

DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION

On behalf of the Amateur FA County Football Association

Correspondence Hearing on 21st October 2020

of

Ross Jenkins

Norsemen

Case ID: 10232247M

&

Norsemen

Case ID: 10230134M

Panel:

Chair – John Maskell

Wing 1 – Anthony Julien

Wing 2 – Christopher Beament

Secretary – Melanie Armstrong

- a) The findings of fact made were as based on a Referee (Youth aged 16 years old) officiating in an open aged football match. The Panel noted his statement "Old Lyonians were not the reason why I abandoned the game and Ross Jenkins was not playing for half of the time when he was being verbally abusive to me so I thought to give him a second chance and then he carried on when he was on the field of play so that's why I decided to abandon the game from there."
- b) The reasons for the Panel's decision were based on Referee's statement above. Also, in recognition of Safeguarding Good Practice - this young referee needed "protection and assistance". Therefore, the Panel put young referee need first whereby when Mr. Ross Jenkins entered the field of play - the referee became more uncomfortable as Ross Jenkins who was verbally abusive towards him on the side-lines was now in close proximity and still shouting at him. After abandonment the third factor was the young referee had to be escorted to the train station by Old Lyonians Team Captain. (This is the protection and assistance that young referees need at all times). The Panel found the Charge to be Proven.
- c) The reasons for the penalty order was the Referee felt isolated and as both teams were very argumentative and did not offer any assistance to the young referee. Panel - decision was Mid-Range Sanctions for points/matches/fines.

Moreover, it was also agreed that AFA's RDO is to contact Middlesex RDO to update him and request that when appointing young referees to open-aged matches to ensure they are accompanied by their mentor and provide young referees with either armbands or other suitable clothing accessory to identify to both teams that the Referee is under 18 and requires protection and assistance.