THE FA DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS 2020/2021

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CONTENTS

PARTS

ON-FIELD REGULATIONS



ON-FIELD REGULATIONS

SECTION THREE: PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO CATEGORY 5



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WRONGFUL DISMISSAL (SENDING-OFF OFFENCES)

General

24 Where a Player has been sent off in a Match but claims that the dismissal was wrongful, that Player and their Club may seek to limit the disciplinary consequences of that dismissal by making a claim of wrongful dismissal in accordance with the procedure set out in paragraphs 26 to 28 below. In order to demonstrate that the decision was wrongful, the Player and/or their Club must establish that the Referee made an obvious error in dismissing the Player.

25 A Player and their Club may make a claim of wrongful dismissal for any sending-off offence under the provisions of Law 12 of the Laws of the Game, save for where the Player is sent off for a) receiving a second caution in the same Match or b) using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures.

Making a Claim of Wrongful Dismissal

26 Where a Player and their Club intend to make a claim of wrongful dismissal, they must notify the Affiliated Association that they intend to make such a claim. Notification can be provided to the Affiliated Association by fax or email. If confirmation is provided via email it should be sent to discipline@[insert name of county]fa.com – for example discipline@kentfa.com.

27 To make a claim of wrongful dismissal, the Player and their Club must submit to the Affiliated Association:

27.1 written particulars upon which the claim is founded;

27.2 any evidence in support of the claim (this must include video footage showing the incident if available); and

27.3 the relevant fee as set out in paragraph 36.

28 The relevant timings for a Player and their Club to make a claim of wrongful dismissal are as follows:

	TIMINGS	GENERAL GUIDE*
Notification of Intention to Submit a Claim	5pm on the second Business Day following the incident	Tuesday
Claim / Evidence	5pm on the fourth Business Day following the incident	Thursday
Disciplinary Commission	To be determined prior to the suspension being served.	Friday

* based on a Match taking place on Saturday or Sunday

29 Upon receipt of a claim of wrongful dismissal by the Affiliated Association, it will determine whether the claim is capable of acceptance by determining whether the claim complies with the requirements set out at paragraph 27 above and the timings set out at paragraph 28 above.

30 Claims of wrongful dismissal accepted by the Affiliated Association will be placed before a Disciplinary Commission for consideration as soon as possible but no later than the date upon which an automatic suspension is due to take effect.

Disciplinary Commission Procedure

31 The Disciplinary Commission shall determine the matter on video and/or written

evidence only, and parties shall not be present or represented in person. For the avoidance of doubt, none of the Match Officials nor the Club or Player are entitled to be present or represented in person at the Disciplinary Commission established for such purpose.

32 After considering the evidence, the Disciplinary Commission will decide whether the claim of wrongful dismissal is rejected or is successful. A claim will only be successful where the Disciplinary Commission is satisfied that the Referee made an obvious error in dismissing the Player.

33 If the claim of wrongful dismissal is successful, the automatic suspension will be withdrawn the fee is returned to the Player and their Club. If the claim is unsuccessful, the fee is not returned to the Player and their Club.

34 Where the standard punishment is withdrawn, the sending-off offence shall not be counted for the purposes of paragraph 58 below.

35 Notwithstanding the outcome of a claim of wrongful dismissal, the relevant sending-off offence will remain on the record of the Club and the Player.