



IN THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE GHANA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Protest Case: No. P 29 – 2021

CORAM

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| 1. Osei Kwadwo Adow, Esq. | - | Chairman |
| 2. Lorraine Crabbe-Ababio, Esq. | - | Member |
| 3. Mr. Emmanuel Nikoi | - | Member |
| 4. Mr. Nathaniel Laryea | - | Member |
| William Bossman | - | Secretary |

WA SUNTAA FC vrs NSOATREMAN FC

PROTEST IN RESPECT OF THEIR DIVISION ONE LEAGUE MATCHDAY 25 MATCH PLAYED AT WA PARK

PROCEEDINGS

In accordance with Article 56 of the GFA Statutes (2019) and Articles 35(9) of the GFA Division One League Regulations, this Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) considered the depositions from Wa Suntaa FC (hereinafter referred to as “the Petitioner”) and the Statement of Defence from Nsoatreman FC (hereinafter referred to as “the Respondent”) with their supporting attachments, the reports of the match officials and the video of the match.

SUMMARY OF FACTS

CASE OF WA SUNTAA FC

Wa Suntaa FC (the Petitioner) protested against Nsoatreman FC (the Respondent) for using an unqualified player in the person of Obed Duah Anford, player in jersey no.30 in the Matchday 25 game between the two parties at the Wa Park contrary to the GFA's Rules and Regulations.

According to the Petitioner, player number 30 of Nsoatreman FC received his third caution in their Matchday 24 fixture against Unity FC and was suspended in the Referee's Player selections. It is the case of the Petitioner that though the player was suspended, Nsoatreman went ahead to use the player.

The Petitioner added that in accordance to the GFA's Rules and Regulations, “A player who has received a caution in three separate official matches of the GFA and has not missed the next official” which according to the Petitioner means the player was unqualified to play for the Respondent in the said match.

The Petitioner attached a copy of the team sheet for the Week 25 game between the two parties which indicated that the player featured in the said match. The Petitioner thus sought for the Respondent to forfeit the match in accordance with Article 34.1(e).

DEFENCE OF NSOATREMAN FC

The Respondent in its Statement of Defence stated emphatically that the player Obed Duah Anford was duly qualified to feature in the match as he had not accumulated three cautions making him unqualified to play in the Match 25 fixture. It is the case of the Respondent that the Player had cautions on Match day 20 and 24 and was duly qualified to play on Matchday 25.

Nsoatreman FC contends that prior the match between the two parties, the player had not accumulated three cautions to render him unqualified to feature in the match. The Petitioner thus prayed the Committee to dismiss the protest and award cost against the Petitioner

FINDINGS AND GROUNDS OF THE DECISION

Checks from the Competitions Management System indicates that Player in jersey no.30 ,Obed Duah Anford was cautioned in the following matches:

Week 15 - Nsoatreman FC vs Nkoranza Warriors FC (*72nd minute)

Week 20 - Nsoatreman FC vs Steadfast FC (87th minute)

Week 24 - Nsoatreman FC vs Unity FC (50th minute)

The above records clearly indicate that player No.30, Obed Duah Anford had received cautions in three league matches before playing in Matchweek 25 in the match between Wa Suntaa and Nsoatreman FC.

The Player was thus flagged as suspended in the system and should not have played in the match between the two parties on Matchday 25.

It is the finding of the Committee that by fielding Obed Duah Anford on Matchday 25, Nsoatreman FC is deemed to have breached Article 18.1(e) which states that:

An unqualified player is player who has received a caution in three league matches

By fielding an unqualified in the match, Nsoatreman FC's action is also in breach of Article 33.1(e) and shall forfeit the match in accordingly.

Article 33.1(e):

A team commits an offence punishable by forfeiture of a match where it fields an unqualified player(s) or team official(s).

DECISIONS

The Committee therefore makes the following decisions:

- 1. That it is the holding of the Committee that protest of Wa Suntaa FC shall succeed.**
- 2. That for for fielding an unqualified player in the match, Nsoatreman FC shall forfeit the match in accordance with Article 33.1(e) of the GFA Division One League Regulations.**

3. That having been found to have forfeited the match, Nsoatreman FC shall be considered as having lost the match in accordance with Articles 33(2) & (12) of the GFA Division One League Regulations and accordingly, three points and three (3) goals are hereby awarded in favour of Wa Suntaa FC.
4. That in addition, being the defaulting club, Nsoatreman FC shall lose three (3) points from the club's accumulated points from their previous matches pursuant to Article 33(5)(a) of the GFA Division One League Regulations.
5. That in addition, being the defaulting club, Nsoatreman FC is hereby fined Two Thousand Five Hundred Ghana Cedis (GH¢2,500.00) payable to the GFA, 50% of which shall be paid to Wa Suntaa FC pursuant to Article 33(5)(b) of the GFA Division One League Regulations.
6. That the fines mentioned in Decision 4 above, shall be paid to the GFA within fourteen (14) days upon receipt of this Ruling, failing which Nsoatreman FC shall forfeit their subsequent matches after the said deadline.
7. That should any party be dissatisfied with or aggrieved by this Decision, the party has within one (1) day of being notified of this Ruling to appeal to the Appeals Committee of the Ghana Football Association {See Article 35(10) of the GFA Division One League Regulations}.



Osei Kwadwo Adow, Esq.
Chairman, Disciplinary Committee
Thursday, July 15, 2021