



Prescott Rally, 20-21 Sept 2024

DECISION 1

posted at: 21 Sept 2024 9:30

From: the Steward

Date: 21 Sept 2024

To: The Driver and Co-driver of car 301, Prescott Rally organizers **Time (decision):** 7:11

The Stewards, having received a report from the Clerk of the Course, have considered the following matter and determined the following:

Driver, co-Driver, and car No: Tony Chavez, Sterling Smith, Car 301

Date and Time (fact): 20 Sept 2024 17:24

Session:

Fact: Car 301 started stage 2 (Witty Tom N 1) and, at approximately 0.4 miles in, spun and stopped in a position where the car was unable to move. The car was at least partly blocking the stage road and was on the opposite side of a blind crest. Thinking that they could not exit the car and get into a position where they could warn the next car in time to avoid an impact, the team threw triggered a manual SOS. A “medical” SOS is used for all non-fire SOS situations.

RallySafe shows Car 301 trigger a manual SOS Medical.

In response to the report of the SOS, the stage was stopped. However, Car 928 had already been started. When they arrived at Car 301, the crew were displaying OK and Car 928 continued on. Due to the vagaries of RallySafe signal propagation, Car 928 did not receive the SOS from Car 301.

Because Car 301 was passed on stage by Sweep, they were marked as DNF by Scoring. However, they were directed by event staff to drive back to the start of the stage. There they joined the cars that had not started the stage in transiting back to Service. At the Service In control, they were given a new time card and allowed to continue the event. The team was not informed that they had been marked DNF until the final control.

The Clerk of the Course allowed Car 301 to be scored but, by given that they would have been given the scratch time on stage 2, determined that Car 301 had benefitted from triggering the SOS. Since no specific penalty is listed in the applicable rule, the Steward to assess a penalty so that they would not benefit.

Offence: RCR 5.13.4

Decision: The Steward has decided to assign a scratch time of 23:39 for stage 2 (Witty Tom N 1). This time is greater than the stage lateness time of 10 minutes, so they are also to be assessed with the appropriate lateness penalty.

Reason: The Steward concurs with the Clerk of the Course’s allowing Car 301 to be scored, and their application of RCR 5.13.4, specifically their determination that Car 301 benefitted from the SOS that they had triggered. Assigning the same scratch time as the cars that did not start or complete the stage would give them a lower stage than if they had not triggered the SOS. If they had not done this, they would have had to wait for sweep to

enter the course, reach them, and pull them off of where they were stuck. The resulting stage time would have been longer than the scratch time that they were assigned.

The scratch time was calculated by starting with the stage scratch time assigned in CoC Communications 1 (8:44.0) and adding the time before sweep would have entered the stage (11 minutes), the time for sweep to get from the start to Car 301's location (55 seconds, the time it took Car 301 to reach that location), and the time it typically takes sweep to stop, pull a car off of a berm, and then clear the scene (3 minutes).

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 10 of the ARA General Competition Rules.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Perry', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alan Perry, Event Steward