



## IN THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE GHANA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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Misconduct Case: No. M 24-  
2021

### CORAM

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|-----------------------------------|---|---------------|
| 1. Osei Kwadwo Adow, Esq.         | ~ | Chairman      |
| 2. Lorraine A. Crabbe Ababio, Esq | ~ | Member        |
| 3. Ms. Elsie Nana Acheampong      | ~ | Member        |
| 4. Mr. Emmanuel Nikoi             | ~ | Member        |
| 5. Mr. Nathaniel Laryea           | ~ | Member        |
| <br>WILLIAM BOSSMAN               | ~ | <br>Secretary |

### IN ATTENDANCE

STEPHEN GURAH ~ ASSISTANT COACH – WAMANAFI MIGHTY ROYALS  
DANIEL ASANTE ~ CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER –WAMANAFI MIGHTY ROYALS  
NEIL ARMSTRONG MORTAGBE ~ EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN  
EMMANUEL LARBI AMOAH ~ COUNSEL

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**IN THE MATTER OF A MISCONDUCT CHARGE AGAINST STEPHEN GURAH , ASSISTANT  
COACH OF WAMANAFI MIGHTY ROYALS IN THEIR DIVISION ONE LEAGUE MATCH  
AGAINST BOFOAKWA TANO FC PLAYED AT THE WAMANAFI COMMUNITY PARK ON 28<sup>TH</sup>  
MARCH 2021**

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### THE CHARGES

Stephen Gurah\_ was charged with four counts as per the Charge Sheet as follows:

#### **CHARGE ONE**

##### **Statement of Offence**

Stephen Gurah is hereby charged for a breach of Article 12(1)(i) of the GFA Disciplinary Code, 2019 and Article 34(6)(d) of the GFA Division One League Regulations,2019 in respect to unsporting behavior towards a match official.

##### **Particulars of the Offence**

Stephen Gurah; Official of Wamanafo Mighty Royals: You, on 28 th of March 2021, after a match between Wamanafo Mighty Royals FC and Bofokwa Tano at the Wamanafo Community Park and while still on the pitch of the stadium, did insult and assault the match officials resulting in severe injuries..

## **CHARGE TWO**

### **Statement of Offence**

Stephen Gurah is hereby charged for a breach of Article 12(1)(j) of the GFA Disciplinary Code, 2019 and Article 34(3)c of the GFA Division One League Regulations, 2019 in respect to intimidation of a match officials.

### **Particulars of the Offence**

Stephen Gurah; Official of Wamanafo Mighty Royals: You, on 28th of March 2021, during and after a match between Wamanafo Mighty Royals FC and Bofokwa Tano at the Wamanafo Community Park and while still on the pitch of the stadium did threaten and Intimidate the match official by making offensive meant to abuse the match officials.

## **CHARGE THREE**

### **Statement of Offence**

Stephen Gurah is hereby charged for a breach of Article 12(1)(k) of the GFA Disciplinary Code, 2019 in respect to physical assault of a match official.

### **Particulars of the Offence**

Stephen Gurah; Official of Wamanafo Mighty Royals: You, on 28th of March 2021, after a match between Wamanafo Mighty Royals FC and Bofokwa Tano at the Wamanafo Community Park and while still on the pitch of the stadium did physically assault the referees by beating them resulting in severe injuries.

## **CHARGE FOUR**

### **Statement of Offence**

Stephen Gurah is hereby charged for a breach of Article 34(3)(c) of the GFA Division One League Regulations, 2019 in respect to verbal assault of a match official.

### **Particulars of the Offence**

Stephen Gurah; Official of Wamanafo Mighty Royals: You, on 28th of March 2021, after a match between Wamanafo Mighty Royals FC and Bofokwa Tano at the Wamanafo Community Park and while still on the pitch of the stadium did verbally assault the referees by insulting and threatening them.

## **DEFENCE**

In his Statement of Defence dated April 2, 2021 Stephen Gurah pleaded NOT GUILTY to all Charges and requested for a personal hearing to defend his case.

## **PROCEEDINGS AND FINDINGS**

At a sitting held on Wednesday April 14, the Committee showed a video recording of the incidents that occurred after the said match and pictures of the injured referees as evidence from the prosecutors. Stephen Gurah denied that such incidents occurred at the Wamanafo

Community park. He objected to the absence of a Prosecutor at the sitting and refused to cooperate with the Committee because a Prosecutor was not present.

Stephen Gurah claimed that the charges proffered against him has not been proven by any evidence.

In accordance with Article 37.1 of the Division One League Regulations, the Disciplinary Committee is satisfied with the evidence before it that the conduct of Stephen Gurah , CEO of Wamanafo Mighty Royals FC amounts to a breach of regulations and shall accordingly apply the necessary sanctions against Stephen Gurah.

Article 37.1 of the Division One League Regulations:

“Where the Disciplinary Committee is satisfied that there has been misconduct by a Player, a Club Official, a Referee, an Assistant Referee, Supporters, a Match Commissioner or any participant of a match, the Committee may order such a person/persons: (a) To be suspended from all or any specific football matches or competitions either indefinitely or for a stated period. (b) To be fined, either with or without suspension and any such fine shall be paid within fourteen (14) days. (c) To be reprimanded or cautioned. (d) To close the venue of the club either permanently or for a stated period.”

This Committee is also mindful of Article 11.2(d) of the Disciplinary Code and consequently shall make the necessary consequential orders to that effect.

It must be noted that this situation caused by Stephen Gurah affects the image of the Division One League and Ghana football.

The effects of the misconduct on all stakeholders cannot be quantified and should not be lost on all who are interested for the growth of the game. It is in regard that the severest of punishment allowed under the regulations must be applied to serve as deterrent to all other clubs.

There is no doubt that the sanctity of the competition must be maintained to attract the sponsorship and also to guarantee the needed mileage for the sponsor. This Committee is of the view that the right signals must be sent to all clubs in this respect and would therefore not apply the minimum punishment in this respect.

## DECISIONS

The Disciplinary Committee makes the following decisions:

1. That the Committee having satisfied itself that the evidence adduced before it supports the charges of misconduct against Stephen Gurah and hereby finds the club guilty of all four charges in accordance with Article 16.1 of the GFA Disciplinary Code(2019).
2. That having found that Stephen Gurah is guilty of all four charges, the Committee shall impose the following punishment on him:
  - a. Stephen Gurah is hereby ordered to pay a fine of GHC5,000 in accordance with Article 37.1(b) of the GFA Division One League Regulations (2019).

- b. Stephen Gurah is banned from all football related activities for the rest of the 2020/21 league season in accordance with Article 37.1(d) of the GFA Division One League Regulations (2019).
3. That should Stephen Gurah be dissatisfied with this Ruling, he may appeal to the Appeals Committee.



Osei Kwadwo Adow, Esq.  
Chairman, Disciplinary Committee  
Wednesday, April 21, 2021