



**26. – 28. October 2023**

---

Date: **Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Time: **18.35 hrs**

Subject: **STEWARDS DECISION N° 1**

Document No: **2.3**

---

From: *The Stewards*

To: The Competitor NASSER RACING of car No. 200  
Crew: Nasser Al Attiya / Mathieu Baumel

---

*Number of pages: 3*

*Attachments: 0*

---

**PROTEST lodged by**

The Competitor of car No. 200 NASSER RACING (Crew Nasser Al-Attiya / Mathieu Baumel)

**Against**

Applications of penalties for SS3 based on Art. 47.3.3 of the 2023 FIA Cross-Country Sporting Regulations.

**Procedure:**

1. On Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the Clerk of the Course received at 12.00 hrs a protest lodged by the Competitor of car No. 200 addressed to the Stewards of Baja Portalegre 500.
2. Competitor No. 200 claimed in its protest against the application of their penalties for SS3 based on Art. 47.3.3 of the 2023 FIA Cross-Country Sporting Regulations.
3. A 1.000 EUR protest deposit was submitted with the protest.
4. The Stewards summoned and heard the Competitor and the Crew of Car No. 200 as protesters (Mr. Nasser Al Attiya; Mr. Mathieu Baumel; Mr. Gustavo Beteli; Mrs. Virginie Soulaire), the Competitor and the Crew of Car No. 202 (Mr. Joao Ferreira; Mr. Filipe Palmeiro; Mr. Daniel Patrocínio) as witnesses and the representative of the GPS provider (Mr. Marcos Iglesias) together by the Stewards. All summoned parties were present at the hearing.

The hearing was held on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2023, at 16:30 hrs in the Stewards' Room with all Stewards present.

5. No objections were raised against the composition of the Stewards panel.
6. At the hearing, the parties referred to the documents previously submitted. To the question of the Stewards, the Competitor of Car No. 200 clarified its typing mistake about the article number that they refer to. None of the parties submitted further evidence nor initiated the hearing of additional persons or asked to conduct further investigations.

**On the Admissibility:**

7. The Stewards examined the admissibility of the protest:



## 26. – 28. October 2023

- 7.1 The protest was lodged in due time, in accordance with Art. 13.3 of the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code.
- 7.2 The protest was lodged by a single competitor against alleged error, irregularity or breach of the regulations occurring during a Competition in the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code Art. 13.1.1 to 13.1.2 and Art. 13.7.4.
- 7.3 The subject of the protest was against an alleged error, irregularity or breach of the regulations during the competition, as stipulated in the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code Art. 13.2.1 and Art.13.4.1
- 7.4 The protest was properly accompanied by the protest deposit of 1.000 EUR, as stipulated in Art. 13.4.2 of the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code, Art. 60.2.1 of the 2023 FIA CCR SR and in Art. 15.2 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:

8. The Stewards asked to the Protester to explain the reasons of his protest.
9. The Protester stated that in the first part of SS3, they had a windscreen-wiper error, so they were slower than expected. In that part of the SS3, they never received any request on his Sentinel system. In the Transfer Zone, they have discussed with the crew of Car No. 202 that, perhaps they have some issues with their device. Immediately after leaving the Transfer Zone they received requests for overtaking from Car no. 202, but since with the working windscreen-wiper they were faster than Car No. 202 they didn't let them pass.

In the next few minutes, they received multiple requests as well, but they were getting more and more further from Car No. 202, they thought they did not need to let them overtake.

The Witness party explained that after the Transfer Zone they also had a windscreen-wiper mistake, so that they needed to stop and restart the car. This was the reason why they were further for the rest of SS3.

10. The initial report of GPS provided was showed to all parties, which were the grounds of the application of the penalties.
11. Nobody raised an exception regarding the GPS data as evidence.

**After the hearing was closed by the Chairman at 17h00, the Stewards took the following decision after due deliberation.**



**26. – 28. October 2023**

**Offence:**

**12. Competitor No. 200 breached 2023 FIA CCR SR Art. 47.3.3. one time.**

**Decision:**

**13. The protest is admissible.**

**14. The protest is partially founded.**

**15. To cancel the application of penalties for the second and third offences (document numbers 3.9 and 3.10) but not for the first offence (document number 3.8).**

**16. The 666 EUR of the protest fee is to be returned to Competitor N° 200, but 334 EUR of the protest fee is not to be returned.**

**Reason**

According to the Art. 47.3.3 of the 2023 FIA Cross-Country Sporting Regulations any Vehicle caught by another must make the necessary move to allow itself to be overtaken. Once a Competitor has received 3 requests to overtake, from the same Competitor, within a period of less than 45 seconds, the Competitor must make every effort to facilitate the overtaking of the requesting Competitor within 60 seconds of the third request. A Competitor who is caught and does not allow the requesting Competitor to pass within the above time limit will be subject to penalties as per Appendix I.

The article above does not mention any exact number for time or distance when the overtaking party can request for overtaking via the Sentinel System, but in the Stewards point of view the following car has to be in a distance where there is a real chance for overtaking and he has to be faster than the other car.

For the first offence, this was the case, where the difference between the two cars was around 40-50 meters. For the second and third attempts, this was not the case, where the distance between the cars was more than 200 meters. Therefore, the Stewards made their decision as above.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the 2023 FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules.

**Istvan MONI**  
FIA Chairperson of the Stewards

**Raymond JOHANSSON**  
FIA Steward

**Paulo LAGINHA**  
ASN Steward

Competitor: NASSER RACING  
Crew: Nasser Al Attiya / Mathieu Baumel

Vehicle No: 200

Date: 28/10/23  
Time: 19.09

Signature:

Published on notice board on 28.10.2023 at 19.16 hrs.

