

## WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



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

**Buckie Thistle F.C. (the Club)**

**on behalf of**

**Dale Wood (the Player)**

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on 4 December 2024 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 72 minute of the Scottish Gas Men's Scottish Cup 2024/2025 fixture between (Clydebank F.C. - Buckie Thistle F.C. on 1 December 2024 the Player was dismissed from the field of play by the Referee for 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 Claimant's submission was that the Player went to cover the long ball over his centre half's head and an opponent had taken a heavy touch and the Player has got in between the opponent and his goalkeeper and was shielding the ball through for the Player's goalkeeper to pick it up. He was dragged down and landed on the ground in the penalty area."
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was Denying the opposing team or an opponent a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity as defined by law 12 occurred when both the attacker and the Player had given equal elements of natural physical contact before the attacker had broken free and was goal side before he was subsequently pulled down by the Player. The Player's act was not a genuine attempt for the ball as it was a pulling offence on the attacker
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: 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 SUCCESSFULLY demonstrated that an Obvious Refereeing Error had OCCURRED. The Player was in front of his opponent and was entitled to shield the ball back to his goalkeeper.
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.