GAMES LIKE CRICKET, KABADI, KARATE, CAROM, CHESS, SNOOKER, VOLLEYBALL, RUMMY (NON-GAMBLING), CARDS, GAMES ETC WHICH ARE THE GAMES OF SKILL AND TO GRANT SUCH OTHER RELIEFS OR RELIEFS AS THIS HONBLE COURT DEEMS FIT IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASE, IN THE INTEREST OF JUSTICE.

THIS PETITION, COMING ON FOR PRL. HEARING, THIS DAY, ORDER WAS MADE THEREIN AS UNDER:

ORAL ORDER

(PER: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SACHIN SHANKAR MAGADUM)

The petitioner – a Registered Recreation Club – has approached this Court under Article 226 of the Constitution seeking a writ of mandamus against respondents, restraining them from interfering with the lawful activities carried on by the Club. It is specifically contended that the activities of the petitioner-Club are confined to skill games such as Cricket, kabaddi, karate, carom, chess, snooker, volleyball, rummy (non-gambling) card games and other



recreational pursuits conducted in the name and style of Good Hours Sports Association, and that no unlawful or prohibited activities are being conducted in the premises.

2. It is the case of the petitioner that the Association is duly registered under the provisions of the Karnataka Societies Registration Act, 1960 having been registered before the Registrar of Societies vide Registration No.DRHR/ SOR/ 974/ 2025-2026 dated 31.12.2025. The petitioner asserts that the Association has been established exclusively for recreational purposes and is functioning strictly in accordance with its bye-laws.

3. The grievance projected in the writ petition is that respondents/Police are repeatedly visiting the premises of the Association without any justifiable cause and are interfering with the peaceful conduct of indoor recreational activities. It is alleged that such interference has not only disrupted the functioning of the Club but has also resulted in intimidation and threats to discontinue the



activities of the Association.

4. Learned counsel appearing for the petitioner places reliance on the judgment of this Court in W.P. No.30071/2014 disposed of on 15.10.2024, wherein, under similar circumstances, appropriate directions were issued by referring to the authoritative pronouncement of the Division Bench of this Court in ***D.V.R Recreation Club Vs. State of Karnataka*** rendered in ***W.A.No.20090/2015***. In the light of the principles laid down by the Hon'ble Division Bench and the consistent view taken by this Court in subsequent matters, the present writ petition is ***disposed of*** with the following directions:

- (a) The petitioner shall install within a period of six weeks, CC TV cameras, at all the places of access to its members and also at all the places, wherein game/s is/are played by the members. The CC TV footage of at least prior 15 days' period



shall be made available by the petitioner, to the police, as and when called upon to do so.

- (b) The petitioner shall issue identity card(s) to all its member(s), which shall be produced by the member(s), when called upon by the police, during the raid(s) and surveillance etc.

- (c) The petitioner shall not permit any activity by any of its member(s), by indulging in acts of amusement, falling within the definition of Sections.2(14) & 2(15) of the Karnataka Police Act, 1963 and shall not permit any game(s) of chance as per Explanation (II) of Sub-section (7) of Section 2 of Karnataka Police Act, 1963. The member(s) shall not be allowed to play any kind of game(s) with stakes or



make any profit or gain out of the game(s) played, except games of skills.

- (d) The petitioner shall put proper mechanism in place and shall ensure that no game(s) is played in any unlawful manner by the member(s). If the police find that any of the game/s played is/are contrary to any law and in violation of the settled practice, it is open for them to take action against petitioner and the offenders, in accordance with law.
- (e) The jurisdictional police shall have liberty to visit premises periodically and/or on receipt of any information about any unlawful activity being carried on in the petitioner's premises.
- (f) The respondents are directed not to interfere with the lawful recreational



activities carried on by the members of the petitioner – Club/Association.

- (g) It is made clear that this order would not come in the way of the jurisdictional police invoking the provisions of the Act and taking action in accordance with law, if the member(s) of the petitioner are found to have indulged in any unlawful or immoral activities.

Ordered accordingly.

**Sd/-
(SACHIN SHANKAR MAGADUM)
JUDGE**

VNP / CT: BCK
List No.: 1 SI No.: 1