



## ERSTE LIGA DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

### Decision

#### Corona Brasov

Gajdó Balázs  
054/2025/2026  
2 April 2026 Budapest

**Time of Incident:** 11:12, EL 181, Corona Brasov - Budapest Jégkorong Akadémia HC - SF game 5

**Players Involved:** BRA #98 Gajdó Balázs  
BJA #26 Jiri Riha

**Call on the Ice:** There was no call on the ice... the referees ruled the contact was an accidental.

The Head of the Erste Liga Referee Working Group initiated disciplinary proceedings pursuant to Section 12 (1) a) of the Erste Liga Sports Disciplinary Regulations due to the incident that occurred at 11:12 during the EL 181 Corona Brasov - Budapest Jégkorong Akadémia HC match.

The Erste Liga Disciplinary Committee has initiated proceedings pursuant to Section 2 (1) of the Sports Disciplinary Regulations. The Committee will inform the parties of its decision in the form of a resolution.

The records have not shown an injury.

#### 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.



### **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

### **IIHF RULE 56.1. INTERFERENCE**

A Player who obstructs or prevents an opponent “without possession of the puck” from skating, receiving a pass, or moving about the ice freely is considered as “interference”. A minor penalty for “interference” shall be assessed:

- (l) On a Player who interferes with or impedes the progress of an opponent who is not in “possession” of the puck;

### **Review of Incident:**

At 8:48 BRA #11 was moving the puck up from the left side to middle of the ice in the neutral zone. BJA #26 Jiri Riha skates to the middle of the ice at the BJA blueline to defend #11 approximately 2 meters from him. BRA #98 Gajdó Balázs is skating along the blueline facing both Riha and his teammate trying to stay on side. Jiri Riha slightly moves to his left as his teammates have defensive coverage on that side of the ice. At this time both Jiri Riha and Gajdó Balázs reach the position on the ice at the same time running into each other causing BJA #26 to go down from the contact.

### **The Committee Ruling:**

- The committee ruled Gajdó Balázs saw his opponent and did not try to avoid him.
- They did not rule it a deliberate move to contact the head therefore did not judge it to be a reckless endangerment of his opponent, did not feel the contact met the criteria for the severity of contact or degree of violence to meet standard to assess a major penalty or game misconduct.
- They did judge the play to be a minor penalty for interference or an Illegal Check to the Head or Neck if the principal point of contact was in that area.

As a result, the Committee categorized the incident as Careless (0-3) and that **Gajdó Balázs should have received a minor penalty but he will not be assessed any further discipline for the foul.**

*Erste Liga Disciplinary Committee*