
Date: 9 September 2022 **Time:** 22:20 hrs
Subject: STEWARDS DECISION No. 4 **Document No:** 2.5

From: The Stewards
To: The Competitor CHRYSOSTOMOS KARELLIS of car No. 51
Crew CHRYSOSTOMOS KARELLIS / LEONIDAS MACHAIRAS

The Stewards, having received a report from the FIA Deputy Technical Delegate with documentary evidence attached, have considered the following matter and determine the following:

Facts During routine checks at the Stop Control zone at the end of SS6, car No. 51 was found with the control unit of the extinguishing system not in operating position.

Offence Breach of Article 253-7.2 of Appendix J to the 2022 FIA International Sporting Code

Decision **Fine of € 1000 on Competitor No. 51**

In accordance with Art. 12.8 of the 2022 FIA International Sporting Code, fines shall be paid within 48 hours of their notification. Any delay in making payment may entail Suspension during the period a fine remains unpaid.

Reason The Competitor was informed accordingly by the Stewards and was given the possibility, if he wished, to bring forward any representations other than having forgotten to activate the extinguishing system.

The Competitor informed the Stewards that he would make representations. Team Manager, Stelios Fokalis and co-driver, Leonidas Machairas met with the Stewards on the evening of Friday, 9th September 2022 in Rally HQ. Mr Machairas explained that this was his 21st WRC event and he understood the importance of ensuring that all safety equipment was correctly worn or armed in the competition car. He constantly checks that the extinguisher is in the armed condition. During the Regroup and Tyre Fitting Zone it may have been put into Test mode. Mr Fokalis, Team Manager, also stated that as the car was hired for the event it was important to them that it was protected from fire. There was no doubt that at the Stop Control of SS6 the extinguisher was not in the operating position.

As stipulated in Art. 253-7.2.4 of Appendix J to the 2022 FIA International Sporting Code, the system must work in all positions. Art. 253-7.2 of Appendix J to the 2022 FIA International Sporting Code does not specify when the system can be switched on or switched off. For this reason, it must always be active during the rally.

The fire extinguishing system is a major safety item to protect the crew in case of fire in the car and it is essential for the crews' safety. Safety remains a key challenge and the FIA is committed to do everything possible to protect, among others, the crew.

It is further to be noted that the Clerk of the Course issued Communication No. 3 on 7 September 2022, reminding all competitors about the activation of the extinguishing system. Competitors must always ensure that the system is activated before leaving the service park.

The Stewards therefore conclude that this is a breach of Art. 253-7.2 of Appendix J to the 2022 FIA International Sporting Code.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the 2022 FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules.



Iain Campbell
The Stewards



Silver Kütt



Yiannis Kantas

This decision was notified by email to the Competitor's officially nominated representative as below:

<i>Name (in block letters):</i>	STELIOS FAKALIS	<i>Date:</i>	9.9.2022
<i>Position within the team:</i>	TEAM MANAGER	<i>Time:</i>	22:30

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