

IN THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE VOLTA REGIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

VRFA/DC/013/23

PANEL

| 1. | Ernest Yao Gaewu, (Justice) | Chairman |
|----|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 2. | Constant Dzakpasu | Member |
| 3. | Felix Seloame | Member |
| 4. | Kingsley Broni-Agbezuge | Secretary |

27th April 2023

AGBOZUME UNITED CLUB VRS GREAT SWIFTS PROFESSIONALS FC

PROTEST IN RESPECT OF 2022/2023 VOLTA REGIONAL DIVISION TWO LEAGUE MATCH PLAYED AT SOSEC NATIONAL PARK.

PROCEEDINGS

In accordance with Article 56 of the GFA Statutes (2019) and 35(9) of the GFA Regional Football Associations (RFAs) Leagues Regulations, this Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter referred to as "**The Committee**") considered the deposition from Agbozume United Football Club (hereinafter referred to as "**The Petitioner**") with supporting attachments, and match reports from match officials.

SUMMARY OF FACTS

STATEMENT OF CASE OF AGBOZUME UNITED FC

The Petitioner lodged a protest against **Great Swifts Professional FC** (hereinafter referred to as "**The Respondents**") for fielding unqualified players Leo Kodzo Zague (8), John Agbogedenu (3) and Isaac Mensah (10) during the Volta Regional Division Two League match played on 26th February 2023 at Sosec Park, contrary to article

33(1)(a), 33(2), 28(2)(a) and 37(8)(c) of the GFA Regional Football Associations (RFAs) Leagues Regulations.

The Petitioners claim that, The Respondents failed to pay its costs, fines, and other debts within (14) days to the RFA since 2020/2021 football season.

In support of their case, The Petitioner state Articles 28(1)(a), 28(1)(d), 28(2)(c), 33(2), 33(5)(a)(b), 37(1)(b) and 37(8)(c) and seek relief that the match be declared null and void and that 3 points and 3goals be awarded to The Petitioners.

The Petitioner further attached the team sheet of the Respondent in support of their case.

DEFENSE OF GREAT SWIFTS PROFESSIONAL FC

The Respondent in defense stated they have not received bill of fine from the RFA so to the best of their knowledge do not owe the RFA.

The Respondent Further stated that Respondent did not field unqualified players; the said players in this case were duly registered in the FIFA Connect System.

The Respondent attached the copies of the cards of the said players in this case.

The Respondent pleads with the Disciplinary Committee to dismiss the case.

FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE AND GROUNDS OF DECISION

The Committee at its sittings makes the following findings

- 1. That protest was lodged in accordance with Article 35(1)(3) of the Regional Football Associations (RFAs) Leagues Regulations
- 2. That the protest was duly served on The Respondent in accordance with Article 35(4) of The Regional Football Associations (RFAs) Leagues Regulations.
- 3. That Leo Kodzo Zague renewal was approved on the **04/02/2023**, whilst John Agbugedenu and Isaac Mensah renewals were approved on the **15/02/2023** and therefore were eligible to play in the said match in this case.
- 5. That the said match ended 1-0 in favour of the Respondent
- 6. That verdict of the protest in which The Respondent was fined was published on the website of the Regional Football Association and therefore consequently communicated to the Respondent.

- 7. That the Committee's check from Volta Regional FA's 2020/2021 League Season records confirmed that The Respondent, as at the time of the match in this case, owe the RFA GHC 1000.00 and did not pay fines imposed on the club as a result of Disciplinary Decision served on the club for using unqualified players and consequently liable to the combine effect of Article 37(1)(b) and 37(8)(c) of the GFA Regional Football Associations Leagues Regulations.
- 8. That the RFA has not applied the provisions in Article 15(b) of the GFA Disciplinary Code (2019) as at the time of the said match in this case. Reference is made to GFA Disciplinary Committee ruling on "Enforcement Case: No. E5-2023" in the matter of JOHN NYAMEKYE VRS ADUANA FC April 29, 2022. For the avoidance of doubt, Article 15(1)(b) of the GFA Disciplinary Code (2019) requires that the owing party is granted a final deadline of 14 days to pay the amount due and comply with the non-financial decision.

DECISION

- 1. It is the decision of The Committee that the Petitioners' case is hereby dismissed and that the results of the match shall stand.
- 2. The **Responden**t is hereby fined GHC 300.00 in accordance with Article 15(a) of the GFA Disciplinary Code (2019) for failing to comply with disciplinary decision of the Disciplinary Committee of the Regional Football Association.
- 3. The Respondent shall pay the fine in decision Two (2) above and any other fines previously imposed on the Respondent within Fourteen (14) days in accordance with Article 15(1)(b) of the GFA Disciplinary Code (2019) Atticle 37(8) of the GFA Regional Football Associations (RFAs) Leagues Regulations.
- 4. The Respondent shall be liable to the consequential effect of Article 37(1)(b), 37(8)(c) and Article 15(1)(b) of the GFA Disciplinary Code (2019) if the club fails to pay the fines imposed on the club within the Fourteen (14) days as indicated in decision Three (3) above.

Ernest Yao Gaewu (Justice)

Disciplinary Committee Chairman