

IRISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION APPEALS COMMITTEE

In the matter of an appeal filed on behalf of Glenavon F.C (hereinafter referred to as the Appellant) who seek to challenge a decision reached by the IFA Disciplinary Committee ('the Respondent') to apply an eleven-game suspension to PMcA because of a dismissal during a game against Loughall FC, played on 25th August 2023.

Appeals Board

Mr Barry Finnegan (Vice-Chair)

Ms Emma McIlveen

Mr Stephen Shaw

Decision:

This is a decision of the IFA Appeals Committee which was reached at a meeting of the Committee on the 19th October 2023, following consideration of written submissions made by the representatives of the parties.

The Committee met in order to decide the preliminary issue, namely, whether it would be necessary or appropriate to convene a full hearing of the Committee to consider and determine the issues raised by the appeal, or, in the alternative, that the matter be referred to the Respondent, who had originally dismissed the Appellant's challenge as being "out of time" – to ensure the Appellant's challenge could be heard by the Respondent.

The unanimous decision of the Appeals Board is that The Appellant's challenge should be heard by the Respondent at first instance.

The committee is not satisfied that the Appellant's challenge was received "out of time" given the information available, as well as the steps taken by the Appellant to ascertain the duration of the proposed suspension and consider it fair and appropriate that the Respondent formally hears the Appellant's challenge, in order to deal justly with the case in question.

Dated: 8th day of November 2023. Barry Finnegan, Vice-Chair. On Behalf of the Appeals Board