

**DECISION OF GFA APPEALS COMMITTEE RELATING TO THE APPEAL BY RISING STARS FC AGAINST THE DECISION OF THE PLAYER STATUS COMMITTEE OF THE GFA IN THE MATTER OF A REQUEST OF FREE AGENT STATUS BY UMAR MOHAMMED AGAINST RISING STARS FC ON 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2021**

DATE: 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY, 2021.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

- |                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Felix H. G. Anyinsah Esq.   | Chairman |
| 2. David Asumda                | Member   |
| 3. Frank Addo                  | Member   |
| 4. Emmanuel Kwasi Opare-Wiredu | Member   |
| 5. Mabel Aku Baneseh           | Member   |

**FACTS OF THE CASE**

1. Rising Stars reported to the committee that the player had absconded in an earlier sitting
2. The committee in its earlier decision ordered the player to return to the club and serve the 2 months he went AWOL
3. The club and player had had a disagreement as to the player coming back to serve the remainder of his contract.

**ISSUES TO BE DETERMINED BY COMMITTEE**

1. Whether the player indeed went back to the club to continue his contract and as well serve extra two months to make up for the period he absconded as directed by the committee

The club maintained that the player did not turn up.

However, the player produced images of him at training with dates showing on such images. Committee asked the club representative to confirm if that was their training grounds. The club representative affirmed same .

The player next produced pictures and video of him in club jersey lined up for matches. The committee again asked the club representative to confirm if



player actually featured in those matches. This was again affirmed by the club representative.

The issue the club representative had with the player this time was that, player occasionally called to report sick and absented himself from training. To this, the committee chairman pointed out that falling ill is a human phenomenon so that should be accepted.

The committee was satisfied with the evidence produced by the player that he had indeed reported for training as directed by the committee.

To help resolve this stalemate, the Committee proposed the following options to the Club,

- 1. The player forfeits the amount the club owes him by way of salary and is declared a free player or*
- 2. The Player returns to the club to serve the contract and Rising Stars shall pay the player his overdue salaries in excess of GH¢7,250.00 within two weeks. Failure to pay within the two weeks, the player becomes a free player. However, if club pays, player stays and serve out the contract with extra two months... contract therefore will end July 31, 2021 instead of May 12, 2021.*

**Rising stars having considered the two options and after consultation, chose option 2.**

## **DECISION**

The committee then held that the player should return and serve the remainder of the contract and rising stars of Africa shall pay him an amount in excess of GH¢7250 being his outstanding salaries within two weeks or by July 3, 2021, instead of May 12, 2021.

## **Next hearing, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 23, 2021**

The petitioner (player), Umar Mohammed wrote to the committee that he was not been paid his outstanding payables as directed by the committee

The committee was in the process of granting the player a free agent when the committee's attention was drawn to the fact that the defendant, Rising Stars of Africa had filed an appeal at the appeals committee.

## **DECISION OF THE APPEALS COMMITTEE.**

**The Appeals Committee upholds the decision of the Player Status Committee that;**

***"The Player returns to the club to serve the contract and Rising Stars shall pay the player his overdue salaries in excess of GH¢7,250.00 within two weeks. Failure to pay within the two weeks, the player becomes a free player. However, if club pays, player stays and serve out the contract with extra two months... contract therefore will end July 31, 2021 instead of May 12, 2021"***



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Felix H. G. Anyinsah Esq.

Chairman