
Date:	18.04.2024	Time:	18:55 hrs
Subject:	STEWARDS DECISION No. 1	Document No:	2.2

From: The Stewards
To: The Competitor THOMAS PAHLITZSCH of car No. 81
Crew THOMAS PAHLITZSCH / STEFAN GRUNDMANN

All Competitors / crew members

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

Facts Crew of Car 81 drove sections of Reconnaissance special stages in reverse direction and also drove certain sections of stages up to four times.

Offence Breach of Article 35.4.3 of the 2024 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations.
Breach of Article 9.4.1 of the Croatia Rally 2024 Supplementary Regulations

Decision **Fine of € 750 on Competitor No. 81 THOMAS PAHLITZSCH**

In accordance with Art. 12.8 of the 2024 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 A hearing was held on Thursday, 18 April 2024 at 13:15 hrs with the Crew of Car 81, Driver Mr. Thomas PAHLITZSCH and Co-driver Mr. Stefan GRUNDMANN. The Crew stated that their presence was sufficient and did not require their Team representative to join the hearing.
The Stewards requested the presence of Mr. Alex RODRIGUEZ, the representative of the supplier of the FIA Tracking System, to replay the tracking data from Car 81. The Crew did not object to Mr. RODRIGUEZ's presence during the hearing.

The Crew were presented with the data from the RS Lite App. The data showed that, on Reconnaissance Day 2, the crew proceeded to drive normally on SS2/7 (Jaškovo – Mali Modruš Potok). At different sections of the next stage, they either diverted to a route outside the stage or drove back (up) in the opposite direction of the rally stage. Similar violations were also shared for other stages driven by the Crew during Reconnaissance Day 2. The Stewards also pointed out that various sections of the stage(s) were driven more than two (2) times.

The Crew acknowledged the tracking data that was shown to them. They stated that they had forgotten the Reconnaissance Road Book and did not have it on hand during the day. The Crew alternatively relied on their phone's GPS/map application which did not render effective to navigate the stage(s) and this led them to drive through parts of the stage in reverse direction. The Crew stated that they had not intended to drive sections of the stages more than two (2) times and that this occurred mainly as they did not know the correct Reconnaissance route.

The Stewards reminded the Crew of the limitations set in Article 35.4.3 of the 2024 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations, which stipulates that: *Each crew is limited to two passages on each special stage*, as well as Article 9.4.1 of the Croatia Rally 2024 Supplementary Regulations, which mandates that: *special stages must be driven in the same direction as the rally*.

The Stewards acknowledged that the infringements were committed unintentionally. However, as per Article 12.1.1.a of the 2024 FIA International Sporting Code, offences or infringements are punishable, whether they were committed intentionally or through negligence. The Stewards deem that the stated fine is appropriate for this case.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the 2024 FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules.


Mazen Al-Hilli
The Stewards


Tanja Geilhausen


Sanjin Paro

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

<i>Name (in block letters):</i>	ROLAND LESCHORN	<i>Date:</i>	18.4.2024
<i>Position within the team:</i>	TEAM REPRESENTATIVE	<i>Time:</i>	19:00

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