

**IN THE MATTER OF  
MANCHESTER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

-v-

**DALE WARDEN**

**(CASE REFERENCE 9581966M)**

**WRITTEN REASONS - DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION**

**THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2018**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. These are written reasons for the findings of a Disciplinary Commission, held on behalf of Manchester FA on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018. The charges raised against Dale Warden (DW) relate to actions he is alleged to have committed during a match between Bedians AFC 1st and Urmston Town Juniors 1st on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018.

2. The Disciplinary Commission members were Brian Myer (Chair), Lynn Bird and Mark Jules.

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

4. By Manchester FA Misconduct Charge Notification, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018, the following charges were raised:

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

**Charge 2** FA Rule E3 – Improper Conduct (including violent conduct and threatening and/or 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.*

*Physical contact or attempted physical contact: e.g. participant pushes the referee, pulls the referee (or his clothing/equipment), barges, or kicks the ball at, the official causing no injury and/or attempts to make physical contact with the official, e.g. attempts to strike, kick, butt, barge or kick the ball at the official*

**DETAIL OF CHARGES**

6. It was alleged that DW, following his dismissal from the field of play, re-entered the pitch where, after being restrained by opposition players and management, struck the referees arm away before his team mates dragged him away. Following the conclusion of the match DW also allegedly threw

two punches towards an opposition player who was taking the nets down before being led away by his team mates. This charge is in addition to the red card already received.

## **PLEA**

7. DW has pleaded guilty to all charges and wished the case to be dealt with in his absence.

## **WRITTEN EVIDENCE**

8.

- a. Manchester FA Misconduct Charge Notification dated 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018.
- b. Referee's report, dated 2nd September 2018.
- c. Statement report from Rob O'Connor, Manager/Secretary of Bedians AFC, dated 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018.
- d. Statements (two) from Lewis O'Connor, acting Manager of Urmston Town Juniors 1<sup>st</sup>, both undated.
- e. Statement from Thomas Johnson, player and captain of Urmston Town Juniors 1<sup>st</sup>, undated.
- f. Statement from Jason Watkins, player of Urmston Town Juniors 1<sup>st</sup>, undated.
- g. Correspondence from Chris Cole, Secretary of Urmston Town Juniors 1<sup>st</sup>, dated 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

## **SUBMISSION BY PARTICIPANT**

9. There was no submission by the participant to be considered.

## **FINDINGS**

10. The panel noted that no evidence or mitigation had been offered by the participant charged and on the basis of the submitted written evidence Charge 1 was found proven. The participant's previous record was provided by the Secretary.

11. Taking all the evidence into account the panel decided to impose a ban of 84 days from all football-related activity and a fine of £100.00, with 5 points recorded against the Club.

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

**Brian Myer (Chair)**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018**