



Amateur Football Combination

National Respect Gold Award League 2012

Spirit of Football



www.amateurfootballcombination.com



@AmateurFC

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10th December 2018

Ethu Crorie
Honorary Secretary
UCL Academicals FC

Dear Ethu

AFC Appeal Board Hearing on the AFC Fixtures Committee's decision not to allow the withdrawal of UCL Academicals 1st XI from the AFC Premier Division

Present

AFC: John Maskell (Chair), Bart O'Toole, Alan Robinson

UCL: Danny Goldman, Jack Thorne, Martin Rankin

AFC Fixtures Committee: Norman MacDonald

The UCL Representatives were asked to expand on their submission in support of their appeal. A lengthy discussion ensued and a number of points were made including the strength of the players below the 1st XI and the possibility of further players leaving the Club. It was confirmed that only one 1st XI player remained in the Club. The Club had tried to recruit more players at a suitable level to play in the Premier Division but without success.

Norman MacDonald stated that the Fixtures Committee had discussed the request at length, noting that this was a unique situation, but felt that the removal of the UCL 1st XI would be detrimental to the League.

A number of further questions were asked by the Appeal Board and then the UCL Representatives and Norman MacDonald were asked to leave the room.

The Appeal Board considered the documents submitted by both parties and recalled the representatives back into the room.

Decision:

In reaching their decision The Appeal Board recognised that this was unprecedented territory for the AFC and also took into consideration the following;

- Concern at the integrity of the Premier Division and effect on other clubs currently below UCL in the division should UCL 1st XI be allowed to withdraw; and
- the failure of UCL to promote players from their 2nd XI to the 1st and playing 6th XI players instead;

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- This decision is line with AFC Rule 1(e)

The Appeal Board advised the UCL Representatives that the Appeal was denied.

The Appeal Board recommended that the UCL 2nd XI be removed from the League Constitution and the 1st XI, 3rd XI, 4th XI, 5th XI and 6th XI remain in their current Divisions.

The Club would be given the opportunity to recruit additional players by postponing the decision until 19th January 2019. Arrangements would be made by the League's Match Secretaries to postpone the 1st XI fixture on 8th December 2018 but allow the 2nd XI fixture to continue on that date. Further 2nd XI fixtures would be postponed on 15/12/18, 05/01/19 and 12/01/19 but 1st XI fixtures would be played on these dates.

Furthermore, should UCL 1st XI be relegated, The Fixtures Committee may relegate them by more than one division depending on points gained.

Following this decision the club do have the option of an appeal to the Amateur Football Alliance under Rule 16. Should the club wish to take this up you must do so within 14 days of the date of this letter.

Finally, on behalf of the members of the Appeal Board, I would to thank the attendees from the club for the way they approached the meeting and their conduct during it.

Yours Sincerely

Ian Andrews

AFC Secretary