

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Raith Rovers FC

on behalf of

Iain Davidson

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal, which convened on Thursday 6th May 2021 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 58th minute of the Scottish Championship match between Raith Rovers FC and Heart of Midlothian FC on Friday 30th April 2021, the Player was dismissed for A4 - Denying the opposing team or an opponent a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity as defined by law 12.
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 commit a foul and consequently there could not have been the denial of a goal scoring opportunity justifying a sending off sanction.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was a sending off offence.
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 a direct free kick. The Fast Track Tribunal determined that the Player had not tripped or attempted to trip or impeded his opponent with contact, and therefore had not denied a goal scoring opportunity.
8. Having considered all the evidence, the Fast Track Tribunal decided that the Claimant had successfully demonstrated that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred. The Tribunal was satisfied that the Referee's decision was incorrect. The definition of an Obvious Refereeing Error requires that an error be clear or self-evident or easily perceived and that was established by the video evidence.
9. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal was that the Claim be upheld and the sending off offence be rescinded.
10. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal is final and binding on all Parties and is not subject to Appeal.