
Date:	09.11.2025	Time:	09:20 hrs
Subject:	STEWARDS DECISION No. 7	Document No:	2.8

From: The Stewards
To: The Competitor SHUNICHI WASHIO of car No. 48
Crew SHUNICHI WASHIO / MICHIKO KASUGA
All Competitors / crew members

The Stewards, having received a report from the Clerk of the Course with documentary evidence attached, have considered the following matter and determine the following:

Facts The crew of Car No. 48 did not follow the official itinerary between Road Book boxes 19 and 21 on page 85 during SS14 – TOYOTA CITY SSS

Offence Breach of Article 19.2 of the 2025 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations

Decision 1-minute time penalty on Competitor SHUNICHI WASHIO of Car No. 48 to be applied to the special stage time for SS14 – TOYOTA CITY SSS

Reason The Stewards examined the information received from the Clerk of the Course and the GPS data available, and heard from the driver Mr Shunichi WASHIO, the co-driver Ms Michiko KASUGA, and the Team Representative Mr Kondo TAKASHI of car No. 48 at 07:45 hrs on Sunday, 9 November.

The driver, Mr Shunichi WASHIO, stated that he heard the pace-notes from his co-driver instructing to turn right, but did not pay attention to the distance, which in fact referred to the next right U-turn, approximately 50 metres further. As a result, the crew completely missed a part of the Special Stage. The crew apologised for the mistake and assured that they would be more careful in the future.

The data available to the Stewards clearly shows that car No. 48 turned right at Road Book page 85, position 19 on SS14 – TOYOTA CITY SSS, thereby completely missing position 20 as defined in the itinerary of the Road Book. As a result, the crew shortened the stage by approximately 150 metres.

The Stewards conclude that there was a clear breach of Article 19.2 of the 2025 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations, and that a clear time advantage was gained as a result of this mistake. The Stewards find the above penalty to be appropriate in this case. As the severity of shortening a Special Stage may vary on a case-by-case basis, this decision shall not be considered as a precedent for future cases under these circumstances.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the 2025 FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules.



Silver Kütt
The Stewards



Chris McMahon



Kunihiro Tabata

RE: STEWARDS DECISION 7 FORUM8 RALLY JAPAN 2025

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

<i>Name (in block letters):</i>	TAKASHI KONDO	<i>Date:</i>	9.11.2025
<i>Position within the team:</i>	TEAM REPRESENTATIVE	<i>Time:</i>	9.30

Published on the Organiser's Digital Notice Board on 9.11.2025 at 10.00 hrs.