

CONSTITUENT BODY SHORT JUDGMENT FORM

Constituent Body	Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire & Derbyshire		
Case number		Select: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Red Card <input type="checkbox"/> Citing <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

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PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

Player's surname	Linklater	Date of birth	28/11/1997
Forename(s)	Kane	RFU ID #	00352792
Club name	Scunthorpe RUFC	Date of match	19/10/19
Offence & Law charged <i>(e.g. 9.12 - strike with head)</i>	9.28 - match official abuse	Plea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Admitted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Admitted
Home team	Hull University	Away team	Scunthorpe RUFC
Home team level*	2nd XV	Away team level*	3rd XV

***TEAM LEVEL REFERS TO 1ST XV, 2ND XV, COLTS, VETS, etc NOT WHOLE CLUB LEVEL**

HEARING DETAILS

Hearing date	12/11/2019	Hearing venue	Papers
Chairman	Andy Stout	Secretary	Andy Statham
Panel member 1	Tim Bembridge	Panel member 2	
Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proven <input type="checkbox"/> Not Proven		

CASE SUMMARY & SANCTION

NOTE: UNDER RFU REGULATION 19.5.2, PLAYERS ORDERED OFF ARE PROVISIONALLY SUSPENDED PENDING THE HEARING OF THEIR CASE, SUCH SUSPENSION SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN SANCTIONING

Total sanction	5 weeks	Entry Point	Low-end: 6 weeks	NOTE: SANCTION IN MATCHES FOR AGE GRADE ONLY
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RFU

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Banned from	19/10/2019	Banned to	30/11/2019
Ban split from	Click here to enter text.	Ban split to	Click here to enter text.
Free to play	1/12/2019	Costs	£30

Signature (Chairman)	Andy Stout	Date	14/12/19
Signature (Secretary)	Andy Statham	Date entered to GMS	

PLEASE TICK APPROPRIATE BOX: Intentional/deliberate 19.11.8(a) Reckless 19.11.8(b)

Gravity of player's actions 19.11.8(c)		Nature of actions 19.11.8(d)	
Abuse of officials of any kind is serious. This was not, however, the most serious abuse. It was not sustained or repeated. It was a single isolated statement, which nonetheless was totally contrary to the values of the Game.		After the referee blew his whistle to end the game Linklater said "That's a fucking joke."	
Existence of provocation 19.11.8(e)		Whether player retaliated 19.11.8(f)	
None.		N/a	
Self-defence 19.11.8(g)		Effect on victim 19.11.8(h)	
N/a		None.	
Effect on match 19.11.8(i)		Vulnerability of victim 19.11.8(j)	
None.		Match officials are always vulnerable. They attend matches alone without team mates.	
Level of participation/premeditation 19.11.8(k)		Conduct completed/attempted 19.11.8(L)	
N/a		Completed	
Other features of player's conduct 19.11.8(m)			
Entry point number	Top end*	Mid-range:	Low End 6 weeks

NOTE: STATE NUMBER OF WEEKS OR MATCHES ENTRY POINT FOR OFFENCE – ENTRY POINT IN MATCHES FOR AGE GRADE ONLY

*If top end, the Panel should identify an entry point between the top end and the maximum sanction (19.11.9) as set out in Appendix 2

In making the above assessment, the Panel should consider the RFU guidance (Note 2) set out in Appendix 5 (page 366) to Regulation 19. Significant weight should be given to RFU regulation 19.11.8(a), 19.11.8(h) and 19.11.8(i).

The phrase used by the player was clearly offensive - but there was no sustained verbal attack on the referee and the player promptly left the field of play.

AGGRAVATING FACTORS (REGULATION 19.11.10)

Player's status as an offender of the Laws of the game 19.11.10(a)

N/a

Need for deterrent 19.11.10(b)

NLD RFU has directed that all offences contrary to Law 9.28 are automatically aggravated by 2 weeks to deter offences against match officials.

Any other off-field aggravating factors 19.11.10(c)

N/a

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Acknowledgement of guilt 19.11.11(a)	Player's disciplinary record/good character 19.11.11(b)
Pleaded guilty.	Treated as having good character.
Youth & inexperience of player 19.11.11(c)	Conduct prior to and at hearing 19.11.11(d)
N/a	Papers.
Remorse & timing of remorse 19.11.11(e)	Other off-field mitigation 19.11.11(f)
After the match Linklater came up to shake the referee's hand and said that he accepted the decision to dismiss hm - he also apologised for the outburst.	None.

Number deducted: 3

NOTE: SUBJECT TO REGULATION 19.11.13, A DISCIPLINARY PANEL CANNOT APPLY A GREATER REDUCTION THAN 50% OF THE RELEVANT ENTRY POINT SUSPENSION

NOTE: MITIGATING IN MATCHES FOR AGE GRADE

ANY OTHER INFORMATION

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