

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Hill of Beath Hawthorn FC

on behalf of

Jake Mitchell.

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on Tuesday 28th January 2025.
2. In the 80th minute of the East of Scotland Premier Division fixture between Jeanfield Swifts FC and Hill of Beath Hawthorn FC on Saturday 26th January 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 several clips of 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 Referees report was factually incorrect and the player did not make contact with the opponents lower leg and played the ball.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was A1 - Serious Foul Play occurred when the player committed a foul challenge with excessive force, the challenge was committed with high intensity, he was not in control, and he made contact with the opponent's lower leg endangering 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 A1 - 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 video evidence showed the player lunging into the challenge with both feet off the ground, endangering the safety of the 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.