

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Cumnock Juniors FC

on behalf of

Gregory Ferry.

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on Tuesday 14th November 2023 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 54th minute of the West of Scotland Premier League fixture between Cumnock Juniors FC and Auchinleck Talbot FC on Saturday 11 November 2023, the player was dismissed from the field of play by the Referee for A4 - Denying the opposing team or an opponent a goal or a 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 Claimant's submission was that the player committed an offence that did not merit a red card on the basis that his opponent did not have "clear control of the ball" at any stage, that team mates of the player provided cover and could intercept the ball, and that the distance between the offence and the goal is too great.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was an A4 offence occurred when the player challenged his opponent by pulling with his right arm when the opponent had clear control of the ball, would have latched on to the touch, and was directly in the centre of the pitch with the ball going towards the player's penalty area.
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 A4 – Denying the opposing team or an opponent a goal or a goal scoring opportunity as defined by Law 12.
8. Having considered all the evidence, the Fast Track Tribunal decided that the Claimants had unsuccessfully demonstrated that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred on the basis that the opponent had an obvious goal-scoring opportunity.
9. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal was that the Claim be dismissed, and the sending off offence and original sanction should be re-imposed.
10. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal is final and binding on all Parties and is not subject to Appeal.