



## ERSTE LIGA DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

### Decision

#### **Budapest Jégkorong Akadémia HC**

Banga Nándor

026/2025/2026

3 January 2026 Budapest

The Disciplinary Committee of the Erste Liga for the request of the Erste Liga Chief of Referee, reviewed the incident that occurred at the 10:51 minute mark of the Erste Liga game EL 113 (Budapest Jégkorong Akadémia HC - DVTK Jegesmedvék), where the Budapest Jégkorong Akadémia HC player #71 Banga Nándor was penalized 2 minutes for interference. The records have not shown an injury reported for Mirko Djumic and he did continue to play in the game.

#### **IIHF RULE 48 ILLEGAL CHECK TO THE HEAD OR NECK**

There is no clean check to the head or neck.

The Player delivering the hit must avoid hitting the opponent's head or neck.

A hit resulting in contact with an opponent's head where the head was the main point of contact and such contact to the head was avoidable is not permitted. This rule supersedes all similar actions regarding hits to the head and neck.

A penalty for "illegal check to the head or neck" will be assessed if one of the following occurs when a Player checks an opponent:

- (I) A Player who directs a hit of any sort, with any part of their body or equipment, to the head or neck of an opposing Player or drives or forces the head of an opposing Player into the protective glass or boards using any part of their upper body.
- (II) **A Player who extends and directs any part of their upper body to contact the head or neck of an opponent.**
- (III) A Player who extends their body upward or outward in order to reach their opponent or uses any part of the upper body to contact an opponent's head or neck.
- (IV) A Player who jumps (leaves their skates) to deliver a blow to the head or neck of an opponent.

#### **IIHF RULE 48.3. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY**

The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a major penalty and an automatic game misconduct penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by an "illegal check to the head or neck". Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.

#### **Review of Incident:**

With 8:17 remaining in the first period, DVTK player # 93 Mirko Djumic appears to trip BJA #71 Banga Nándor near the boards in the neutral zone (note: there was no penalty called on the play). Banga Nándor quickly regains his footing and moves back into the play, skating towards the puck carrier who is entering

the zone through the middle of the ice. At this time Mirko Djumic is positioned at the blue line, waiting for his teammate who is to his right to carry the puck into the zone. At that moment, Mirko Djumic is between Banga Nándor and the puck carrier. Banga Nándor sees Mirko Djumic and delivers a deliberate blind-side elbow to Mirko Djumic's head dropping him to the ice.

**The Committee Ruling:**

- The committee ruled Banga Nándor Check to the Head was not a legitimate hockey play, as Mirko Djumic was not in possession or control of the puck, was not eligible to be legally checked in any manner, and was not anticipating contact.
- While the committee determined that the original play along the boards should have been penalized, however it did not excuse or justify the subsequent reckless and dangerous retaliation.
- The committee determined that the elbow to the head from the blindside met all criteria for a major penalty and game misconduct for an Illegal Check to the Head based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility and fell under the Sudden arousal (2-5) category.

**As a result, Banga Nándor will be suspended for 3 games for the hit, and according the Erste Liga Competition Rules 73. § (1) the sanction imposed an automatic fine on the Budapest Jégkorong Akadémia HC. The organization must pay a fine of EUR 800.**

The officiating crew will be informed that a major penalty and game misconduct should have been assessed at the time of the infraction for an Illegal Check to the Head due to severity of the contact and the degree of violence.

The player will serve his suspension in his team's upcoming Erste Liga, and Hungarian Cup games.

*Erste Liga Disciplinary Committee*