## **ORLEN 80th RALLY POLAND**



27 - 30 June 2024

 Date:
 30.06.2024
 Time:
 14:05 hrs

 Subject:
 STEWARDS DECISION No. 3
 Document No:
 2.4

From: The Stewards

To: The Competitor HYUNDAI SHELL MOBIS WORLD RALLY TEAM of car No. 8

Crew OTT TÄNAK / MARTIN JÄRVEOJA

All Competitors / crew members

The Stewards, having received a report from the FIA Deputy Technical Delegate, summoned the above Competitor's representative as well as, at their discretion, the above Crew, have considered the following matter and determine the following:

**Facts** On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024, the Driver of Car 8 removed blue protection tape(s) from

the car's roof air intake before leaving parc fermé (TC15D).

**Offence** Breach of Article 2.13 of the 2024 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations.

**Decision** 1) Reprimand on Driver of Car No. 8 OTT TÄNAK.

2) Invoke the suspended fine of € 5000 from Stewards Decision No. 16 of EKO Acropolis Rally Greece 2023 on the Competitor HYUNDAI SHELL MOBIS WORLD RALLY TEAM of Car No. 8.

- a. The current breach has triggered the condition of no further "breach of Parc Fermé regulations" that was set in the suspended decision.
- b. The suspended sentence expires with its invocation in this decision.

In accordance with Art. 12.8 of the 2024 FIA International Sporting Code, fines shall be paid within 48 hours of their notification. Any delay in making payment may entail Suspension during the period a fine remains unpaid.

## Reason

On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024, the Stewards heard from the Driver of Car No. 8, Mr. OTT TÄNAK, and from the Competitor's Team Manager Mr. TOLGA OZAKINCI.

The Stewards presented the report from the FIA Deputy Technical Delegate to the Driver and Team Manager. The report stated that the scrutineers had noted that the blue protection tape was removed from Car No. 8's roof air intake before the car had left parc fermé at TC15D (Parc fermé – Out). The tape was found in a nearby garbage container. Such an action is in contravention to Article 2.13 of the 2024 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations.

The Driver was forthright and explained that he mistakenly started removing the tape as the Crew were about to enter the car. There was no deliberate reason behind this action, and it was simply muscle memory and an involuntary and unconscious action. The Driver apologised for the lapse and confirmed that he is well aware of parc fermé conditions and principles and that this action should not have been done.

The Team Manager acknowledged the report and stated that the blue tape is used to cover air intakes in the car to protect from rain during the overnight parc fermé as the cars are not covered by any protective (roof) structure and are outdoors. The tape does not serve any specific technical solution/purpose and is not regulated part/fixture in/on the car. He apologised on behalf of the team and Competitor for the involuntary action.

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Having considered the matter extensively, the Stewards determine that the Driver did breach parc fermé regulations and they acknowledge that such a breach was involuntary and was not performed due to a premediated choice or deliberate intention. The Stewards also deem, as an opinion, that no advantage or benefit was gained from the driver's action. However, they do concur that performing an action that was not expressly provided for by the 2024 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations or the Event's Supplementary Regulations is a contravention. The Stewards deem that a Reprimand for the Driver is thus warranted.

Nonetheless, the Stewards declare that the conclusion above is not to be set as a principle or precedent for judgements of subsequent panels.

The Stewards do as well consider Stewards Decision No. 16 of EKO Acropolis Rally Greece 2023 where the Competitor received a suspended penalty (in accordance with FIA ISC Articles 12.4.6 and 11.9.3.g). The decision stated that "A fine of € 5000 on the Competitor HYUNDAI SHELL MOBIS WORLD RALLY TEAM, which is suspended for 12 months (expires Tuesday, September 10th, 2024) subject to no further breach of a similar nature (breach of Parc Fermé regulations – 2023 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations Article 2.13 and corresponding texts relating to Parc Fermé in the Sporting and Supplementary Regulations) during this period." The panel stated in their decision's reasoning that "the Stewards clarify that they do not discount this particular infringement nor do they wish to set a precedent to allow or tolerate such infringements. The Stewards wish that this Competitor as well as other Competitors take this opportunity to educate and train their team members on comprehension of basic principles of the Code and how to deal with matters relating to safety and fair competition."

As such, the Stewards of Orlen 80<sup>th</sup> Rally Poland, deem that the conditions of suspending the penalty from EKO Acropolis Rally Greece 2023 have not been complied with. The present breach, yet again, of Article 2.13 of the 2024 WRC Sporting Regulations justifies the enforcement of the full amount of the suspended fine. The Stewards therefore invoke the suspended fine of € 5000 on the Competitor HYUNDAI SHELL MOBIS WORLD RALLY TEAM of Car No 8. The suspended penalty from Steward's Decision No. 16 of EKO Acropolis Rally Greece 2023 thus expires with its invocation in this decision.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the 2024 FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules.

Mazen Al-Hilli The Stewards

Henrik Frank

∠ukasz Biegus

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

Name (in block letters):	TOLGA OZAKINCI	Date:	30.6.2024
Position within the team:	TEAM MANAGER	Time:	14:08

Published on the Organiser's Digital Notice Board on 30.6.2024 at 14:15 hrs.