**Accra City vs. Accra Lions (Match Day 16)**

**Review Observations, Findings and Grounds of Decision**

Pursuant to a decision by the Appeals Committee dated 27th May 2021, to set aside the decision of the Match Review Panel and to grant the match officials hearing, the panel during its sitting on 16th June 2021 granted the match officials hearing.

After talking to the referee, he admitted that the free kicked he awarded to Accra City was taken as a goal kick instead of free kick which he failed to recall the ball for the right kick to be taken.

It is now established that the referee awarded a free kick and not **a goal kick** as was seen in the video (**the ball was placed on the goal area line**). Therefore, the assistant referee was right in disallowing the resultant goal per the referee’s explanation.

In the second incident regarding a penalty awarded to Accra City the referee admitted that he erred in taking a penalty decision.

**Decision**

On the two incidents, the referee exhibited a high level of incompetent in managing a football game, as a result, the referee (Abdul Ganiu Abdul Karim) is demoted to the lower division.

The assistant referee (Paul Setsofia Kofi Deyegbe) however is exonerated for the ruling he made by judging the goal scored as an offside goal.

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**Dr. Francis Eyiah Bediako**

**Chairman, Match Review Panel**

**Wednesday, June 16, 2021**