

REPORT DECISION

DISCIPLINARY HEARING

September 20th 2019

Player no 7 (SCO), Alan Forsyth

After the end of the tournament a video clip was presented to me showing a physical action by Scottish Player no. 7 (Alan Forsyth) towards a player of the England team during the match between England and Scotland (match no 17) at the Belfius EuroHockey Championship (Men) 2019.

In my view the action can be seen as a breach of the Code of Conduct. As the tournament had already ended I have informed the CEO of Scotland Hockey that a formal hearing would be needed to be held requiring Player no. 7 and a representative to be present.

As all parties required for the hearing were not present at the same location it has been agreed by all parties that the hearing would be done by video conference.

The hearing was held on 17:00 (CET) on the September 20th 2019. (those present: Alan Forsyth, Derek Forsyth and Elisabeth Fuerst (as a witness))

The video evidence that was presented to me shows an unnatural movement of Alan Forsyth's stick towards Jack Waller (ENG) and thereby hitting him in the face.

I checked with both pitch umpires if they had seen the action which was not the case. I also checked the medical report, which does not show an injury reported on this action.

As I see this action as inappropriate and deliberate physical contact between players in the course of play I will treat this as a breach of the Code of Conduct Level 1.

Alan accepts that the action does not look good on video. However, he indicates it was never his intention to injure his opponent. Alan explained that he wanted to block his opponent in order to avoid him being able to take part in the defence as Alan's opponent had just lost ball possession. Immediately after the match and also the day after the match Alan apologized towards his opponent. The apologies were accepted by Jack Waller as shown in an email by Jack that Alan forwarded to me.

During the hearing the behaviour of Alan Forsyth was good.

Decision: Given the fact that Scotland does not play anymore matches at the Belfius EuroHockey Championship (Men) 2019. I will report this incident to the FIH Chief Executive Officer, who will refer it to the FIH Disciplinary Commissioner to decide on any period of suspension or any other penalty to be imposed. My recommendation would be to suspend Alan Forsyth for two matches.

Rhenen, September 20th 2019

Rogier Warris

Received:

Alan Forsyth

Place, date and time