



Date: **Friday, 05th April 2024**

Time: **16.45 hrs**

Subject: **STEWARDS DECISION N° 8**

Document No: **2.10**

From: *The Stewards*

To: Competitor **No 208** Name: **TOYOTA GAZOO RACING**
Crew: **Saood VARIAWA / François CAZALET**

Number of pages: 2

Attachments: 0

The Stewards, having received a report from the Clerk of the Course, having summoned and heard the Competitor Representatives, Mr. Jean-Marc Fortin and Mr. Uwe Shmidt, having considered the matter, determine the following:

Fact: The Crew No. 208 committed more than 3 overspeed infractions at Speed Control Zone WP 12+ on SS3. The CoC applied time penalties (the first three pulses when the speed is exceeded by more than 40 kph). For the fourteen remaining, the CoC submitted a report to the Stewards.

Offence: Breach of FIA 2024 CCRSR Art. 37

Decision:

- **Disqualification from BP Ultimate Rally-Raid Portugal 2024**, which is applied with suspension of sentence until the end of BP Ultimate Rally-Raid Portugal 2024 subject to no further breach of similar nature committed by the competitor during this period.
- **To impose a time penalty of 120 min on the Competitor Car No 208 on the SS3**

Reason:

During the hearing, the Competitor admitted the infringement and regretted it.

The representatives explained (based on what the co-driver told the team when the crew returned to the bivouac) during the hearing that this could only have happened because after having an incident in selective section he (co-driver) felt dizzy and was not in a good state of mind. He was totally like paralysed. After leaving the 30 km/h speed control zone at the junction (km 6.93) he was not aware that they had entered the speed control zone of 50 km/h and he told the driver to accelerate. He did not realize that they were going too fast. He was not aware of the speed limit even so it was clearly marked in the Road Book. Both (the co-driver and driver) did not recognise the alarm, because of the high revs of the engine and gravel road. Afterwards he realized that he made a big mistake.

The representatives of the Competitor stated that they fully understand the gravity of the continuing violation committed. They also understand that this type of continuous violation is directly related to safety.

Representatives on behalf of the team sincerely apologized for such a violation.

The Stewards decide that in this case there is a serious (the crew in the speed control zone exceeded the speed limit by more than 40 km/h) and a continuous violation (17 pulses!), directly related to



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safety. If a member of the crew has health problems, he should pay more attention to this, perhaps additionally undergoing a medical examination during this ongoing event.

However, such an act of the crew in the speed control zone cannot be justified.

When deciding on a penalty, Stewards believe that it must be harsh.

Stewards decide to impose a Disqualification from BP Ultimate Rally-Raid Portugal 2024, which is applied with suspension of sentence until the end of BP Ultimate Rally-Raid Portugal 2024 subject to no further breach of similar nature committed by the competitor during this period, in the hope that the crew will draw the appropriate conclusions and will not repeat violations of this kind during the ongoing event and in the future.

Also, in the opinion of the stewards, it is necessary to impose a sufficiently significant time penalty on SS3.

The decision is based on Art. 11.9.1, Art. 11.9.3.a, Art. 11.9.3.f, Art. 12.4.1.h and Art. 12.4.6 of the FIA 2024 International Sporting Code.

The competitor is reminded that he has the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules, within the applicable time limits.

Arnas PALIUKENAS
FIA Chairperson of the Stewards

Anita PASSALIS
FIA Steward

Paulo LAGINHA
ASN Steward

This decision was notified by electronic means:

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