



FOOTBALL

THE BRAZILIAN FOOTBALL CONFEDERATION APPEALS TO THE COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT OVER NEYMAR JR. SUSPENSION

Lausanne, 18 September 2015 – The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) has filed an appeal at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) against the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and the Confederación Sulamericana de Fútbol (CONMEBOL) in relation to the 4-match suspension handed down to the Brazilian player Neymar Jr. during the 2015 Copa América tournament.

In matches played on 14 and 17 June 2015 during the 2015 Copa América Neymar Jr. received two yellow cards, followed by a red card. On 19 June 2015, after holding a hearing into the matter, the CONMEBOL Disciplinary Committee imposed a 4-match suspension on the player. The Brazilian team played two further matches during the 2015 Copa América without Neymar Jr., which leaves two match-bans still to be served.

The dispute before the CAS centres on whether the two remaining match bans should be served during Copa América matches, or during the next official competition organised by FIFA, i.e., Brazil's qualifying matches for the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia to be held on 8 and 13 October 2015 against Chile and Venezuela.

In its appeal to the CAS, the CBF seeks to overturn the decisions taken by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee and the FIFA Appeal Committee which ruled that the two remaining match bans should be served during the next official FIFA competition. As all parties have agreed to an expedited procedure, the CAS will put in place a procedural timetable for this arbitration which allows for a decision to be issued to the parties by early October 2015.