



Erste Liga Disciplinary Committee

no.2023-24/014 decree

The Disciplinary Committee investigated the Erste Liga EL 55 (FEHA19 – UTE) where in the 30th minutes Alex Kovács (UTE) penalized 5+20 minutes for boarding.

IIHF RULE 41 BOARDING

A boarding penalty shall be imposed on any Player who checks or pushes a defenseless opponent in such a manner that causes the opponent to hit or impact the Boards violently or dangerously.

The severity of the penalty, based upon the impact with the Boards, shall be at the discretion of the Referee. There is a considerable amount of judgment involved in the application of this rule by the Referees. The duty is on the Player applying the check to ensure their opponent is not in a defenseless position and if so, they must avoid or minimize contact. However, in determining whether such contact could have been avoided, the circumstances of the check, including whether the opponent put themselves in a vulnerable position immediately prior to or simultaneously with the check or whether the check was unavoidable can be considered. This balance must be considered by the Referees when applying this rule.

Any unnecessary contact with a Player playing the puck on an obvious “icing” or “off-side” play which results in that Player hitting or impacting the Boards is “boarding” and must be penalized as such. In other instances where there is no contact with the Boards, it should be treated as “charging.”

IIHF 41.5. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.

The Committee made the following conclusions:

The player of the UTE pushed his opponent to the boards during a fight for the puck, who was injured. Kovács did not jump up during the collision, nor did he use unreasonable extra force. The Disciplinary Committee did not consider any motion of the movement to be capable of causing intentional injury.

The Disciplinary Committee, considering all the circumstances of the case, upholds the penalty imposed by the referees on the ice and does not impose any further sanction on the player.

31. October 2023, Budapest