

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Falkirk FC

on behalf of

Alfredo Agyeman.

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on the evening of Tuesday 29th April 2025 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 83rd minute of the Scottish Championship fixture between Partick Thistle FC and Falkirk FC, played on Friday 25th April 2025, the player was sent off 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 a clip of video footage of the incident.
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 not opinion, that the Referee made an Obvious Refereeing Error in dismissing the player.
5. In summary, the Claimant's submission was that the player had not committed a Serious Foul Play offence.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining his reasoning for the dismissal. He submitted at the time of the incident he believed that the player had lunged for the ball, and he had thought the player had made contact with the studs of his boot on the leg of his opponent with excessive force, endangering his safety. He reviewed the incident post-match and concluded that the player did not make contact with his studs, and believed the tackle did not meet the criteria for Serious Foul Play.
7. The Fast Track Tribunal viewed video footage in real time and slow motion of the incident leading to the dismissal from a number of angles. They also carefully considered the written submission from the Referees report. They also considered the definition from Laws of the Game in relation to serious foul play: *(ref IFAB Laws of the Game 2024/25)*

*A tackle or challenge that endangers the safety of the opponent **or** uses excessive force **or** brutality must be sanctioned as serious foul play.*

Any player who lunges at an opponent in challenging for the ball from the front, side or behind, using one or both legs, with excessive force or endangers the safety of the opponent is guilty of serious foul play.

8. Having considered all the evidence, the Fast Track Tribunal decided that the Claimants were successful in demonstrating that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred.
9. Having reviewed the video evidence submitted by the Claimant, the Fast Track Tribunal were able to agree with the Referee's review that there was no evidence of a lunge, nor excessive force or brutality in the challenge. The player made clear contact with the ball ahead of his opponent colliding with him.
10. For a claim to be successful the Fast Track Tribunal must be satisfied that it is more likely than not, in all of the circumstances of the Case, that an Obvious Refereeing Error has occurred. That is the error is 'clear, self evident, or easily perceived.
11. The Fast Track Tribunal were provided with video evidence which gave good views of the incident in real time and slow motion, and 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. It was clear there was no foul on the opponent, and the player cleanly played the ball with no evidence of a lunge or studs showing.
12. The Fast Track Tribunal ruled that the red card offence be rescinded.
13. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal is final and binding on all Parties and is not subject to Appeal.