

## WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



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

**Bonnyrigg Rose Athletic FC**

**on behalf of**

**Patrick Martin.**

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on Tuesday 5th November 2024 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 56<sup>th</sup> minute of the Scottish League Two fixture between Clyde FC and Bonnyrigg Rose Athletic FC on Saturday 3rd November 2024, 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, a still image of an injury, 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 and the opponent both came towards the ball, the opponent went with his leg straight and studs showing, and caught the player above the ankle. The opponent was not in control of the ball, therefore an obvious goal scoring opportunity did not exist.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was A4 – Denying the opposing team or an opponent a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity as defined by Law 12, took place when the player and the opponent both went towards a long ball played over the top of the Bonnyrigg Rose Athletic FC defence. The opponent got to the ball first, made a controlled touch on the ball, and was then kicked recklessly on the sole of the boot by the player.
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 an obvious goal scoring opportunity as defined by Law 12.
8. Having considered all the evidence, the Fast Track Tribunal decided that the Claimants had been unsuccessful in demonstrating that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred. The Fast Track Tribunal were unanimous in their view that there was insufficient video evidence to allow the Fast Track Tribunal to take the decision that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred.
9. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal was that the Claim be dismissed and the sending off offence and original sanction be re-imposed.

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