

The City of Kigali's beloved football club, AS Kigali, is facing a critical financial dispute that threatens its very existence. This crisis raises serious concerns about transparency and the team's future. Determining who is ultimately responsible for this situation is crucial to finding a solution.

On June 3rd, 2024, AS Kigali sent a letter to the City demanding immediate payment of outstanding player debts a staggering Rwf 149.9 million, approximately \$112,076 USD accumulated over seven months.

Additionally, the letter requested a significant financial boost - confirmation of increased support of up to 600 million Frw for the upcoming season.

However, a crucial detail throws a wrench into the narrative: the letter reached the media before landing on the City administration's desk. This raises eyebrows - were these tactics a calculated attempt to pressure the City through public exposure? The true motive remains a mystery as club sources remain tight-lipped.

Throughout this ordeal, the City of Kigali has maintained conspicuous silence. When contacted for comment, officials remain mum, leaving fans and analysts alike to speculate about the reasons behind the delay and the City's stance on the requested funds.

Analysts say that the lack of communication only deepens the uncertainty surrounding the club's future.

Unconfirmed sources also claim AS Kigali received a mere Rwf 150 million last year - barely enough to cover the current player debt.

They suggested that this was an unfair allocation, highlighting the need for a more transparent budgeting process if the club is to compete effectively.

Without a clear understanding of how funds are distributed, questions linger about the City's commitment to the team's success.

Despite the management's optimistic claim about continued participation next season, lack of confirmation from the City regarding funding leaves the team's future hanging in the balance. Sources report the City administration intends to discuss the request, but acknowledges the full amount might not be granted. Can a solution be found that ensures the financial health of the team and its players while maintaining responsible city budgeting? Only time will tell.

Last season, AS Kigali finished with a respectable 5th place finish (45 points from 30 games).