

## WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



### IN THE MATTER OF A WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

**St. Anthony's FC**

**on behalf of**

**Graeme Crawford.**

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on Wednesday 10th January 2024 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 90th minute of the West of Scotland Second Division fixture between Caledonian Locomotives FC and St. Anthony's FC on Saturday 6th January 2024, 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 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 had stretched to block the ball, expecting the opponent to take a touch. He did not, but cleared the ball first time and the player made a slight contact on the opponent. His foot was low at all times, and there was no intent to play the opponent. The opponent did not require any treatment and resumed playing immediately afterwards.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was A1 - Serious Foul Play, stating that the player lunged at the opponent with a straight leg and studs, showing using excessive force, and caught the opponent above the ankle.
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 Claimant's had been unsuccessful in demonstrating that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred. The Fast Track Tribunal were unanimously of the view that the Referee was perfectly placed only a few yards from the incident, and that nothing in the video clips provided sufficient evidence to uphold a Claim of Wrongful Dismissal.
9. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal was that the Claim be dismissed, and the sending off offence and the original sanction re-imposed. The Fast Track Tribunal were unanimously of the view that the Claim did not fall to be dealt with in terms of Section 15.9 of the Judicial Panel Protocol.

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