

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Name of Club (the Club) Greenock Morton FC

on behalf of

Name of Player (the Player) James McAlister

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on 11 November 2020 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 37th minute of the Scottish Championship fixture between Raith Rovers FC and Greenock Morton FC on 7 November 2020 the Player was dismissed from the field of play by the Referee for 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 he went to control a ball with his right foot which was getting away from him on the plastic surface and saw his opponent sliding in fast and two footed. He then placed all of his weight on his left side to stop his momentum. He states that his action was not fast, was not out of control or made with any malice.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was serious foul play consisted of the Player, as the ball broke away from him, jumped off the ground with both feet in a lunging motion and caught his opponent in the shin area in a stamping motion.
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: Serious Foul Play.
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 being satisfied, by a majority, that the player had left the ground and was not in control and had no regard for, and endangered the safety of his opponent
9. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal was that the Claim be dismissed and the sending off offence and original sanction should be re-imposed and that the Claim did not fall to be dealt with in terms of para 13.13.8.1, 13.13.8.2 or 13.13.8.3.
10. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal is final and binding on all Parties and is not subject to Appeal.