

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A (WRONGFUL DISMISSAL) CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Gala Fairydean Rovers FC

on behalf of

Gareth Rodgers

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on the evening of Tuesday 26th July 2022 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the Lowland Football League fixture; Caledonian Braves FC v Gala Fairydean Rovers FC, played on Saturday 23rd July 2022, the player was sent off for A4: Denying the opposing team or opponent a goal or 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 of the incident in question and written submissions from club officials and the player.
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 had been sent off in error having made contact with the ball in advance of the opposition player, and there was an unavoidable coming together of the two. They further emphasised that the attacking player had initiated the contact and lost his balance.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining his reasoning for the dismissal as being because the player had blatantly and deliberately tripped the opposing player having lost control of the ball. He noted that the opposing player was denied a goal scoring opportunity as he would have gained control of the ball had he not been fouled and there were no other defenders in close proximity. He further noted that he consulted with his Assistant Referee, who had raised his flag as the trip occurred. They both agreed that this was a sending off offence.
7. The Fast Track Tribunal viewed video footage in real time and in slow motion where the incident leading to the dismissal occurred. They also carefully considered the written submissions from the Claimant.

Having considered all the evidence, the Fast Track Tribunal decided that the Claimants had successfully demonstrated that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred.

Having reviewed the video evidence the Fast Track Tribunal were given a clear view, showing the player had made contact with the ball cleanly, with it being played off the opponents leg, before the opponent's momentum carried him into the player. The player was unable to avoid contact.

The Fast Track Tribunal were provided with video evidence which gave a clear view of the incident which supported the Claimants appeal and demonstrated clearly that the player had cleared the ball before his

Gareth Rodger, Gala Fairydean Rovers FC

opponent ran into his moving leg. The opponent's momentum carried him forward in the challenge and he simply tripped over the player's leg.

Based on this the Fast Track Tribunal were unanimous that the Claimant demonstrated in their submission that the Referee had made an obvious error resulting in the wrongful dismissal of the player.

The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal was therefore that the Claim be upheld and the sending off be rescinded on the player's records.

The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal is final and binding on all Parties and is not subject to Appeal.