

## WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



### IN THE MATTER OF A WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

**Petershill FC**

**on behalf of**

**Ross Smith.**

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on Tuesday 26th August 2025 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 89th minute of the West of Scotland First Division fixture between Petershill FC and Lanark United FC on Saturday 23rd August 2025, the player was dismissed from the field of play by the Referee for A4 – Denying the opposing team or an opponent a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity as defined by Law 12.
3. The Claimants submitted a Claim of Wrongful Dismissal on behalf of the player. In support of this Claim, the club submitted video footage showing the incident in question and written submissions.
4. In order for a Claim of Wrongful Dismissal to be upheld, the Fast Track Tribunal must be satisfied, by way of evidence submitted and upon the balance of probabilities, that the Referee made an Obvious Refereeing Error in dismissing the player.
5. In summary, the Claimants' submission was that the player did not commit a DOGSO offence. They submitted that the pass played by the Lanark United FC player was intercepted by another of the club's players before it came anywhere near the Lanark United FC opponent that was fouled by the player. The submission was that there was no obvious goal scoring opportunity for the player to have denied.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was a DOGSO offence. The Referee reported that the player deliberately pulled an opponent to the ground where the opponent had a clear and uninterrupted run towards the club's goal.
7. The Fast Track Tribunal viewed the video footage of the incident and carefully considered the written submissions from the Claimants. It also considered the definition from Laws of the Game in relation to DOGSO offences.
8. Having considered all the evidence, the Fast Track Tribunal decided that the Claimants had successfully demonstrated that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred. The Fast Track Tribunal agreed with the Claimants' submission that there was no obvious goal scoring opportunity. The pass from the Lanark United FC player was intercepted by a team mate of the player in an action that was in no way impacted by the foul committed by the player. Whilst a foul was committed by the player, it was not a foul in a DOGSO situation. There was no clear and uninterrupted run towards the club's goal, as the ball had already been intercepted.
9. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal was that the Claim be upheld and the sending off offence and original sanction should be rescinded.

10. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal is final and binding on all Parties and is not subject to Appeal.