

**GENERAL PURPOSES TRIBUNAL  
OF FOOTBALL NEW SOUTH WALES  
FINAL DETERMINATION  
IN THE FOLLOWING MATTER:**

**GPT 15/37**

Respondent	Mr Spyridon Papadatos
Attendees	Mr Nick Kambounias (President, Cooks River Titans, Support & Representation)  Mr Shane Merry (Football NSW)
The basis upon which the matter is before the General Purposes Tribunal	Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations Sections 8.2 and 15.3
Key Words/Phrases	Dual Registration
Date of Hearing	4 November 2015
Date of Final Determination	11 November 2015
General Purposes Tribunal Members	Mr Chris Gardiner (Chair) Mr Alex Brown Mr Ray Lovat

## A. INTRODUCTION

1. Football NSW has established this General Purposes Tribunal pursuant to Section 5 of the Football NSW Grievance and Disciplinary Regulations 2014 ("Regulations").
2. A General Purposes Tribunal (GPT) is responsible for hearing and determining:
  - 2.1. Breaches of Misconduct and Disrepute as set out in Section 8.2 of the Regulations;
  - 2.2. Grievances between Members as set out in Section 8.3 of the Regulations;
  - 2.3. Matters referred by Football NSW's Disciplinary Committee as set out in Section 8.4 of the Regulations;
  - 2.4. Any other matter Football NSW considers important to the interests of football in the State, at its absolute discretion, as set out in Section 8.1 (a) (iii).
3. The GPT makes determinations as set out in Section 8.5 of the Regulations.

## B. NOTICE OF CHARGES

4. Football NSW issued a Notice of Charges against the Respondent dated 26 October 2015, alleging breaches of Section 4.9(a) of the FFA National Registration Regulations and Section 15.3 (b) of the Football NSW Regulations.
5. The conduct alleged in the Notice of Charges for the Respondent was as follows:

*On 1 April 2015, the Participant (Spyridon Papadatos) registered to play Football with Peakhurst United JSFC in the St George Football Association. The Participant used the Football Federation Australia Registration Number 76799378, the name, "Spyro Papadatos", the date of birth, "08/08/1978" and the address, "112 The Avenue, Hurstville NSW 2220". On 7 April 2015, the Participant registered to play Football with Cooks River Titans Football Club Inc. in the Canterbury District Soccer Football Association. The Participant created a new Football Federation Australia profile which had the Registration Number 77025456 and he used the name, "spyrido papadatos", the date of birth, "08/08/1978" and the address, "6/156 Homer Street, Earlwood NSW 2206".*

*The Participant played the 2015 season for both Clubs*

6. The Respondent pleaded guilty to the Charges in a Notice of Response dated 27 October 2015.

## C. DECISIONS OF THE GPT

7. The Tribunal determined that Mr Papadatos was guilty of a breach of Section 4.9(a) of the FFA National Registration Regulations and Section 15.3(b) of the Football NSW Regulations.
8. The Tribunal determined that Mr Papadatos be issued a reprimand.
9. The Tribunal determined that Mr Papadatos meet the costs of that part of Tribunal processes relating to his matter as assessed by Football NSW.

#### D. THE HEARING

10. The Hearing was held at Football NSW on 4 November 2015.
11. The Respondent was issued with a general caution with regard to the need for accurate and honest evidence.
12. The Respondent was invited to make a submission as to the jurisdiction or competence of the Tribunal. No submission was made.
13. The Respondent was provided an opportunity to make opening and closing submissions and to have questions put to the witnesses.
14. The Respondent was advised of his rights to appeal.

#### E. EVIDENCE & SUBMISSIONS

15. The Tribunal accepted and relied on the following Documents and Annexures from Football NSW:
  - 15.1. Copies of registration screenshots provided by Football NSW as Annexures C and D
  - 15.2. A statement by Mr Papadatos dated 1 September 2015
16. Mr Papadatos admitted to the dual registration, stating that he had been advised that participating in separate competitions was not prohibited. He denied that variations to his first name and his address in his second registration involved attempts to provide false information that would enable that second registration. He stated that 'Spyro' was a version of 'Spyridon', and that his first club had 'rolled-over' his registration with a previous address. He pointed to the use of the same date of birth and surname in the second registration as evidence that he was not trying to mislead or avoid registration restrictions.

#### F. CONSIDERATION & COMMENT

17. The Tribunal viewed Mr Papadatos as credible in his testimony at the Hearing and noted the character reference from the President of his new Club.
18. The Tribunal found plausible and accepted Mr Papadatos' explanation of an inadvertent transmission of incorrect data in one instance of registration and of ignorance of the restrictions involved in the Regulations in another.
19. It noted his early admission and statement of regret.
20. The Tribunal determined that Mr Padatos be issued a reprimand.
21. The Tribunal determined that the cost of the Tribunal process relating to his matter, as assessed by Football NSW, be met by Mr Papadatos.

**Chris Gardiner**  
**Chairman**  
**11 November 2015**