



May 20, 2023

DECISION 2 – Oregon Trail Rally

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**From:** The Stewards

**Date:** 5/20/2023

**To:** Car 972

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The Stewards received a report that there was an unauthorized change of co-driver of car 972, and also have also been asked by the Clerk of the Course to decide on an inquiry subsequently posted by the co-driver of car 972:

**Driver and car No:** Cooper Anderson Car 972

**Time (fact):** 5/20/2023 20:37

**Fact:** The co-driver of car 972, Ethan Curtis, was replaced by Jack Gillow-Wiles for stages 9 and 10. The crew reported the change of crew after the fact.

**Offence:** RCR 2.1.4 Change of crew.

**Decision:** The stewards considered the penalty of exclusion, but decided that car 972 is a DNF at the end of stage 8. The crew will be included in the Sunday start order as a non-competitive entry. Their final classification will be DNF with the reason being violation of RCR 2.1.4.

**Reason:** If the crew had approached the stewards prior to leaving service and asked to replace their ill co-driver, then the stewards would have classified them as a DNF and allowed them to start stages 9 and 10 as a non-competitive entry but allowed them to rejoin the competition on Sunday under RCR 6.3 "Restart After Retirement" with the appropriate penalty in place of stage times for stages 9 and 10.

This breach of RCR 2.1.4 is not taken lightly. Although the substitute co-driver was properly licensed and, presumably, used the safety equipment which had previously passed scrutineering; crews must never assume that they can violate the rules and then have their violation excused by simply "informing stewards of the temporary co-driver change" after-the-fact.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 9 of the ARA General Competition Rules.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JB Niday', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

J.B. Niday, Senior Steward

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justin Pritchard', with a stylized, looped signature.

Justin Pritchard, Steward