

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Name of Club: Keith Football Club (the Club)

on behalf of

Name of Player: Adam Clark (the Player)

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal, which convened on Wednesday 11 September 2019 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 89th minute of the Highland League match between Lossiemouth FC and Keith FC, held on 7 September 2019, the Player was dismissed by the Referee for denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity.
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 short 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 made a genuine attempt to play the ball and that there was no denial of an obvious goal scoring opportunity.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act, which he decided was denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity.
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 Denial of an obvious goal scoring opportunity and the detailed range of factors including the likelihood of the Player keeping or gaining control of the ball.
8. Having considered all the evidence, the Fast Track Tribunal decided that the Claimants had not successfully demonstrated that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred. The Fast Track Tribunal were satisfied that the referee's decision was, on this occasion, correct. The definition of an Obvious Refereeing Error requires that an error be clear or self-evident or easily perceived and that was not established by the video evidence.
9. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal was that the Claim be dismissed and the original sanction of dismissal should be upheld. The claim is not considered to be misconceived or one that had no prospects of success.
10. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal is final and binding on all Parties and is not subject to Appeal.