

**IN THE MATTER OF  
MANCHESTER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

-v-

**CALVIN MORRIS**

**(CASE REFERENCE 9469981M)**

**WRITTEN REASONS - DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION**

**MONDAY AUGUST 20TH 2018**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. These are written reasons for the findings of a Disciplinary Commission, held on behalf of Manchester FA on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2018. The charges raised against Calvin Morris (CM) relate to actions he is alleged to have committed during a match between Salford Bulls and Worsley FC First on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018

2. The Disciplinary Commission members were Keith Marsden (Chair), Chris Dyson, and Brian Myer

3. Andy McAnulty (Manchester FA) acted as Secretary to the Commission.

4. By Manchester FA Misconduct Charge Notification, dated 9<sup>th</sup> August 2018, the following charges were raised:

a. Charge 1 - FA Rule E3 - Improper Conduct against a Match Official (including physical contact and threatening and/or abusive language/behaviour)

b. Charge 2 - FA Rule E3 – Improper Conduct against a Match Official (including abusive language/behaviour)

**FA RULE E3**

5. The relevant sections of FA Rule E3 (p. 113 of the FA Handbook Season 2018-2019) state:

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

The definition of Physical Contact or Attempted Physical Contact (p. 179 of the FA Handbook Season 2018-2019) states:

*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 kicks 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)*

**DETAIL OF CHARGES**

6. It was alleged that CM used offensive, insulting and/or abusive language towards the match official before he “threw a pair of goalkeeper’s gloves at the referee’s head with excessive force,

which missed". The panel were reminded that as it was attempted, the charge was still in the physical contact category regardless of the lack of actual contact.

#### **PLEA**

7. CM had pleaded NOT GUILTY to both charges on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2018

#### **WRITTEN EVIDENCE**

8.

- a. Manchester FA Misconduct Charge Notification dated 9<sup>th</sup> August
- b. Referee's report, undated.

It was noted that no written evidence had been submitted by either CM or his club

#### **CONSIDERATION OF EVIDENCE**

9. In view of there only being the referee's evidence to consider, the panel accepted the referee's version of the events notified therein

#### **FINDINGS**

10. Based on the balance of probability, the panel unanimously found both charges PROVEN. After being advised of CM's previous discipline history by the Commission Secretary, it was felt that the offence was at the lesser end of physical contact as no actual contact had been made

11. It was therefore believed that the minimum sanction was appropriate of 84 days and £100 fine, a warning as to future contact, and 5 disciplinary points

12. In accordance with FA Regulations, there is a right of appeal against the decision

**Keith Marsden (Chair)**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2018**