



Lost too many. Addo is a goner. PHOTO/COURTESY

Ghana sack manager Addo, 72 days before World Cup

BY AGENCIES

ACCRA. Ghana have sacked manager Otto Addo, 72 days before the start of this summer's World Cup.

Addo's departure followed a 2-1 defeat by Germany in a friendly in Stuttgart on Monday, and a 5-1 thrashing by Austria in Vienna last Friday.

The Black Stars, who are in the same World Cup group as England, have lost their last four games and despite having Manchester City winger Antoine Semenyo and Tottenham forward Mohammed Kudus among their ranks, failed to qualify for the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations under Addo.

Following the Germany game, the Ghana Football Association said, external it had "parted ways" with Addo and his exit was "effective immediately".

It added: "The Ghana Football Association will communicate the new technical direction of the Black Stars in due course."

Addo, 50, was born in Germany and spent his entire playing career in the country, also winning 15 caps for Ghana.

Mehta reclaim lead, Kings stay invincible



Strong wall. In Mukono District, Mukono Kings continued to stamp their authority, emerging from the quarterfinal stage without conceding a single goal. They haven't conceded a goal since the qualifiers started.

BY GEORGE KATONGOLE

MUKONO DISTRICT QUALIFIERS

BUIKWE FINALS

St Andrew's **2-7** Mehta

MUKONO SEMIS

Central Coll. **vs** Mukono Kings

Dynamic **vs** Seroma CHS

KAYUNGA SEMIS

St Mark **2-0** Hopeful future

Namagabi **0-0** Ndeeba (3-2)

Mehtha SS delivered a ruthless statement to reclaim supremacy in Buikwe District, thrashing St Andrew's Lugazi 7-2 in the USSSA district final at SCOUT Stadium on Saturday.

The emphatic victory ended a two-year dominance by Quality High School Buwundo and underlined Mehta's return as the district's most feared attacking force. With goals flowing freely

throughout the campaign, Mehta barely broke stride in the final, overwhelming a St Andrew's side that had earlier benefited from a controversial petition to reach the finals.

St Andrew's progressed after petitioning Quality for fielding an unregistered player in the semifinals—despite losing 5-0 on the pitch—but there was no dispute in the final as Mehta's firepower proved decisive.

Mukono Kings stand tall

In Mukono District, Mukono Kings continued to stamp their authority, emerging from the quarterfinal stage without conceding a single goal. They haven't conceded a goal since the qualifiers started.

They opened with a composed 2-0 victory over Merryhill, with fleet-footed Maliki Makumbi and Patrick Afeku on the score sheet, before beating hosts Kasana Vocational 3-0.

The biggest statement came against free-scoring Seroma, who were silenced 3-0 as Mukono Kings marched into the semifinals.

Their defensive solidity has made them early favourites as they prepare to face Central College Kabimbiri in the semifinals. In the other last-four clash, Seroma will take on Dynamic SS.

Head coach Shafiq Mudholo said his side is focused on bigger targets.

"We have built this team on organisation and hunger. The boys are improving with every game, but our ambition is to compete strongly at the nationals," he said.

Birikwalira leans on winning pedigree Seroma head coach Dan Birikwalira be-

lieves his experience at the highest level of schools football can inspire his side as they chase history.

"We need to win the trophy to show that we have some success. This is our second year in the schools finals and my target is to qualify the team for the nationals," Birikwalira said.

The young tactician brings a rich pedigree, having featured prominently at the national level between 2009 and 2013 with St Mary's Kitende. His sides reached multiple finals, winning national titles four times and adding further success in 2013 alongside four FEASSA trophies.

"My trophy-laden career gives the players momentum and a winning mentality. It creates trust between me and the players. This is a new team and we need to keep winning to impress our funders," he added.

Seroma, appearing at this stage for the first time, will hope that experience can carry them past Dynamic and into the final.

Kayunga set for final showdown

In Kayunga, St Mark will face Namagabi in Wednesday's final at Ntenjeru Ssaza Grounds.

St Mark booked their place with a 2-0 win over Hopeful Future, while Namagabi edged Ndeeba SS 3-2 on penalties after a goalless draw.

Attention now turns to the Mukono District finals on Wednesday, ahead of the regional championships scheduled for May 15 in Kayunga. Three teams will qualify from the zonal tournament to represent the district at the national finals in Lira.

Meanwhile, Uganda's representatives at the Caf Africa Football Schools Championships, St Mary's Boarding Secondary School Kitende have been flagged off yesterday at St. Mary's Stadium. Commissioner for Physical Education and Sports in the Ministry of Education and Sports Rev. Canon Dr. Duncans Mugumya officiated as chief guest.

"I thank the Government of Uganda that has continued to invest endlessly in the sports sub-sector. Special thanks to Fufa and USSSA for organizing the football competitions."

We are proud of you. You have a wonderful opportunity to showcase your talent to the world. Give your best and you will return victorious" Rev. Canon Dr. Mugumya stated.

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USSSA MEMBERS

Mukono Kings captain Sudiku Bulima. PHOTO/GEORGE KATONGOLE