## Wigan Athletic face new EFL charges and docked three points after failing to pay players on time

Wigan Athletic have been docked three points after failing to pay player salaries this month.

The Championship club were previously sanctioned by the EFL after failing to meet contract terms in June, July and October last year.

The EFL added that Wigan's owner has also failed to deposit an amount equal to 125% of their forecast monthly wage bill in a designated club account.

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The Latics now face new charges while their owner will also be charged with misconduct.

The news comes <u>after Wigan Athletic said</u> their delay in paying wages was down to "recent liquidity issues".

In a statement last week, the Championship side said the "financial strength of our ownership group remains robust and they are committed to supporting the club".

The Latics also said they have taken steps to "rectify the situation" and will "ensure that wage payments are made promptly going forward".

BusinessLive recently reported the club made a pre-tax loss of almost £8m during their latest financial year.

An EFL statement said: "Wigan Athletic has, with immediate effect, been deducted three points from the 2022/23 Championship table after the club failed to pay player salaries again in March 2023.

"The club had previously been charged and sanctioned for failing to adhere to the terms of the standard contracts that were in force between the club and its players in the months of June 2022, July 2022 and October 2022.

"This latest infringement by the club to meet its obligations means the terms of the agreed decision the club entered into with the EFL in January 2023 has been breached and the application of the suspended sporting sanction has been automatically triggered.

"In a further breach of the agreed decision, the club's owner has failed to deposit an amount equal to 125% of its forecast monthly wage bill in a designated club account.

"This had been a key term of the agreed decision to help prevent the club breaching EFL regulations again, should there be future delays in the processing of overseas payments.

"Separately, new charges have now been issued to the club following this latest instance of non-payment of player wages and for not complying with the agreed decision.

"The club's owner will also be charged with misconduct, with the matter to be referred to an Independent Disciplinary Commission."

Wigan said: "The club notes the EFL statement and charge and will issue a further update on the current wage situation in due course."

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