

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Huntly FC

on behalf of

Cameron Heslop.

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on Wednesday 20th September 2023 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 83rd minute of the Highland Football League fixture between Deveronvale FC and Huntly FC on Saturday 16 September 2023, 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 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 offence was better categorized as Unsporting Behaviour, warranting a yellow card at most.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was A2 - Violent Conduct occurred when the player ran from the half-way line all the way past the 18 yard box and shoved an opponent with excessive force.
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.
8. Having considered all the evidence, the Fast Track Tribunal decided that the Claimants had partially demonstrated that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred on the basis that whilst the player does run from some distance towards the incident, his momentum is checked by another player, so at the point where he pushes the opponent in the chest there is not the momentum there could otherwise have been. The push was not one which met the criteria for A2 - Violent Conduct, and the player neither used excessive force or brutality.
9. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal was that the Claim be partially upheld and original sanction should be replaced with the lesser sanction of a caution for offence B1I - Commits any other offence(s) deemed by a Match Official to be unsporting behaviour.
10. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal is final and binding on all Parties and is not subject to Appeal.