

IN THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE VOLTA REGIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

VRFA/DC/021/23

PANEL

1. Ernest Yao Gaewu, (Justice) Chairman

2. Constant Dzakpasu Member

3. Felix Seloame Member

4. Kingsley Broni-Agbezuge Secretary

10th May, 2023

AGBOZUME UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB VRS AGBOZUME WEAVERS FC

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

PROCEEDINGS

In accordance with Article 56 of the GFA Statutes (2019) and 35(9) of the Regional Football Association (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"), Agbozume Weavers FC (hereinafter referred to as "The Respondents") with supporting attachments, and match reports from match officials.

SUMMARY OF FACTS

STATEMENT OF CASE OF AGBOZUME UNITED F/C

The Petitioner lodged a protest against **Agbozume Weavers FC** on the following counts:

1. For fielding unqualified player and team Official, The Petitioner claims that the Respondent fielded unqualified player by name Abdubafate Hamidu (10) and a team Official by name Samuel Olata who were not registered by the GFA for the Respondent.

- 2. That the players of the Respondent failed to report for inspection during the Volta Regional Division Two League match Day 5 played between the Petitioner and the Respondent on 12th April, 2023 at SOSEC Park, contrary to article 33(1)(a), 33(2)(a), 28(2)(a), 37(1)(b) 37(8)(c) of the GFA Regional Football Associations (RFAs) Leagues Regulations and that the captain of the Respondent did not sign the team sheet,
- 3. That the Respondent failed to pay its fines, costs and debts imposed on the Respondent by the RFA Disciplinary Committee on 29th April, 2022.

In support of their case, The Petitioners state Articles 26(4)(d) 28(1)(d) 28 (2)(c) 33(1)(e), 33(2), 33(a)(b) and 33(5)(b), 37(1)(b), 37(8)(c) seek relief that the match be declared null and void and that 3 points and 3 goals be awarded to The Petitioner.

The Petitioner attached the following in evidence to their case:

- 1. Team sheet of the Respondent for the said match in this case.
- 2. A document from FIFA Connect System indicating the registration details of Samuel Olata as an Official of the Respondent.
- 3. The verdict of Volta RFA Disciplinary Committee dated on 29/04/2022 with reference number; VRFA/DC/020/22 in caption Agbozume Weavers vrs Agbogba FC.

DEFENSE OF AGBOZUME WEAVERS FC

The Respondent in defense stated the following

- 1. That the Respondent has paid its fines to the RFA before the said match in this case.
- 2. That Abdurafate Hamidu the said player in this case was duly registered as a renewed player for the 2022/2023 league season.
- 3. That the Pre-match formalities started at 11;20am in the presence of the match officials, and RFA venue coordinator (Wisdom Bakah)
- 4.) That the Petitioner were absent at the start of the process, although they arrived later proceedings continued till the game was played successfully to a good end.
- 5. That a look at the FIFA Connect document tendered in evidence by the Petitioner to the case shows that Samuel Olata is a club official of Agbozume Weavers FC.

The Respondent attached the following

- 1. A pay-in slip of payment to the GCB account of the RFA.
- 2. A copy of Abdurafate Hamidu the player license ID Number GHA031593M and copy of the players FIFA Connect details as evidence in defense of their 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) League Regulations
- 2. That the protest was duly served on The Respondent in accordance with Article 33(4) of Regional Football Associations (RFAs) League Regulations.
- 3. That the Committee's check from the records of the Regional Football Association secretariat confirms that the Respondent did pay the fine imposed on the club in this case on 9th February, 2023.
- 4. That reference to the team sheet of the Respondent, the player who wore jersey number (10) in the said match in this case is **Abdurafate Hamidu**, not **Abdubafate Hamidu** as claimed by the Petitioner.
- 5. That Abdurafate Hamidu's registration was renewed by the Respondent for the 2022/2023 league season, and therefore eligible to play for the Respondent in the said match in this case.
- 6. That Abdurafate Hamidu's renewal registration was approved on 26/10/22 and card printed on 21/12/2022.
- 7. That The Committee's check from the match officials reports show that both clubs reported for match formalities before the match and the match indeed was reported for and honoured by the Respondent.
- 8. That it is the duty of the match officials to ensure all requirements for match records are satisfied.
- 9. That Samuel Olata is an official of the Respondent as the Petitioner submitted same from the FIFA Connect System in evidence to confirm.

- 10. That ISHMEAL KPORHA served as an Official of the Petitioner in the match between Agbogba FC and the Petitioner played on 25th March, 2023 while ISHMEAL KPORHA is not a registered official of the Petitioner in the FIFA Connect System.
- 11. That the said match ended 0-0.

DECISION

- 1. It is the decision of The Committee that the case of the Petitioner is hereby dismissed and that the results of the match shall stand.
- 2. That Petitioner is hereby fine GHC300.00 for misleading the Committee in legal relations.
- 3. The Petitioner shall pay the fine in decision Two (2) above within ten (10) days in accordance with Article 37(8) of the GFA (RFAs) Leagues Regulations
- 4. The Petitioner shall be liable to the consequential effect of Article 37 (1)(b) and 37(8)(c) if the club fails to pay the fine imposed on the club in decision Two (2) above within the specified period in Three (3) above.

Ernest Yao Gaewu (Justice)

Disciplinary Committee Chairman