

PETER ENGLAND



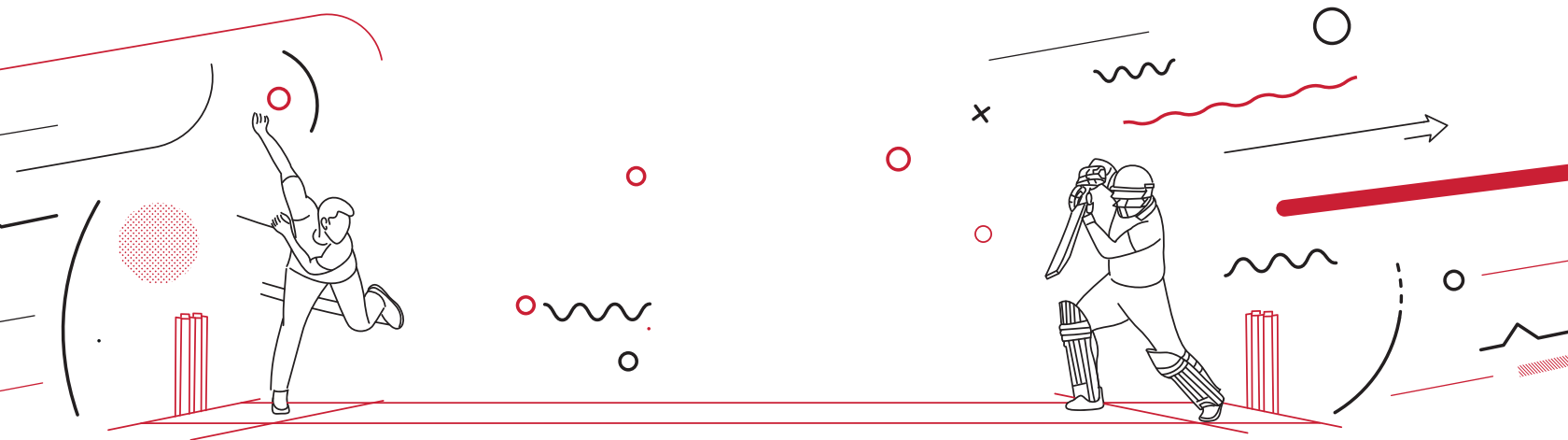
THE LEAGUE LOUNGE

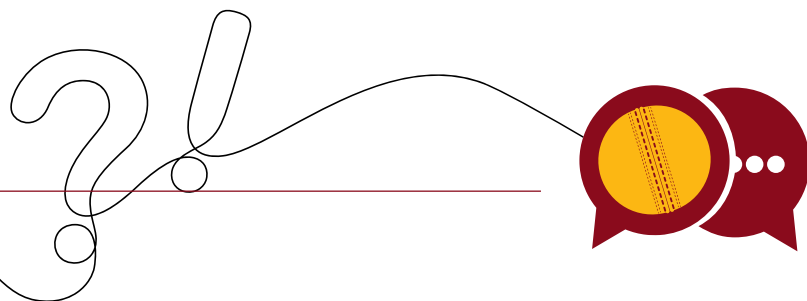
Featuring
Harsha Bhogle

Harsha Bhogle, the voice that made cricket feel like poetry in motion. He doesn't just narrate the game — he elevates it with insight, warmth, and unmatched authenticity.

In this special edition of The League of Legends, Harsha Bhogle takes us through a journey defined not just by iconic commentary, but by quiet integrity and timeless class.

From the elegance of Dravid and Pataudi to the bold new face of Indian cricket, Harsha reflects on the stories, the spirit, and what it truly means to be a gentleman of the game.





? You've witnessed generations of cricketers. What's the biggest shift you've seen in how they carry themselves?

The generation today is unapologetically themselves. They walk out with a certain ease, a self-belief that says, "This is who I am." The India I grew up in played the game by the manual, almost reverently. New India is bold, inventive, and willing to bring up a hundred with a six if that's what the moment demands. It's not arrogance, it's freedom. And that's refreshing to watch.

Which commentary moment or interview has stayed with you emotionally over the years?



There have been many, but Sachin Tendulkar's final Test at the Wankhede stands apart. I wasn't just calling a match, I was watching a life unfold like a film. I'd seen him as a teenager coming onto the scene, and over the years, we'd all grown up alongside him. That day, it felt like the country had gathered to say "Thank You." I remember telling myself, "You're not the story here - just the narrator. Tell it right." And I hope I did.





What does being a 'gentleman of the game' mean from the lens of a cricket storyteller?

It lies in the little moments - applauding a rival's cover drive, helping a batsman back to his feet after a sharp bouncer. You won't find these in a scorecard, but they linger in memory. They reflect grace, humility, and respect. As a storyteller, those are the moments I chase. Because long after we forget the scores, we remember the spirit.

Which cricketer, past or present, best represents timeless grace and dignity to you?



That's a hard one. Growing up, it was Pataudi - graceful in posture, gracious in persona. Then came Sachin, with his quiet dignity, and Rahul Dravid, who never needed to raise his voice to command respect.



Commentators aren't often associated with fashion — but you've created a distinct, polished style. How did that happen?

I think I've just been a good student. I listened—to producers, stylists, anyone who said, "Try this, it looks better on camera." I've never claimed to be fashionable, but I've understood the importance of being presentable. You're on people's screens, in their living rooms—you owe them that.

Do you think the way you present yourself influences how your voice is received?



I don't know for sure, but I suspect it does. Presentation, visual and vocal, are part of the same experience. If you appear composed, people tend to lean in, to listen a little more closely. It's not just about what you say, but how you carry it.



What is your go-to outfit when you're off duty and just being Harsha?

A polo shirt and a pair of jeans or shorts. Easy, comfortable, no fuss. Just enough polish to feel ready, just enough ease to feel at home.

What inspired you to join The League of Legends campaign with Peter England?



It felt like an extension of what cricket has meant to me all these years—elegance, heritage, and a certain understated pride. To do this alongside legends like Kapil Dev and Viv Richards, people who shaped the soul of the game, was special. The League of Legends isn't just about style; it's about celebrating the values the game has always stood for—integrity, resilience, and grace.



How do you see Peter England's values of elegance and authenticity aligning with your own personal and professional ethos?

Peter England believes in elegance that whispers, not shouts. That appeals to me. I've always felt that your work, your words, should speak louder than your attire, but that doesn't mean style has no place. When done right, they complement each other. And authenticity? Well, in commentary or in clothing, it's about staying true to who you are.

You've chronicled greatness for decades — what makes someone truly unforgettable in your eyes?



I think greatness lies in the impression you leave on the game and on people. The truly unforgettable ones don't just perform; they elevate. They make you want to play better, live better. When skill finds soul, that's when you stop being just a cricketer; you become a story.



The Gentlemen's Rapid-Fire Round



01

Your favourite snack while watching a match?
Peanut chikki.

02

One word that defines your voice as a commentator?
Storyteller.

03

A cricketer you loved interviewing the most?
Dhoni - love our post-match conversations.

04

Books or playlists — what's your airport essential?
Always a book. But there's usually a playlist for the quieter hours too - some Kishore, some Mukesh.

05

Your dream commentary partner (past or present)?
Ian Chappell.

