

**Football Association Disciplinary Commission**  
**In the matter of Romaine Anderson (Case number 10134056M)**  
**'Chair-Alone' Disciplinary Decision**

**10<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

1. I, Ms. Stacy Newnham-Payne, was appointed to the Commission as chair to conduct a non-personal hearing.
2. Mr. Romaine Anderson was charged with a breach of FA Rule E3: Improper Conduct against a Match Official (including physical contact and threatening and/or abusive language/behavior).

**91 Categories of Offence:**

**91.1**

***Threatening behaviour: words of action that cause the Match Official to believe that they are being threatened;***

**91.2:**

***Physical contact or attempted physical contact: examples include but are not limited to: pushing the Match Official, pulling the Match Official (or their clothing or equipment), barging or kicking the ball at a Match Official (causing no injury) and/or attempting to make physical contact with the Match Official (for example, attempting to strike, kick, butt, barge or kick the ball at the Match Official)***

3. This case was brought by Amateur Football Alliance following a complaint made of words and conduct at a match played on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020. It was alleged Mr. Romaine Anderson “... ***grabbed hold of the top of my shirt and thrust his fist into my jaw/left cheek***”.

4. Mr. Romaine Anderson formally responded to the charge, pleaded guilty and requested that the matter be dealt with in his absence.
5. I was provided with a small bundle of documents including the charge sheet and written submission from Mr. Robert Poole (Referee), Mr. Ian Andrews (AFC Secretary), Mr. Ian Kennedy, Mr. John Wickham (player), Mr. Shane Mahon (player), Mr. Jamie Murphy (player), Mr Adam Roe (player) and response submissions from Mr. Romaine Anderson.
6. Given the charge had been admitted, I proceeded to determine sanction and consulted the FA Rules and 2019-2020 Sanction Guidelines. Mr. Romaine Anderson's record was considered, and it is noted there were no relevant prior offences.
7. I am mindful of the sanctions guidelines which require a recommendation of 182 days and up to £150 fine. I am aware the minimum sanction is 112 days. I remind myself of the agreed account given by Mr. Robert Poole and whilst I note the charge has been accepted, I am not minded on this occasion to consider mitigating from the recommended penalty. I consider the recommended punishment of 182 days suspension from football is appropriate together with £150 fine and 8 penalty points.
8. This decision is subject to the right of appeal in accordance with the relevant regulations within The FA Handbook.

**Stacy Newnham-Payne**

**Chairman**

**10<sup>th</sup> March 2020**