

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A (WRONGFUL DISMISSAL) CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Inverness Caledonian Thistle FC

on behalf of

Scott Allardice

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal, which convened on Friday 23rd April 2021 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 63rd minute of the Scottish Championship fixture; Dundee FC v Inverness Caledonian Thistle FC on Tuesday 20th April 2021, the Player was sent off for A1: Serious Foul Play.
3. The Claimants submitted a Claim of Wrongful Dismissal on behalf of the Player. In support of this Claim the Club submitted two clips of video footage of the incident in question, a written submission and statements from the Player and club Interim Manager.
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 50/50 challenge for the ball, won it cleanly and played it with his right foot off the opponents left shin. The player denied going in straight legged or with studs showing. He noted that the opposition player went over his left thigh, after he clearly won the ball, and went down theatrically and screaming.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining his reasoning for the dismissal for Serious Foul Play. He submitted that Mr Allardice had went into the challenge straight legged, at speed, with studs showing and connected with his opponent's ankle. He deemed this to be a challenge that endangered the safety of the opponent. He stated he was five yards from the incident.
7. The Fast Track Tribunal viewed video footage, from two different angles in both real time and slow motion of the incident, and carefully considered the written submissions from the Claimant. It also considered the definition from Laws of the Game in relation to serious foul play: (*ref IFAB Laws of the Game 2020/21*).

A tackle or challenge that endangers the safety of the opponent or uses excessive force or brutality must be sanctioned as serious foul play.

Any player who lunges at an opponent in challenging for the ball from the front, side or behind, using one or both legs, with excessive force or endangers the safety of the opponent is guilty of serious foul play.

8. Having considered all the evidence, the Fast Track Tribunal decided that the Claimant had successfully demonstrated that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred.

Scott Allardice, Inverness Caledonian Thistle FC

9. Having reviewed the video evidence submitted by the Claimant, the Fast Track Tribunal were able to see clearly that Mr Allardice had reached the loose ball ahead of his opponent and won it cleanly. The opponent did not get caught on his ankle but went over Mr Allardice's left thigh.
10. The Fast Track Tribunal were provided with video evidence, which gave a clear view of the incident. The second video, from behind the play, showed that Mr Allardice made a clean challenge and reached the ball whilst his opponent was at least a few feet from it. His momentum going across his opponent caused his opponent to fall, but there was no contact with the opponent's ankle nor was there an opportunity to avoid this collision.
11. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal was therefore that the Claim be upheld and the sending off offence be rescinded on the Player's record.
12. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal is final and binding on all Parties and is not subject to Appeal.