

GHANA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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[E883]

DECISION OF THE PLAYERS' STATUS COMMITTEE ON THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE REGISTRATION OF A PLAYER WITH TWO DIFFERENT NAMES BY MADINA REPUBLICANS

The Committee was composed as follows:

Is-Hak Al-Hassan

~ Chairman

Cornelius Otoo

~ Vice Chairman

Sylvester Mensah

~ Member

Vivian Aggor

~ Member

Kwame Ayew

~ Member

Hannah O. Amakye

- Secretary

PREAMBLE

The Players Status Committee (PSC) of the Ghana Football Association (GFA) received a memo dated 6th October, 2020 from the IT Department of the GFA, drawing attention to an issue of double registration involving a player and a club.

CLAIM AND DESCRIPTION

With supporting documents from the system, the memo claimed that the club, Madina Republicans, registered a player Christian Opoku Oduro with a date of birth 2nd October, 2003. This was for the 2017/18 football season. This was done on the 16th of February 2018 and the player's last club was listed as Kessben Juniors.

Later on the 3rd of August, 2020, Madina Republicans registered same player with the name Aidan Nana Poku with his date of birth as 2nd October 2002.

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EVALUATION AND EVIDENCE

When the club appeared before the Committee, they immediately apologized for the act. The Committee however went ahead to examine the circumstances that led to this act of dishonesty.

It emerged that, by a sworn affidavit, the player's "father" declared him as being born on the 2nd of October 2003 with the name Christian Oduro. This sworn affidavit was dated 16th February, 2018. This enabled the GFA to register the player as Christian Oduro Opoku on the 22nd of October, 2018. In this registration (with evidence from his T1), the player's last club was listed as Kessben Juniors FC.

On the 3rd of August, 2020, "another father" swore a statutory Declaration indicating the player's name as AIDAN NANA POKU and that he has "NEVER registered with any club whatsoever in Ghana" This enabled Madina Republicans to "re-register" Christian Oduro Opoku with a new name of AIDAN NANA POKU with a new date of birth of 2nd October 2002 and these are captured in his new T1 Form dated 7th August 2020.

Further scrutiny of documents before the Committee revealed that, Madina Republicans had secured a foreign contract for the player. However, with his original date of birth, it would have been difficult to sign a foreign contract easily since he was still a minor. The club therefore decided to engage in this act of forgery and deception in order to get the player sign a professional contract. Their machinations were however exposed when the foreign club wrote to the GFA for the player's International Transfer Certificate (ITC). A thorough investigation by the IT Department brought to the fore what had transpired.

DECISION

The Committee took a very strong view of this potential embarrassment to the GFA and as a future deterrent to both players and clubs, the Committee has decided that:

- 1. Madina Republicans is hereby banned from the registration of new players for one (1) season. Any registration done or in the process for the current window shall therefore be nullified.
- 2. In addition, the club is fined Five Thousand Ghana Cedis (Gh¢5,000.00). This shall be paid within two weeks (2) upon notification of this decision. Failure will result in further sanctions.

3. The player shall revert to his original details as captured by the IT Department.

Name:

Christian Opoku Oduro

D.O.B:

2nd February, 2003

PROSPER HARRISON ADDO, ESQ [GENERAL SECRETARY]

SIGNED:

IS-HAK AL-HASSAN CHAIRMAN [PSC]

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