

Protest meeting.

Parties personally advised at 22 :11 for a meeting at 22:30 in HQ and to call any witness they need.

Meeting was delayed as a lot of people were in the room asking for other questions related to the rallye.

22:39 start of the meeting

Witness present

Clerk of the course : Patrick Paradis

Official : Pierre Thibault

Marhsall : Josée Riopel

Official : Joel Labreque

Car 17 driver : Trevor Pougnet

Car 17 codriver : Ryan Rouleau

22:52 End of the meeting.

Decision: The Protest is rejected

The Stewards have decided unanimously to reject the protest of team #17 against the decision of the Clerk of the course to imposed them a 10 minutes penalty. The 10 minutes penalty will remain.

After hearing all witnesses, the stewards have no doubt that the infraction of reversing in a control aera was committed. Both, the driver and the codriver admitted they reversed. They argued it was on a short distance and made in a safe way as they did it slowly and were checking their mirrors. The team argued that the fact a mistake was made on their timing card was the reason why they reversed so they could have the mistake corrected. They also stated that the horn of the car wasn't working so they cannot use it to attract the marshall's attention. It was mentioned by the witnesses that they back up maybe a car and a half-length.

The Stewards are in the opinion that the team should have better managed the situation so they would have not to reverse to address the Marshall's error. A good practice is to have the codriver to check the card and make sure everything is good before the driver moves away from the control car. Another way would have to exit the car and asked the marshal to come see them to correct the time.

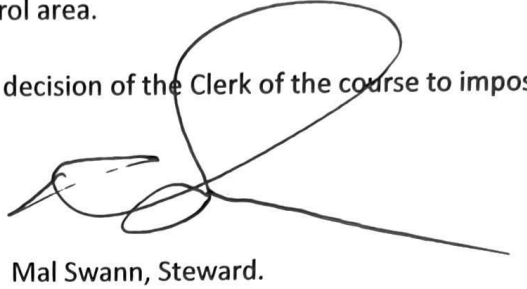
The fact of the horn not working is an aggravating factor as the vehicle should be roadworthy with a functional horn as per 12.3.1.1 b) of the National rulebook.

José Riopel stated that they made a mistake and she felt responsible for the team infraction as if they haven't made the mistake on the card the team wouldn't have not reverse in the control area. Josée is an experienced Marshall and well respected in the rally community to be reliable honest and kind. In her kindness she told the team that they would not receive a penalty for their infraction as she felt responsible for it. But at the end, the infraction was committed by the team and there was other way to resolve the situation than reversing in the control area.

The Stewards are then maintaining the decision of the Clerk of the course to impose a 10 minutes penalty as per RNR 17.3



Philippe Corbeil, Senior Steward



Mal Swann, Steward.

2024-02-04
23:59