





Africa Cup of Nations 2013

Group Stage

(NGA) Nigeria		1:1		Burkina Faso (BFA)
Group C – 21 January 2013, 20:00 – Mbombela Stadium – Mbombela (RSA)				

Match Officials	Name	Origin	Mark ¹	Mark ²	Difficulty ³
Referee	Mohamed BENOUSA	ALG	7.8	8.1	Normal
Assistant Referee 1	Redouane ACHIK	MAR	8.3	---	Normal
Assistant Referee 2	Jerson Emiliano DOS SANTOS	ANG	8.2	---	Normal
Fourth Official	Hamada NAMPIANDRAZA	MAD	8.0	---	Normal
Blog-Referee Observer ⁴	Turan O.	USA			

¹ Final mark according to evaluation scale! (Expected level for fourth official is 8.0!)

² Mark if the final mark had not been influenced by a crucial mistake (only in case of a crucial mistake, to be held empty if no crucial mistake occurred).

³ Difficulty has to be integrated into the final mark. Levels of difficulty are: "normal", "challenging" and "very challenging".

⁴ Blog-Referee Observer =Inofficial referee observer appointed by our blogs' community

Evaluation scale	Description of the Marks
9.0 – 10.0	Excellent.
8.5 – 8.9	Very good. Important decision(s) correctly taken.
8.3 – 8.4	Good. Expected level.
8.2	Satisfactory with small areas for improvement.
8.0 – 8.1	Satisfactory with important areas for improvement.
7.9	One clear and important mistake, otherwise 8.3 or above.
7.8	One clear and important mistake, otherwise 8.0 – 8.2.
7.5 – 7.7	Below expectation, poor control, significant point(s) for improvement.
7.0 – 7.4	Disappointing. Below expectation with one and clear important mistakes or a performance with two or more clear and important mistakes.
6.0 – 6.9	Unacceptable.

Description of the match:

The match was played in South Africa's Mbombela Stadium. Like other matches in the tournament, the spectators' interest in this game was low. There were many empty seats in the stadium. However, the sound from vuvuzelas has created a fairly good atmosphere to play. The match stopped too many times due to fouls and this was not very much fun to watch. The referee could not contribute to the flow of the game.



Referee

I. Knowledge, Application and Interpretation of the Laws of the Game, Disciplinary Control and Technical Management of the game with special reference to the situations and the minutes when they occurred. (Crucial decisions, if available, have to be explicitly mentioned in the grid and highlighted).	
Comments: The referee did not interpret the Laws of the Game correctly in this match. He called some fouls and did not call the same position in another area of the field. There was no control of the players and no preventive refereeing.	
Minute	Description of the situation
2 nd	A correct foul called by the referee.
6 th	The referee signaled an advantage for BUR. But right after the player got fouled and released the ball the opponent received the ball and kicked it out for a throw in. The referee should have gone back for the foul as it was immediate lose after.
8 th	A position in the box. A NGR attack, Ball comes from a long cross and both players looking up to the ball. As the ball comes closer BUR defensive player pushes his opponent to the ground with his shoulder. The referee, although he had seen the long cross, didn't take appropriate spot for the position, either y going wide or getting closer to the position. Therefore, in my opinion couldn't make the appropriate call.
21 st	NGR Fegor OGUDE came in with a Kara-Te style very dangerous play. The referee just called the foul. No warnings and no yellow cards. It could and should have been a yellow card.
24 th	NGR Fegor OGUDE picks up his yellow card after an intentional foul from his opponent's back, as he was going towards to the goal, close to the touch line on NGR half. If he had been cautioned earlier this wouldn't happen.
28 th	The referee called 17 th foul of the game. In such a short period it looked quite high to me. The referee should have talked to some of the players to prevent more fouls.
30 th	A hand ball call from AR2. The referee had clear view for the position and although he didn't seek help from his assistant, the assistant shouldn't have called it because he didn't have a better view than the referee and the player was turned his back to him. In fact it wasn't a hand ball either.
35 th	Another foul from OGUDE. It looked clumsy but referee didn't take any further action again.
39 th	Yellow card for NGR Efe. Correct.
67 th	A clumsy foul from MIKEL (NGR) and the referee only called the foul. Again no warning, no cards.
73 rd	A Yellow card for Nosa Igiebor. He went for the ball but the ball was a little far from him. He went cleats up and stepped on his opponents foot. Should have been a red card in my opinion.
74 th	Second yellow card for Efe Ambrose for a tactical foul. The foul seemed to easy but consistent with referee's whole performance.
77 th	A foul from BUR. It was a tactical foul and the referee didn't issue a yellow card. NGR players argued for a yellow, giving the example of their player's send off.
80 th	A wrong foul call against NGR. No contact and BUR player goes down very very easily. Although the referee gas a good view he called a foul.
90 th	NGR player flicks the ball out to waste the time and the referee does nothing. At least a warning even a yellow card was appropriate.

II. Tactical approach and its Degree of Consistency, Personality, Match Control and Management of the Teams and Players with special reference to the situations and the minutes when they occurred.
Comments: The referee chose to call the game very tight. He called 28 fouls in the first half. This is a very high amount of fouls considering the level of play and issued only two yellow cards. The referee could have prevented some



fouls by warning the players or at least talking to them privately sometimes. His tactical approach was to call every little touch so that he could prevent possible riots. Starting from the second half, he kept his style and called the game tight. There were some challenges which should not be considered as fouls, such as shoulder charges, but the referee chose to call them in this game. This approach destroyed the flow of the game and the nature of attacking and good football. There were no examples of personality and player management on the field.

Positive Points	1.	Not available in this match.
Points to improve	1.	Anticipation of the next phase of play. Therefore, correct positioning after long crosses. The referee should be quicker to understand from the body of the players and therefore take his position for a possible long ball.
	2.	Allow the game to continue if the team who was fouled slightly still has the possession and they want to play.
	3.	Foul selection.
	4.	Relationship with players. There is no dialogue or communication with players.
	5.	Tone of the whistles. Same tone and same length for every call.

Minute	Description of the situation
8 th	The referee didn't make any efforts to get closer to the position or take the correct spot.
10 th	A long ball for BUR into NIG penalty area and the referee just waits the player and keeps jogging after the long ball.

III. Physical Shape, Stamina, Positioning, Movement as well as Mental Awareness, if needed, with reference to the minutes when they occurred, always in case of a "-".

Physical Condition (very good, good, average, poor): Good

Further Aspects:

+	Expected	-	
		X	Always close to play, follows play at all times with a flexible diagonal system and impedes interference with play
	X		Efficient positioning (at set pieces e.g.) and movement to be ready to take a (crucial) decision (specially in the box; be able to enter the box in some cases when it is necessary)
		X	Shows awareness and is able to anticipate the action

Minute	Description of the situation
67 th	Missed the foul by NGR player because of wrong positioning. Couldn't see the little push from behind, which led BUR player to lose his position in the air for the header. Could have been a good free-kick for BUR.
76 th	Referee was in the way of the shot. If the defender didn't block the ball, it would hit the referee. Should have positioned himself better.

IV. Teamwork (co-operation with (A)ARs and fourth official with reference, if needed, to special situations and the minutes when they occurred)

Comments:

The referee team communicated well during the game. Team work was at its highest in the 31st minute.



V. If needed: General comments or advices for improvement; explanation of the chosen mark; further matters (can be let empty).

Comments:

The referee wasn't good enough for this match. He called 48 fouls during the game. This is a huge number for fouls. He should have prevented some fouls by talking to the players. Watching this match one can see that Players were willing to listen and communicate with the referee so he should have taken the Advantage of that situation. Secondly he should have anticipated the next phase of play more and get the correct position. He missed some fouls due to his bad positioning.

Assistant Referee 1

Assistant referee's performance (please mention some important decisions either by integrating them into a coherent comment or mentioning them in the grid below; mandatory if a "-" (negative point) is selected)

Relevant Aspects:

+	Expected	-	
	X		Correct offside decisions by means of a good application of the "wait and see"-technique
	X		Good positioning and movement
	X		Mental alertness and reaction to incidents in his area of vicinity
	X		Reasonable degree of co-operation with referee (not flagging too much/too little; being able to support referee in crucial decisions)
	X		Efficient control at set pieces

Comments:

He is very close to the touch line during the play. Sometimes on the line and sometimes in the field. He had Space behind him and he should have used it. If he had taken one step backward from the touch line he would have better view of play. All the time.

Minute	Description of the situation
3 rd	A very tight offside call.
20 th	Correct play on as a NGR player expects a corner kick. The ball didn't completely cross the line.
23 rd	Allowing the game to continue before NGR goal. Good no offside call.
90 th	Correctly allows the play to continue prior to BUR goal.



Assistant Referee 2

Assistant referee's performance (please mention some important decisions either by integrating them into a coherent comment or mentioning them in the grid below; mandatory if a “-“ (negative point) is selected)

Relevant Aspects:

+	Expected	-	
	X		Correct offside decisions by means of a good application of the “wait and see”-technique
	X		Good positioning and movement
	X		Mental alertness and reaction to incidents in his area of vicinity
	X		Reasonable degree of co-operation with referee (not flagging too much/ too little; being able to support referee in crucial decisions)
	X		Efficient control at set pieces

Comments:

Minute	Description of the situation
45 th	Correct offside call.
31 st	He helped the referee with the hand ball call in this minute but there were no help needed and the position wasn't a hand ball. You can see the referee wasn't happy about the decision from his face while he was walking to the spot.

Fourth Official

Fourth official's performance (reference to technical management like substitutions or signalling of additional time, dealing with benches in case of conflicts)

Comments:
 Fourth official wasn't challenged in this match.