

Oregon Trail Rally, May 16-18, 2025

DECISION 4

From: The Stewards Date: 5/18/2025

To: Cars following Car #209 on SS7

The Stewards, having received a request from the CoC to review the numerous inquiries from cars which encountered car 209 after it had rolled on SS7 have considered the following matter and determined the following:

Driver and car No: Car #209 Tabor and McKee and all the cars which followed them on SS7.

Time (fact): 5/17/2025 1554 (approximately)

Fact: Car 209 rolled at spectator area on SS7. The crew activated "OK" on their RallySafe unit, but communication to subsequent cars was intermittent due to the position of the car so some cars saw "OK" and others saw nothing. The crew exited the car and began showing thumbs up to each subsequent car. The Spectator Area marshals would not allow the crew to cross the active stage road to retrieve their OK sign and triangles. Several media, spectators, and possibly marshals gave confusing and inconsistent signals to subsequent cars including arms crossed over head and hands pushing down intending to indicate that the cars should slow. The ambulance at the spectator area was reported to have its emergency lights flashing.

Car 9 stopped to determine the situation and then continued. Numerous cars have submitted inquires that they were confused as to whether or not this was an OK or SOS situation, slowed, and continued.

Offence: RCR 5.15.3.

Decision: Cars which failed to stop at the incident will not be given any scoring relief. Car 9 has been awarded 34 seconds scoring relief by the CoC and the stewards agree that is appropriate.

Reason: The crews are expected to show OK via either the sign or thumbs up as well as set up triangles, but in this case they followed the official's instructions who would not allow them to return to the car to complete this procedure. This created a force majeure situation where the crew was not able to set up triangles. The lack of triangles plus the actions of those showing conflicting signals and the ambulance lights made the situation confusing. The safe thing for subsequent cars to do was to stop and determine the situation before continuing. It would be wrong to reward competitors for not following the safety protocol.

Any car that saw the "OK" either by hand signal or RallySafe display is considered to have been following 5.15.1.c which states that no scoring relief will be given.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 9 of the ARA General Competition Rules.

J.B. Niday - Sr. Steward

Rob Bohn - Event Steward