



100 Acre Wood, 14-16 March 2024

STEWARD DECISION 6



From: The Stewards

Date: 16 March 2024

To: The Crew of Car 604 Nathan Odle/Elliott Odle

Time (decision): 9:10CDT

The Stewards, having received a request from the Clerk of the Course to determine whether the crew of car 604 was in breach of any regulations that would subject them to a penalty for having struck the back of car 817 when it was stopped at the Finish Time Control of stage 6, have considered and determined the following:

Time (fact):The request was received during the Stewards Meeting at 22:45CDT on 15 March 2024.

Session: Between end of day 1 competition and start of day 2 competition.

Facts: The crew of 604 admitted to the Event Steward that the driver saw the Flying Finish yellow board but did not see the subsequent red Flying Finish boards placed on both sides of the road. The driver applied the brakes only when he saw car 817 stopped at the Finish Time Control. This was too late to avoid striking the back of car 817. A volunteer working the FTC narrowly escaped being hit in the incident.

Both crew members of car 604 failed to not only see the red Flying Finish boards which were very visible as shown in a photo taken by a Sweep vehicle, they were also oblivious to other signs that they had reached the Flying Finish: the visual indication given by their RallySafe device; the distance-referenced tulip diagram given in the competitor routebook; and the indication in the supplied Jemba notes. Both crew members should have known to expect the Flying Finish red boards shortly after they saw the Flying Finish yellow board.

Rules: GCR 7.1.e that makes dangerous driving a breach of the GCRs; and GCR 7.9.c that authorizes the Stewards to apply a penalty of exclusion for violation of regulations.

Decision: The Stewards apply a sentence of exclusion to car 604 to preclude them from running day 2 of the rally.

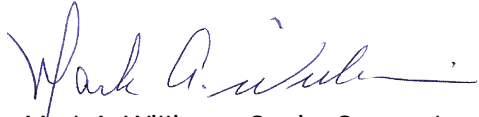
Reasons:

- The Stewards consider the failure of the crew of car 604 to notice multiple indications that they had reached the Flying Finish makes them guilty of unattentive driving that resulted in a dangerous driving situation in breach of GCR 7.1.e. The Stewards do not deem the behavior of this crew to be reckless driving because it does not constitute driving a vehicle with willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property.
- The possible penalties for breach of GCR 7.1.e are set out in GCR 7.4. Given (a) the seriousness of the unsafe condition caused by the inattentiveness of the crew of car 604 (b) the resulting grave risk to volunteers at the scene of the impact with car 817 and (c) the fact

that the impact resulted in car 817 being unable to start day 2 of the event, the Stewards have chosen exclusion as the penalty that is most appropriate and most fair to all affected parties.

- In compliance with the provisions of GCR 7.9, the Stewards summoned the crew of car 604 to give them the opportunity to present any arguments or evidence of their own. The hearing was conducted at 8:50CDT adjacent to Parce Exposé. No arguments or evidence was presented that suggested that exclusion was not justified.

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