

Australia news

Daniel McDonald, cadet in Skype sex affair, kicked out of army

Officer cadet who filmed himself having sex and broadcast it to others dismissed for conduct 'incompatible' with Army values

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Daniel McDonald (left) and Dylan Deblaquiere (right) at the ACT supreme court hearing in October. Photograph: Penny Bradfield/AAP

Former officer cadet Daniel McDonald has been kicked out of the army over his role in the Skype sex affair.

In a statement early on Saturday Defence said the army had terminated his service following his conviction in the ACT supreme court. It said his conduct was "inconsistent with the values of the Australian Army".

McDonald and fellow cadet Dylan Deblaquiere, both 21, were handed 12-month good behaviour bonds in the ACT court in October over their involvement in the Skype incident.

A woman known as Kate is suing the Department of Defence for compensation over the incident in which McDonald filmed himself having sex with her on a webcam and streamed it to Deblaquiere and five other cadets in a nearby room via Skype.

McDonald and Deblaquiere were found guilty of using a carriage service in an offensive manner, with McDonald also found guilty of committing an act of indecency.

The Defence statement on Saturday said McDonald's conduct was "inconsistent with the values of the Australian Army and the standards expected of a member of the Australian Defence Force".

It said he was suspended from the Australian Defence Force Academy on 28 June and was advised on 13 September of its intention to terminate his service.

"In accordance with procedural fairness and the principles of natural justice, Mr McDonald was provided an opportunity to respond to this decision," the statement said.

"After considering Mr McDonald's response, the Army informed him on 23 October 2013 of its decision to proceed with the termination of his service."

It said McDonald's service was formally terminated on Friday at 11.59pm AEDT and no further comment would be provided.

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