
Date:	25.06.2023	Time:	23:35 hrs
Subject:	STEWARDS DECISION No. 10	Document No:	2.12

From: The Stewards
To: The Competitor HYUNDAI SHELL MOBIS WORLD RALLY TEAM of Car No. 11
Crew THIERRY NEUVILLE / MARTIJN WYDAEGHE

All Competitors / crew members

The Stewards, having received a report from the Clerk of the Course, summoned the above crew members as well as a competitor's representative, have considered the following matter and determine the following:

Facts A person connected with the Crew of Car No. 11 travelled on or over the route of two (2) Special Stages, after reconnaissance, without authorisation.

Offence Breach of Article 35.4.2 of the 2023 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations.

Decision

- 1- Disqualification of Competitor HYUNDAI SHELL MOBIS WORLD RALLY TEAM of Car No. 11 from Safari Rally Kenya 2023.
- 2- As per Article 12.19 of the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code, the next Competitors shall be moved up in the classification.
- 3- As per Article 50.4 of the 2023 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations, the next Competitors shall be moved up in the Power Stage classification for the attribution of Power Stage points.

Reason The Stewards summoned and heard from the Team Manager (TOLGA OZAKINCI), Driver (THIERRY NEUVILLE), and Co-driver (MARTIJN WYDAEGHE) of car No. 11 in the presence of the Team Principal (CYRIL ABITEBOUL) on Sunday, 25th June, 2023 at 18:30 hrs.

The Stewards summarised the finding of the report received from the Clerk of Course that was initiated independently by the Rally Organiser. It indicated instances where an unauthorised person was seen, after reconnaissance, to be driving on routes that would be used as Special Stages over the course of the Rally. The person was on private property without authorisation and was stopped by Officials in two (2) locations on two (2) different days. The evidence presented to the Stewards indicated links of this person to the Crew of Car No. 11.

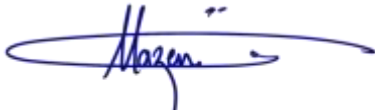
When asked, the Driver of Car No. 11 promptly admitted to the Stewards that he was aware of the identified person and that he had requested this person's support in identifying specific concerns (areas where rocks had moved) in some Special Stages that the Crew will be required to compete on. The Driver presented an honest synopsis of the situation and apologised to the Stewards for his lapse in judgement. The Driver took the onus of responsibility for this infringement.

The Co-driver highlighted the Crew's concern when it comes to the safe navigation of the challenging routes and how they perceive some ambiguity to what constitutes corner-cutting and the anti-cutting measures that the organiser was perceived to have introduced following reconnaissance.

The Stewards acknowledge and accept the honesty and feedback on the part of the Crew and view that the crew may have been misguided in mitigating safety with actions that are in breach of the regulations.

Article 35.4.2 of the 2023 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations, states that: “*After the publication of the Supplementary Regulations, only with the express authorisation of the Clerk of the Course and the FIA Rally Department may any person connected with an entered crew travel on or over the route of a special stage of the rally (except on foot). This rule shall apply until that special stage is terminated, open for public traffic and will no longer be used within the rally.*” The Stewards identify the facts presented in the Clerk of Course report and the honest admission of the Crew of the actions of this person as a breach of this article warranting a disqualification of the Competitor.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules.



Mazen Al-Hilli
The Stewards



Tanja Geilhausen



John Kamau

This decision was notified to the Competitor’s officially nominated representative as below:

<i>Name (in block letters):</i>	TOLGA OZAKINCI	<i>Date:</i>	25.06.2023
<i>Position within the team:</i>	TEAM MANAGER	<i>Time:</i>	23:43

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