

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Turriff United FC (the Club)

on behalf of

Liam Steed (the Player)

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on 9 October 2025 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 38th minute of the Highland Football under 18 League fixture between Formartine United FC under 18s and Turriff United FC under 18s on 6 October, the Player was dismissed from the field of play by the Referee for denying an opponent a 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 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 did not slide tackle the Opponent or take his legs from him when he was going through on goal and denying him a clear goal scoring opportunity and that in any event there was a covering player who would have been able to reach the ball in time to stop the attacker having a clear shot on goal.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was denying a goal scoring opportunity was committed when the Player made a sliding tackle on the Opponent and took his legs away from him and made no contact with the ball when the Opponent was through on goal with a clear 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: *A4 - 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 been unsuccessful in demonstrating that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred. The Tribunal, having viewed the video footage and bearing in mind that any action by the Player need not be a deliberate action to constitute an infringement agreed that on the balance of probabilities it was not possible to say that a clear refereeing error had occurred.
9. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal was that the Claim be dismissed and the sending off offence and original sanction re-imposed.
10. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal is final and binding on all Parties and is not subject to Appeal.