

FA NATIONAL SERIOUS CASE PANEL
CONSOLIDATED DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION

CHAIRMAN SITTING ALONE

on behalf of Surrey Football Association

NON-PERSONAL HEARING

of

Rudy Mizon

Royal Earlswood FC

[Case ID: 11281567M]

&

Grant Bartley

Royal Earlswood FC

[Case ID: 11281569M]

THE DECISION AND REASONS OF THE COMMISSION

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Introduction

1. On 15 April 2023, Woodmansterne Hyde FC U16 ("Woodmansterne"), played an Epsom & Ewell Youth League, U16 Division 3 fixture against Royal Earlswood FC U16 ("Royal", the "Club") – collectively the "match".
2. Following the fixture, the Match Referee submitted a report regarding alleged misconduct after the fixture.
3. Surrey Football Association ("Surrey FA") investigated the reported incidents.

The Charges

4. On 07 June 2023, Surrey FA charged Rudy Mizon:
 - 4.1. with misconduct for a breach of FA Rule E3 – Improper Conduct including foul and abusive language (**Charge 1**);
 - 4.2. with a second charge for a breach of FA Rule E3.2 - Improper Conduct - aggravated by a persons Ethnic Origin, Colour, Race, Nationality, Faith, Gender, Gender reassignment, Sexual Orientation or Disability (**Charge 2**).
 - 4.3. It is alleged that Rudy Mizon used abusive and/or indecent and/or insulting language contrary to FA Rule E3.1, and it is further alleged that this is an aggravated breach as defined by FA Rule E3.2 because it includes a reference to Disability. This refers to the comment(s) "*does he have downs syndrome*" or similar. It is further alleged that Rudy Mizon has said to a Woodmansterne player "*Your mum is a slag and I will rape her*" or similar.
 - 4.4. Surrey FA advised in the charge letter that the range of sanction was between 6-12 matches and mandatory education.
 - 4.5. The relevant section of FA Rule E3 states¹:

"E3.1 A Participant shall at all times act in the best interest of the game and shall not

¹ p. 141 of FA Handbook

act in any manner which is improper or brings the game into disrepute or use any one, or a combination of, violent conduct, serious foul play, threatening, abusive, indecent or insulting words or behaviour.

5. In consolidation on 07 June 2023 Surrey FA also charged Grant Bartley:
 - 5.1. with misconduct for a breach of FA Rule E3 Improper Conduct against a Match Official (including abusive language/behaviour);
 - 5.2. Grant Bartley of Royal Earlswood is hereby charged with a breach of FA Rule E3.1 Improper Conduct against a Match Official including abusive language/behaviour in respect of the above fixture. It is alleged that during the fixture Grant Bartley used abusive and/or insulting words towards the Match Official by saying "*he can fuck off to*" or similar, which is improper pursuant to FA Rule E3.1.
 - 5.3. The relevant section of FA Rule E3 states²:

"E3.1 A Participant shall at all times act in the best interest of the game and shall not act in any manner which is improper or brings the game into disrepute or use any one, or a combination of, violent conduct, serious foul play, threatening, abusive, indecent or insulting words or behaviour.

[...]"
 - 5.4. Surrey FA advised in the charge letter the offence carried a sanction range of a 1-6 match suspension and a monetary fine up to £70.
6. Surrey FA included with the charge letter the evidence that they intended to rely on in these cases.
7. Both participants were required to respond to their charges by 21 June 2023.

The Reply

8. As of the date of the Commission, no response had been received from either participant charged therefore, in accordance with current FA policy each case

² p. 141 of FA Handbook

will be dealt with as *“deny – correspondence”*.

9. During the investigation evidence was submitted from:
 - 9.1. Report(s) and information supplied by the Match Official(s);
 - 9.2. Statements provided by Woodmansterne Hyde FC;
 - 9.3. Statements provided by Royal Earlswood FC;
 - 9.4. Video footage of the incident.

The Commission

10. The Football Association (“The FA”) appointed me, Steve Francis, as a Chair member of the National Serious Case Panel, to this Discipline Commission as the Chairman Sitting Alone to adjudicate this case.

The Hearing and Evidence

11. The case bundle was sent via e-mail to the appointed Chair 26 June 2023 to be completed within 3 working days.
12. I adjudicated this case on 27-28 June 2023 as a correspondence hearing.
13. The following is a summary of the principal submissions provided. It does not purport to contain reference to all the points made, however the absence in these reasons of any particular point, or submission, should not imply that we did not take such point, or submission, into consideration when we determined the matter. For the avoidance of doubt, we have carefully considered all the evidence and materials furnished with regard to this case. This document has, where appropriate, redacted details of those who have submitted evidence.
14. The Match Official submitted an e-mail to the County FA which contains the following information;
 - 14.1. They were walking off at the end of the game when they heard a commotion behind them *“turned to see my assistant (who I’m told was a qualified official) stepping in between 2 players and shouting 'Why would you do*

that? , in an angry manner. I quickly ran over and asked my assistant what he saw and he informed me that The Woodmansterne player, [redacted] Price had punched the Earlswood player in the face. I looked at the Earlswood player and saw blood coming from his mouth so believed this was a true assessment. I felt I had no option but to issue a red card for violent conduct. Whilst doing this I noticed that [redacted] Price was visibly shaken by what he had done and was very remorseful".

- 14.2. He then saw angry parents from both clubs *"shouting at each other and becoming very aggressive but was controlled by other people getting involved and separating them. It was during this time that I learnt that [redacted] had been provoked by some vile, disgusting language aimed at his mother, something along the lines of ' You Mum is a slag and Im going to rape her' I had no evidence of this so felt I could not act!"*.
- 14.3. However the Official does add *"None of this surprised me as the Earlswood players were constantly winding up the Woodmansterne players the whole match with sarcastic comments and sarcastic laughing and joking following mistakes. On 75 mins I called the captains together and appealed for the comments to stop but to no avail as they continued until the end of the game"*.
- 14.4. He was later informed the Earlswood manager had *"aggressively approached me whilst being held back an assistant whilst saying 'You can f*** off as well ref' I did not see or hear this although I later viewed video evidence that this was the case. Obviously if I had seen/heard this I would of issued a red card to the manager"*.
15. There are a number of statements from Woodmansterne, the first, is from a parent of the player allegedly abused. The statement notes the following details;
 - 15.1. The player was upset when they arrived home and the player who made the alleged comments as the no 77 for Earlswood. The parent notes her son was abused throughout the match *"saying things to our boys. This boy in particular after trying to bash into [redacted] called [redacted] a "cunt" and*

then [redacted] heard him say a nasty comment to Ed "have you got Downs syndrome". He then a few minutes later said to [redacted] "I'm going to rape your mum". This all happened around 5/10 mins before end of match."

- 15.2. After the fixture the player was still upset at the comments from no 77 *"instead of shaking his hand he punched him in the mouth [redacted] then walked off the pitch. The linesman who I know to be Dave Mizon was mouthy towards [redacted] as well. The referee came over and Dave Mizon told him what [redacted] had done, the referee said he had not seen the incident but still showed him a red card"*. Her son also heard the Earlswood coach swear and used the *"f-word"* a lot.
16. The following statements add the following observations on the two incidents;
- 16.1. The first from a player in the fixture notes *"During the game many of the opposition players had abandoned playing football and were more intent on fouling and using bad language. The boy that had the issues with [redacted] (was no 77 of Earlswood) had asked Ed if he had "down syndrome" several times during the game and had asked him this on their previous game against them"*.
- 16.2. The next is from the father of the player allegedly abused he notes *"heard a commotion as the linesman Dave Mizon ran on to the pitch at the saying [redacted] had hit a lad. [redacted] told me that no 77 had said to him" I'm going to rape your mum". I also heard another player on the Earlswood side say "it was his mum comment that did it" ". He had told the opposition parents what was said adding "you can't say thing like that and it sick, there manager came over towards me in an aggressive manner and said "you can just fuck off" numerous times Dave Mizon then disappeared into the crowds. As I was walking away a parent from Earlswood push me in the back. I was upset but did not react."*. He too heard the Earlswood swearing a lot and using the word *"fuck"*.
- 16.3. The next is dated 26 April 2023 from a player who also notes the use of the comment *"Towards the end of the game the ball left the field of play, I heard Royal Earlswood's Number 77 player say to [redacted] "I'm going rape your*

Mum". Which upset [redacted] greatly. After the final whistle, I understand there was a confrontation between [redacted] and No. 77 (which I did NOT actually see). I realised it was becoming heated when parents began shouting at players and each other. Earlswood's manager became very angry and looked as though he was going fight someone. There was lots of swearing from him. He was held back by his players".

- 16.4. The next is from a club official who was present and they were there for the end of the fixture and saw *"somebody started shouting, i looked over to the other touchline and could see players & parents from both team close to each other".* They walked over and asked their personnel to move and spoke to the player allegedly abused *"as he was in tears & distraught by what had been said to him & what he had done, he said sorry & I left him with his Dad Earlswood walked to the far corner flag".* Of the Earlswood manager they heard him *"shout at the referee "and you can fuck off as well ref" in a very aggressive way he was also being held back by one of his players, he then continued to swear to his players whilst they were by the corner flag – fucking this fucking that".*
- 16.5. The next was submitted by another club official and he notes the Earlswood manager was vocal and swore a couple of times at his players *"He was clearly frustrated at their apathy and lack of motivation during the game".* After the match he saw the incident with the two opposing players and the opposition linesman *"you can't do that, it doesn't matter what he said"* or something similar. Both sets of players ran over towards the two players. He did not see the incident but did record the aftermath and notes the Earlswood manager *"say "and you can f@!* off as well ref" to the referee. The referee did not hear this. The Earlswood manager continued to swear at his team after the game rather than try and calm the situation".*
17. There is a further three statements from both club and team officials, the first is from a team official and this adds the following details;
- 17.1. They allege the behaviour of some of the opposition players to be unacceptable throughout citing multiple fouls committed *"many of which I felt were dangerous and should have been punished with a yellow or in some*

instances a red card, however on all occasions the referee decided that a verbal warning and awarding of free kicks (and two penalties) was appropriate". He notes the opposition manager "was yelling at his players to tell them to stop behaving recklessly as they could not afford to have someone sent off. He even said at one point, "we won't win this match with 10 players"."

- 17.2. At the end of the game, they shook hands and the manager apologised to him, he then walked onto the pitch to thank the players and the Referee when *"I saw the opposition Linesman screaming at one of his own players saying, "next time you f*cking hit him back". I asked what had happened and he told me that one of his players had been struck in the face by one of our players".* The player involved surprised him as they were normally a quiet child with a calm demeanour.
- 17.3. He then asked for more detail and was informed *"one of the parents that had been standing on that side of the pitch told me that the boy who had been hit had said to [redacted], "I'm going to r*pe your Mum!")*. This disgusting threat had been heard by other parents nearby. Unfortunately, I cannot recall which parent had said this to me as there was then quite a melee of shouting and pushing. *[redacted] father had then walked onto the pitch and was confronted by the opposition manager who was threatening to kill [redacted] father and he had to be restrained by his own players! As he was being led away, the referee was walking in his direction, he then shouted, "you can f*ck off as well Ref!"*".
18. The next is from the Woodmansterne linesman from the fixture which provides the following;
- 18.1. They also feel the game was an unpleasant one with the final 10 minutes *"getting very niggly"*. He was the opposite side to the incident after the final whistle and saw nothing of the key incident that sparked things off. He was about to shake hands when *"voices got raised on the far side of the pitch, the Earlswood assistant referee shouting that a punch had been thrown. A number of players ran over to the far side, and I went across the pitch too, as did members of both coaching staffs. To be fair to many of the players on both sides,*

it did not develop into the mass brawl that it might have become. A number from both sides were keeping individuals apart. There were by now a number of parents on the pitch, and [redacted] dad was shielding someone (presumably his son) from other player”.

- 18.2. The Earlswood manager who he thought to have been *“reasonably critical of his players for some of the bad tackles - appeared then to lose his rag completely”*. He seemed to be accusing an adult of squaring up to a player and unleashed *“a stream of F words along with the occasional C word”*. The manager was then moved away by two Earlswood players and he then took Earlswood away to the far side.
- 18.3. He notes he heard nothing specific about the Referee only of the issue of the red card to the Woodmansterne player, he also notes the previous fixture between the two teams.
19. The final statement is from a club official who was at a different game at the same venue, that game finished earlier and he came over to this fixture, he adds the following;
 - 19.1. He had become aware of a commotion and went over *“When I approached it became clear that something had happened and that there was now a man (this later became clear as the Earlswood coach) who was being physically restrained from assaulting someone else (Woodmansterne Parent)”*.
 - 19.2. He began to separate the sides to opposite ends of the field of play, as he did so the Earlswood coach *“continues shouting abuse at someone using such expletives such as you a c*nt and you can f*ck off. He was at this time being restrained alarmingly by a player from his U16 side which was shocking to see. When the referee walked past shaking some of the players hands of the options the referee said, and I quote “you can f*ck off ref” this was followed by barrage of other insults. It was clear to see by everyone there that this coach had lost all control.”*.
 - 19.3. The Earlswood coach then turned towards their kit bags and shouted to his players *“I want everyone in the fucking corner”*. He continued to shout

this at his team *"It was at that point I saw it as my duty to not only safeguard the team from WHFC but also those of the opposition team as their coach was clearly out of control. This coach then continued to shout and scream abuse until some of the parents from the opposition team went and stood with their children when they realised what was being said to their children"*. In concluding his statement, he adds *"I would ask that immediate action is taken with this coach as he poses a present and clear danger to his and other teams."*

20. The case bundle then moves on to the statements from Royal Earlswood, the first, is from the participant charged and contains the following;

20.1. He opens by noting shock at the allegation he has sworn towards his players and the Referee which he strongly denies and feels *"I personally should've submitted a complaint against Woodmansterne Hyde for their conduct and behaviour involving one of their players and a players father which incurred immediately after the match. Being the last game of the season, I didn't want it to end negatively and therefore didn't bother, in hindsight I should've bothered!!"*.

20.2. Describing the incident at the final whistle he adds *"players were shaking hands when shockingly my player Rudy Mizon was punched in the face by one of the opposition, [redacted] it came to Rudy and myself as a total shock and for no reason. Following this a parent of the opposition (dark hair, stocky build) then ran onto the pitch (there was no respect line) aggressively and was squaring up and pushing his chest out and put his hands on my player [redacted]. I ran onto the pitch and shouted at him to leave him alone then instructed all my boys to come away to the opposite side of the field"*.

20.3. He finishes the statement with *"I can not believe that woodmansterne have had the audacity to send in a complaint following their own disgraceful behaviour and believe they have made all this up for the sole purpose of trying to cover up their own conduct"*.

21. The next inclusion from Earlswood is from the father of Rudy Mizon who was acting as the linesman for the fixture, this adds the following;

- 21.1. He thought the game was referee well and the game was generally played in a good spirit. Of the incident at the end of the match he walked onto the field of play to return the flag and his son was near to him *"I noticed one of the opposition players walk towards Rudy from a side angle, Rudy was totally unaware that he was walking towards him and out of no where the lad punched Rudy full in the face with a right hook coming in from the side. It drew blood immediately"*.
- 21.2. They were totally shocked and got between his son and the offender and within seconds *"the pitch was invaded by parents from both sides. The main perpetrator was the lad's parent all though I am not 100% sure he was his dad however his reaction indicated he was. His reaction was disgraceful as he got in to my face and our managers face in an extremely aggressive manor. Such aggression and complete disregard for my son who had been punched for no apparent reason or provocation that I could see. The adult in question kept saying "you can't say stuff like that" I have no idea what had been said but whatever it was nothing deserves to be punched in the face when your not even looking"*.
- 21.3. He then states he needs to point out some facts, firstly *"My son has no recollection of ever saying anything to this lad whatsoever, if something was said it was said during the match which means that the lad in question did not react at the time to this alleged abusive but actually waited until the whistle was blown to walk over 5 meters to punch his opponent"*. He has asked his son multiple times but he is adamant he did not say those words and was oblivious as to why the player reacted in that manner. When he was hit he did not react and could be heard saying to his team mates *"what the hell is wrong with him"*.
- 21.4. He describes the father *"so over reactive that on my journey home I could only but think that there had been issues or possibly things in his or his son private life that had triggered such a reaction. I certainly know if I had seen my son son punch someone my first reaction would be to reprimand my son and then see if the opponent was ok. This father was more intent in trying to start a fight with*

anyone in the vicinity and a clear indication on how he parents is son and clearly encourages his son to punch people”.

- 21.5. He notes he is considering legal action unless serious punishment is given to the offending player and his father. He has been in football for forty years and has never seen anything so disgusting as the behaviour of the parent.
22. There next submission is from Rudy Mizon, this is a direct response to the E3.2 charge and this notes the following;
- 22.1. He begins noting he wishes to inform he has no memory of saying the alleged words. He notes *“there may of been a misunderstanding in the recognition of who said the words that were allegedly said, which I am sure 100% were not said my myself”*. Throughout the game there was bad language from both sets of players which he understands to be quite common at this age and part of the game.
- 22.2. He adds *“Although a player on the other team assaulted me at the end of the game after the whistle blew by punching me with a right hook to the face. I was completely unaware that such things were to happen to me as the boy came at me from the side at an angle I was completely oblivious to”*. Having played football long enough he notes he understands *“once a football match finishes, all bad language or behaviour ends as the whistle is blown. Which is why I was so shocked as to why I was punched in the face and I also had no clue what it was for as I have no memory of saying anything”*.
23. Video footage has been supplied by Woodmansterne, this is 1:39 seconds in length and has sound; this shows the following;
- 23.1. The incident where Rudy Mizon was struck takes place before the video starts. At 03 secs a parent can be seen pointing at an opposition player and says *“oi did you say something like you was going to rape his fucking mum?”*. The individual is clearly upset and is being ushered away by another adult but is not seen to square up to any player. To the left of the footage the player who had punched the opponent is being shown the red card.

- 23.2. By 15 secs the Woodmansterne parent has 3-4 adults around him and voices are getting raised, the word *"fuck off"* can clearly be heard. At 22 secs the Woodmansterne parent can be heard saying *"it was heard you can't say things like that going to rape your mum"* and the Earlswood manager can be seen being restrained and moved away by players and can be heard swearing loudly including *"fuck off"*.
- 23.3. At 35 secs an individual walks up out of sight and deliberately pushes the Woodmansterne parent from the side before moving away. At 54 secs Grant Bartley can be heard shouting *"it's fucking kids you cunt"*. At 1:07 secs the Earlswood manager can clearly be seen pointing at the Referee whilst shouting *"ref you can fuck off and all"* whilst still being restrained by one of his players.
- 23.4. At no point does the parent from Woodmansterne make any contact, or square up to any Earlswood player. In addition, the linesman for Earlswood was not approached by the Woodmansterne parent but had moved towards the parent himself and pointed into their face during the exchange.
24. The case bundle also contains an appendix which adds the following regarding the alleged comment.
- 24.1. The mother of the player allegedly abused and of another incident within the fixture where *"this player deliberately ramming into my son with no intention of playing for the ball etc, but to deliberately injure. He failed to knock my son over instead knocking himself to the ground and then calling my son a "cunt" my son did not retaliate. What followed is the issue as he then said to my son "I'm going to rape your mum" which was heard by players on both sides."* They feel *"this warrants a report to the Police and I have yet to decide whether I should go that far"*.
- 24.2. They also allege the linesman was provoking her son and whilst they do not condone the actions of their son *"you will appreciate he was extremely angry but continued the match to the end. At the end of the match when the other*

player stood there grinning at my son and thought he was going shake his hand as you usually do at the end of the match in anger my son punched him in the face. A player for Royal Earlswood was heard saying "that's because of what he said about his mum".

24.3. They also note of the Earlswood manager *"All that could be heard from the manager during the match was swear words. As a FA coach/manager he should know that that is not how you should conduct yourself in youth football there is no excuse he is not fit to be a manager in youth football. The team manager and linesman at Royal Earlswood are an absolute disgrace to that club and youth football. The team are a disgrace."*

24.4. They have written to the club *"in the hope appropriate action will be taken. I would like to think this manager would be stood down along with the linesman. The team should be barred from playing football. We as a family appreciate there is banter at football but comments like "I'm going to rape your mum" go way over the mark. I am aware that our club Woodmansterne Hyde will be contacting you formally"*.

25. That concluded the relevant evidence in the case.

Standard of Proof

26. The applicable standard of proof required for this case is the civil standard of the balance of probability. This standard means, we would be satisfied that an event occurred if we considered that, on the evidence, it was more likely than not to have happened.

The Findings & Decision

27. For case **11281567M**, as is usual for charges of this nature the Commission must consider **Charge 1** before proceeding. The allegation is of the use of the terms *"Your mum is a slag and I will rape her", "does he have downs syndrome"*. The player has alleged these words were made to him, this was also reported to their parent and the Referee immediately after the incident. The Referee also states he would not be surprised should that have taken place due to the behaviour of the

- Earlswood players during the fixture. The statement of the players father notes an Earlswood player saying it was the comment from his mother that did it.
28. In addition, the statements from the players from Woodmansterne all note either the use of the term Downs Syndrome towards one of their players or support the allegation of the insult towards the players' mother. There is also a further statement noting a supporter had also heard the offensive comment regarding the player's mother.
29. Rudy Mizon denies the charge and has no memory of using of any such comments during the fixture. The statement from his father and the manager do not mention the words allegedly used or of any other instance during the fixture of any comments made. Having looked at the supporting statements provided, both Earlswood statements have made mention of the parent squaring up to a player which is not shown in the video and raises a concern over their accuracy. The reaction from the player allegedly abused does lead the Commission to believe something more than offensive than usual has been said.
30. The Commission therefore on the balance of probability believe it to be more likely than not the words as alleged in the charge notification have been used by Rudy Mizon and have found **Charge 1 as Proven.**
31. The Commission considered the words used by Rudy Mizon that are considered to aggravated. Use of the term slag is a derogatory comment used towards a female when used in this context means "*a lewd or promiscuous woman*" often the equivalent of a slut. This would meet the threshold of an aggravated charge as it is a clear reference to gender. It is noted that whilst use of the word "*rape*" is not aggravated in itself it is considered to be a vile insult to use.
32. The term "*downs syndrome*" appears to have been used in a derogatory way to reference the player and even if the player does not have Down's Syndrome it has been used as a slur and does meet the threshold for the charge. On the balance of probability, the Commission have found it was more likely than not to have taken place and have found both terms as aggravated therefore, **Charge 2 is Proven.**
33. For case **11281569M** the E3 charge for Grant Bartley of Improper Conduct against

a Match Official (including abusive language/behaviour); this is for use of the words *"he can fuck off to"*. The statement from Grant Bartley refutes use of any such language and of any further comments towards his players. The video provided clearly shows the participant using similar words to what has been alleged accompanied with other words towards the Woodmansterne parent he had exchanged words with including *"cunt"* and *"fuck"* whilst being restrained by his U16 players. The Commission therefore have found the charge as **Proven**.

Previous Disciplinary Record

34. Rudy Mizon's five-year offence history contains no other misconduct and is considered exemplary.
35. Grant Bartley's five-year offence history contains two previous Proven E3 charges both from the same fixture;
 - 35.1. 21 April 2018 E3 Improper Conduct (including threatening and/or abusive language/behaviour) sanction 3 Matches and a fine of £30 the details of which include *"It is alleged that Mr Bartley used threatening and abusive language towards members of the opposition, which resulted in the referee abandoning the game for the safety of the players"*.
 - 35.2. 21 April 2018 E3 Improper Conduct (including violent conduct and threatening and/or abusive language/behaviour) sanction of £25 the details of which include *"It is alleged that Mr Bartley deliberately kicked a ball at the opposition team manager."*.

Mitigation

36. Nothing has been received in mitigation.

The Sanction

37. For case **11281567M** Rudy Mizon, the sanction range for this offence is as follows;
 - 37.1. Suspension of 6-12 Matches;

- 37.2. A monetary fine;
 - 37.3. Mandated FA Education.
38. The entry point for the charge is a suspension of 6 matches. The Commission considered the multiple use of aggravated comments toward more than one player with the additional use of the word "*rape*" to be aggravating factors which have placed the sanction at the upper end of the range at 11 matches. Having considered the players' offence history, the sanction will be
- 38.1. To serve a suspension of 8 Matches from all football related activities to include a ground/venue ban;
 - 38.2. Rudy Mizon is to satisfactorily complete an online mandatory education programme before the suspension is served or he be suspended until such time, he successfully completes the mandatory education programme, the details of which will be provided to Rudy Mizon and;
 - 38.3. 8 (eight) Club Disciplinary Points to be recorded.
39. For case **11281569M** Grant Bartley, the sanction range for his offence is as follows:
- 39.1. Suspension of 1-7 Matches;
 - 39.2. A fine of £0-70.
40. The Commission placed the entry point at 2 matches and a fine of £25 in parity with on-field discipline. The Commission considered the multiple uses of offensive language including the word "*cunt*" in front of youth players whilst in a position of authority and a role model for young adults with the additional need to be restrained by those young adults to be aggravating factors. In addition, the offence history was also deemed to further aggravate the sanction and this is placed at the to end of the range at 6 matches and a fine of £70. Therefore, with nothing received in mitigation, it is the decision of the Commission that Grant Bartley is to;
- 40.1. To serve a suspension of 6 matches to include a ground/venue ban;

40.2. fined a sum of £70.

41. The decision is subject to the right of appeal under the relevant FA Rules and Regulations.

Signed...

Steve Francis (Commission Chair)

28 June 2023