



100 Acre Wood, 14-16 March 2024

STEWARD DECISION 7



From: The Stewards

Date: 16 March 2024

To: The Event Organizers and the Crew of Car 26

Time (decision): 13:45CDT

The Stewards, having been alerted by the Clerk of the Course Terec Willson of two inquiries alleging misbehavior of the crew of Car 26 Robert Sanders/Ashley Speare during reconnaissance, have considered and determined the following:

Time (fact): The inquiries were received at 21:04 and 21:10 on 14 March 2024 both from car 789.

Session: Reconnaissance, which was open from 7:00 to 19:00 on 14 March 2024

Findings: (1) Car 26 went off the road on CR 4290 on the transit approaching the start of stage 7 while doing recce. There is extensive damage to the right side of the team's recce vehicle which is more consistent with having struck an immovable object like a tree (as claimed by the driver of Car 26) than a more moveable object like a fence (as alleged by the driver of car 789 Kyle Williams).

(2) The scene was examined by the Event Steward who found that it is consistent with the description given by the driver of car 26 of having hit a tree. A nearby fence had damage and there were broken car parts nearby, including hubcaps. The recce car being driven by the crew of car 26 had alloy wheels; no hubcaps. Nothing at the scene provided convincing proof that the fence was damaged by the recce vehicle of car 26.

(3) There were no reports from the RSLite app of speeding by the crew of Car 26 during recce. The RSLite app that was used in the recce vehicle of Car 26 was operating and tracking correctly.

(4) There is no evidence found that the crew of Car 26 actually drove irresponsibly or dangerously during recce (as alleged by the co-driver of Car 789).

(5) No violations of other reconnaissance regulations, reckless or dangerous driving, or excessive speeding was reported by the organizers to the Steward(s), as required by RCR 1.2.1.g for the application of any penalty.

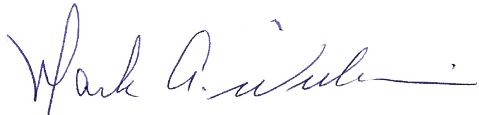
Decision: The behavior of the crew of Car 26 was not deemed to be in violation of any governing regulation. No further action.

Reasons:

- The Stewards jointly held a hearing with the crew of car 26, Robert Sanders, via phone at 8:45CDT on 15 March 2024 where he was given the opportunity to present his own facts and evidence of the alleged misbehavior.

- Mr. Sanders claims to have slid wide into a tree causing damage to the right side of his recce vehicle. He is not aware of any damage to a fence.
- Mr. Sanders claims to have done recce with his cruise control set to 35mph. He notes that this might be perceived as “speeding” by a car that is driving slower.
- Mr. Sanders admits to passing other recce cars, including one on a curve, but only as a last resort after following cars that were traveling under the recce speed limit who would not give room to overtake.
- The crew of car 789 Kyle Williams/Zane Johnson said in their inquiry that they noticed slide marks and downed fencing. In conversation with the Senior Steward, the driver of car 789 could not recall the precise location of the fence that they observed to be damaged. Car 789 then observed car 26 stopped at an intersection (County Roads MM, 4280 and 4290) with visible damage to the side of the car.
- The co-driver of car 789 noted in his inquiry that car 26 “acted irresponsibly and dangerously during recce”.

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.



Mark A. Williams, Senior Steward



Michel Hoch-Mong, Event Steward