

Date: **Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024**  
Subject: **STEWARDS DECISION N° 24**

Time: **21.00 hrs**  
Document No: **2.27**

From: *The Stewards*

To: The Competitor **SOUTH RACING CAN-AM** of Car No. **337**  
Crew **JOAO MONTEIRO / NUNO MORAIS**

And

The Competitor **TAURUS** of Car No. **329**  
Crew **DANIA AKEEL / STEPHANE DUPLE**

*Number of pages: 3*

*Attachments: 0*

### **PROTEST lodged by**

The Competitor of car No. 337 **SOUTH RACING CAN-AM** (Crew **JOAO MONTEIRO / NUNO MORAIS**)

### **Against**

The Competitor of car No. 329 **TAURUS** (Crew **DANIA AKEEL / STEPHANE DUPLE**)

### **Procedure:**

1. On Wednesday January, 17<sup>th</sup> 2024, the Clerk of the Course received at 22.25 hrs a protest lodged by the Competitor of car No. 337 addressed to the Chairperson of the Stewards of RALLY DAKAR 2024.
2. Competitor No. 337 claimed in their protest that the clutch of Competitor No. 329 is not compliant with FIA 2024 International Sporting Code - Appendix J Art. 286 – 2 - Obligations.
3. Both parties were summoned and heard together by the Stewards. The following persons were present at the hearing:

On behalf of Competitor No. 337:	Scott ABRAHAM Anne-Marie GERANDI	Team Representative Team Representative
On behalf of Competitor No. 329:	Hendric Willem WEVERS Patrick GERRITSEN Cyrille CONSTENSOU	Team Representative Team Representative Team Representative

The hearing was held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 18:15 hrs in the Stewards' Room with all the Stewards present.

4. No objections were raised against the composition of the Stewards panel.

5. At the hearing the parties referred to the documents previously submitted. None of the parties submitted further evidence nor initiated the hearing of additional persons or asked to conduct further investigations.
6. Since the protest filed against the alleged non-compliance of Automobiles with the regulations, the necessary checks were carried out and a FIA TD report was received (Doc 6.7), which stated that the clutch system of car No. 329 was found in compliance with Art. 286 and more especially with Art. 286-2.1 & 286-8.1.

#### **On the Admissibility:**

7. The Stewards examined the admissibility of the protest:
  - 7.1 The protest was lodged in due time, in accordance with Art. 13.3 of the FIA 2024 International Sporting Code.
  - 7.2 The protest was lodged by a single competitor against a single competitor as stipulated in the FIA 2024 International Sporting Code Art. 13.1.1 to 13.1.3, Art. 13.7.3 and Art. 13.7.4.
  - 7.3 The subject of the protest was against an alleged non-compliance of *Automobiles* with the regulations, as stipulated in the FIA 2024 International Sporting Code Art. 13.2.1 and Art.13.4.1.
  - 7.4 The protest was properly accompanied by the protest deposit of € 1000, as stipulated in Art. 13.4.2 of the FIA 2024 International Sporting Code, Art. 60.2.1 of the FIA 2024 CCRSR and in Art. 14.2 of the event Supplementary Regulations.

The Stewards find that the protest is admissible and that the requirements of the Code have been complied with.

#### **Hearing of the Parties:**

##### **Protester:**

The protestor stated that the reason for his protest is because two other vehicles were disqualified for clutch incompliance with the regulations, and that they needed to know if this car had the same clutch type as those. Since the FIA TD report confirms that the clutch meets the requirements, it remains for us to congratulate our colleagues. There is an honest sporting fight going on.

##### **Competitor of Car No. 329:**

The competitor representative stated that in this car they used this type of clutch because it is cheap compared to other types and it performed well.

**After the hearing was closed by the Chairperson at 18:35, the Stewards took the following decision after due deliberation.**

#### **Decision:**

8. **The protest is admissible.**
9. **The protest is rejected.**
10. **No further action against Competitor No. 329.**
11. **Protest fee is not to be returned to the Protester.**

**Reason:**

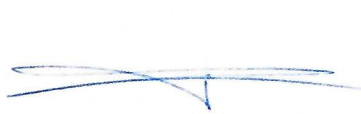
The Stewards received the protest alleging the clutch type in Car No 329 is not in compliance with Art. 286-2.1 & 286-8.1.

During the hearing the protester explained the reason for submitting the protest, and the competitor Car No 329 also explained the reasons for using this type of clutch in their vehicle.

The TD was requested to inspect the alleged breach and confirm it is compliance with the abovementioned articles, and his report (Doc No. 6.7) confirms it is compliant. Both parties were shown the report of the TD, and both agreed on its contents.

Based on the TD report and the acceptance of the protester and competitor, the Stewards decided that the regulations were not breached.

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.



**Arnas PALIUKENAS**  
FIA Chairperson of the Stewards




**Omar ZAROUR**  
FIA Steward




**Saleh ALEM**  
ASN Steward

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*Competitor:* SOUTH RACING CAN-AM *Vehicle No:* 337  
*Crew:* JOAO MONTEIRO / NUNO MORAIS  
*Date:*  
*Time:* 21:59 *Signature:* 

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*Competitor:* TAURUS *Vehicle No:* 329  
*Crew:* DANIA AKEEL / STEPHANE DUPLÉ  
*Date:* 15/01/2022  
*Time:* 22h15 *Signature:* 

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