



IN THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE GHANA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Misconduct Case: No. M 24–2021

PANEL

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| 1. Mr. Osei Kwadwo Adow, Esq. | - | Chairman |
| 2. Nathaniel Laryea | - | Member |
| 3. Emmanuel Niikoi | - | Member |
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IN THE MATTER OF A MISCONDUCT CHARGE AGAINST TECHIMAN ELEVEN WONDERS FC

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IN RESPECT OF THEIR GHANA PREMIER LEAGUE MATCHDAY 18 GAME AGAINST ASANTE KOTOKO SC

PROCEEDINGS

The Disciplinary Committee (the Committee) examined the Charge Sheets, the Match Reports, the Pictures, Video of the Match, and the Statement of Defence of Techiman Eleven Wonders FC.

THE CHARGE

Techiman Eleven Wonders FC was charged with two counts as per the Charge Sheet as follows:

COUNT 1

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

Techiman Eleven Wonders FC is hereby charged for a breach of Article 2 and Article 8 of the GFA Matchday Covid 19 Protocol and Article 16(1)(b) of the GFA Disciplinary Code, 2019 in respect to violations of the rules and regulations of the Association.

PARTICULARS OF THE OFFENCE

Techiman Eleven Wonders FC: You, on 3rd April 2021, before a match between your club and Asante Kotoko SC at the Ohene Ameyaw Stadium, did fail to comply with the existing Matchday COVID-19 Protocols put in place by the Ghana Football Association (GFA) and the Government of Ghana by allowing unapproved persons being supporters into the stadium and on the field of play which defies the Directives of the Executive Council of the GFA issued on the 13th of February, 2021 for all football matches to be played behind closed doors and failing to observe COVID-19 Protocols.

COUNT 2

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

Techiman City FC is hereby charged for a breach of Article 42(1) of the GFA Premier League Regulations and GFA Directives on Ticketing.

PARTICULARS OF THE OFFENCE

Techiman Eleven Wonders FC: You, on 3rd April 2021, before a match between your club and Asante Kotoko SC at the Ohene Ameyaw Stadium, did collect money at the entry points of the venue an act that violate the Associations commercial arrangement with clubs.

DEFENCE

In a letter dated April 15, 2021 and signed by its Administrative Manager, Ali Mohammed, Techiman Eleven Wonders FC provided a Defence to the charges. The Club pleaded NOT GUILTY to the charges. The Club initially requested for personal hearing however, the Club went on and provided its statement of defence against the charges.

In its Statement of Defence, the Club stated that they had planned to bring soldiers to be deployed outside the stadium to prevent people from scaling the walls of the stadium when the GFA initially indicated that a maximum of 620 spectators would be allowed into the stadium for the said match.

The Club said further that they had reached an agreement with the soldiers, a day before the GFA announced that in view of the Covid-19 restrictions, clubs would not be allowed to admit fans into all stadia across the country.

According to Techiman Eleven Wonders FC, they went on radio and other social media platforms to announce that the match would be played behind closed doors. They however added that it was too late as most of their fans had already made up their mind to be at the stadium to watch the match.

The Club claimed that on the day of the match, it deployed its Stewards and Security Officers to stop fans from entering the stadium. It further claimed that fans started throwing stones and other objects at the Stewards and Security Officers which led to a cut on the head of one of the Board Members of the clubs.

In answer to the charge that the Club charged gate fees at the stadium Techiman Eleven Wonders FC stated that the allegation is not true because Techiman Eleven Wonders FC is a law-abiding club and will not disrespect the orders of the GFA.

FINDINGS

The Committee examined the depositions in the Charge Sheet, the Statement of Defence of Techiman Eleven Wonders FC, the reports of the Match Officials, pictures of the stamp palm of supporters and the video of the match.

It is the finding of this Committee from the evidence (the match reports of both the Match Commissioners, the Match Referee, pictures and a video recording of the match) that, though the match was to be played at closed doors, the home team (Techiman Eleven Wonders) admitted fans into the stadium.

The Match Reports particularly noted that the stands were filled to full capacity and social distancing was not observed. The Committee therefore holds that Techiman Eleven Wonders breached Article 2 and Article 8 of the GFA Matchday Covid 19 Protocols. Again, the Committee finds that the Club is in breach of Article 16.1(b) which states that:

In particular, members, clubs and licensed match agents who organize matches shall:

“comply with and implement existing safety rules (GFA regulations, national laws, international agreements) and take every safety precaution demanded by the circumstances in and around the stadium before, during and after the match and if incidents occur”.

Again, the evidence of the Match Officials and the video recording of the match indicate that the home team indeed breached Article 42(1) of the GFA Premier League Regulations and GFA Directives on Ticketing by collecting money at the entry points of the venue clearly indicated by the stamped palm of the supporters.

This Committee is of the view that the right signals must be sent to all clubs in respect of the COVID-19 Protocols and would therefore not apply the minimum sanctions in this respect.

DECISION

The Committee having satisfied itself that the evidence adduced before it supports the Charges against Techiman Eleven Wonders FC, therefore, makes the following decisions:

- 1. That a fine of Five Thousand Ghana Cedis (GHc5000.00) is imposed on Techiman Eleven Wonders FC in accordance with Article 6(1)(1) of the GFA Matchday Covid-19 Protocols and Article 37(1)(b) of the GFA Premier League Regulations.**
- 2. That Techiman Eleven Wonders FC shall serve a one-match home ban from the Ohene Ameyaw Stadium. This one match ban has been served by the club already on Matchday 20 at Len Clay Stadium and therefore the stadium ban is hereby revoked.**
- 3. That for breaching Article 42(1) of the GFA Premier League Regulations, a fine of Five Thousand Ghana Cedis (GHc5,000.00) is imposed on Techiman Eleven Wonders FC in accordance with Article 37(1)(b) of the GFA Premier League Regulations**

4. That the total fine of Ten Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢10,000.00) stated Decision 1 & 3 above is payable to the GFA within fourteen (14) days upon receipt of this Ruling, failing which Techiman Eleven Wonders FC shall forfeit the club's matches after the said deadline.
5. That Techiman Eleven Wonders FC and the club supporters are warned that any future misconduct or breach of the GFA Matchday Covid-19 Protocols or the GFA Regulations shall receive a more severe punishment.
6. That should Techiman Eleven Wonders FC be dissatisfied with this Ruling, the club has within two (2) days of being notified of this Ruling to appeal to the Appeals Committee.



**CHAIRMAN
DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, April 28, 2021**