

# IN THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE VOLTA REGIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

# VRFA/DC/024/23

# **PANEL**

1. Ernest Yao Gaewu, (Justice) Chairman

2. Constant Dzakpasu Member

3. Felix Seloame Member

Kingsley Broni- Agbezuge Secretary

22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2023

KPANDO ELEVEN WONDERS FC VS KRACHI ELEVEN BROTHERS FC PROTEST IN RESPECT OF 2022/ 2023 VOLTA REGIONAL DIVISION LEAGUE MATCH PLAYED AT DAMBAI DATCO.

# **PROCEEDINGS**

In accordance with Article 56 of the GFA Statutes (2019) and 35(9) of the GFA Regional Football Association (RFAs) Leagues Regulations, this Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter referred to as "**The Committee**") considered the deposition from Kpando Eleven Wonder FC (hereinafter referred to as "**The Petitioner**"), Krachi Eleven Brothers FC (hereinafter referred to as "**The Respondent**") with supporting attachments from both parties and match reports from match officials.

#### **SUMMARY OF FACTS**

# STATEMENT OF CASE OFKPANDO ELEVEN WONDERS FC

The Petitioner lodged a protest against Krachi Eleven Brothers FC for fielding unqualified player in the league during the Volta Regional Division Two League match between the Petitioner and the Respondent played on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 at DATCO PARK contrary to Articles 28(1)(a) and 28(2)(c)(b) 33(1)(e) of the GFA Regional Football Association (RFAs) Leagues Regulations.

The Petitioner claims that the Respondent fielded unqualified players Nkrumah Reuben of jersey No. (4) and Ransford Kwaku (16).

The Petitioner further stated the following;

- 1. That Nkrumah Reuben (4) was first registered with Peki Tsibu Volta Sportive FC as Nkrumah Ruben with 31/12/2006 as the date of birth but with Krachi Eleven Brothers FC as Nkrumah Reuben and new date of birth of 19/04/1996.
- 2. That Ransford Kwaku (16) was first registered for Green Plus Soccer Academy as Mensah Ransford with 05/02/2001 as the date of birth but for Krachi Eleven Brothers FC with 07/02/2001 as his date of birth.
- 3. That the Respondent engaged in double registration in respect of the said players Nkrumah Reuben and Ransford Kwaku in case.
- 4. That the Disciplinary Committee should verify from the FIFA Connect System to ascertain the facts.
- 5. In support of their case, The Petitioners state Article 28(1)(d), 28(2)(a)(c), 33(1)(e) and seek relief that the match be declared null and void and that 3 points and 3 goals be awarded to The Petitioners.

The Petitioners attached the photographs of the said players and the team sheet of the Respondent Photographs of the player's member ID in the FIFA Connect System as evidence in support of their case.

# DEFENSE OF KRACHI ELEVEN BROTHERS FC

The Respondent in response stated the following in defense to the case.

- 1.That Nkrumah Reuben was first registered by Anthonio Sportive who was later transferred to Krachi Eleven Brothers FC during 2022/2023 transfer window. He therefore had no relationship with Peki Tsibu Volta Sportive FC.
- 2. That Kwaku Ransford is a newly registered player of the Respondent and was approved by FIFA Connect System, which make him eligible to play all competition organised by GFA. He therefore had no Reationship with Green Plus Acadmey FC.

The Respondent attached the following

- 1. A release letter of Nkrumah Reuben from Anthonio Sportive.
- 2. A soft copy of Nkrumah Reuben's Ghana Football Association player card

3. A National identification card (soft copy) of Kwaku Ransford which was used for his registration.

A soft copy of Ransford Ghana Football Association player card

#### 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) League Regulations.
- 3. That the original registrant of Reuben Nkrumah was Krachi Anthonio Sportive FC in 2015/2016 league season. The Committee's check from the FIFA Connect System and evidence provided by the Petitioner, the said player registered and played for Peki Tsibu Sportive FC as Ruben Nkrumah with 31/12/2006 as the date of birth during 2020/2021 league season. For the avoidance of doubt the Respondent transferred the said player Reuben Nkrumah from Krachi Anthonio Sportive to the Krachi Eleven Brothers FC for the 2022/2023 league season using his original name Reuben Nkrumah.
- 4. That from the Committee's check, Ransford Kwaku in the FIFA Connect System of the Respondent is the same person in the System Green Plus Soccer Academy as Mensah Ransford and therefore found guilty of double registrations.
- 5. That Ransford Kwaku first registered for Green Plus Soccer Academy as Ransford Mensah with **05/02/2001** as the date of birth and the Respondent registered the said player as Kwaku Ransford with **07/02/2001** as his new date of birth.
- 7. That the Respondent transferred the said players Nkrumah Ruben and Ransford Kwaku from their mother clubs but decided not to renew their registration but to engage in re-registration of the players anew.
- 9. That the Respondent had knowledge of the said players had already been registered in the FIFA Connect System.
- 10. The respondent is therefore guilty of aiding double registration of the player Ransford Kwaku.

- 11. That a phone placed on Mr Richard Oduro, the team Manager of the Respondent via 0249392150 at about 16:09 hours of 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2023 confirms that the Respondent have knowledge of Mensah Ransford before registering him as Kwaku Ransford.
- 12. That the said match ended 1:0 in favour of the Respondent

#### **DECISION**

It is the decision of The Committee that:

- 1. The Petitioners' case is hereby upheld and that 3 points and 3 goals shall be awarded to the Petitioner, in accordance with Article 33(3) the GFA Regional Football Association (RFAs) Leagues Regulations.
- 2. The Respondent shall suffer 3 points deduction from accumulated points in all the matches the said player Ransford Kwaku in this case featured in.
- 3. The said players Ransford Kwaku or Mensah Ransford and Nkrumah Ruben or Nkrumah Reuben shall be suspended from participating in matches and competition organised by the GFA for one year in accordance with article 28(2)(c) of the Regional Football Associations (RFAs) Leagues Regulations.
- 4. The Respondent is hereby fine GHC 500.00 of which 50% shall be paid to the Petitioner in accordance with Article 33(5)(b) of the Regional Football Associations (RFAs) Leagues Regulations.
- 5. The Respondent shall pay the fine in decision Four (4) above within ten (10) days in accordance with Article 37(8) of the Regional Football Associations (RFAs) Leagues Regulations.
- 6. The Respondent 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 Four (4) above within the specified period in decision Five (5) above.

Ernest Yao Gaewu (Justice)

Disciplinary Committee Chairman