

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Rangers FC

on behalf of

Mohamed Diomande.

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on Tuesday 28th January 2025 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 95th minute of the Scottish Premiership fixture between Dundee United FC and Rangers FC on Sunday 26th January 2025, the player was dismissed from the field of play by the Referee for A2 - Violent Conduct.
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 with VAR audio , a video clip discussing the incident, 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 make contact with the face of the opponent, and if there was contact it was negligible.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was A2 - Violent Conduct occurred when the player struck an opponent in the face with more than negligible force while not challenging for the ball.
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 A2 - Violent Conduct, and Football Terms definition of Negligible as being "Insignificant, minimal".
8. Having considered all the evidence, the Fast Track Tribunal decided that the Claimants had successfully demonstrated that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred. Whilst the video evidence was inconclusive as to whether or not the player made contact with the face of the opponent, it was clear that if there was contact with the face it was negligible. The Dundee United FC opponent pushes the player forcibly with two hands, and the Fast Track Tribunal were of the view that the actions of the player in throwing his arms forward were a natural reaction in an attempt to retain his balance following the forceful push, which resulted in him being off balance.
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.