

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Heart of Midlothian FC

on behalf of

Yan Dhanda.

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on Tuesday 20th May 2025 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 38th minute of the Scottish Premiership fixture between Kilmarnock FC and Heart of Midlothian FC on Sunday 18th May 2025, the player was dismissed from the field of play by the Referee 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 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, whilst proceeding at pace towards the opponent's penalty area, was impeded by an opponent which knocked him off balance and sent his right leg straight forward, with the sole of the player's outstretched foot making contact with the opponent's lower leg.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was Serious Foul Play. Following an on-field review recommendation from the VAR, the incident occurred when the player, in his follow through, had an outstretched leg and made a secondary movement with his foot and with his studs raised. The studs made contact with the opponent in the mid-calf area, and endangered the safety of the opponent.
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 Serious Foul Play.
8. Having considered all the evidence, the Fast Track Tribunal decided that the Claimants had unsuccessfully demonstrated that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred. The Fast Track Tribunal agreed with the VAR interpretation of the incident, and felt that the challenge committed by the player endangered the safety of his opponent.
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.

Yan Dhanda, Heart of Midlothian FC