

Document No. 47

2022 REPCO SUPERCARS CHAMPIONSHIP RACES 31 & 32 “BOOST MOBILE GOLD COAST 500”

Surfers Paradise Street Circuit, Gold Coast, Queensland
26 to 30 October 2022

STEWARDS SUMMARY OF JUDICIAL OUTCOMES, Update (Final): issued Sunday 30 October 2022 at 1815hrs.

Matters from Race 32:

Deputy Race Director Incident Determinations

The DRD reviewed the following Incidents and determined they did not warrant referral to the Stewards as there was no breach of the Rules established on the available video footage:

- The Incident at Turn 2 on Lap 1 involving Cars 17, 25 and 97.
- The Request for Investigation received from Triple Eight Race Engineering Australia Pty Ltd to investigate the Incident between Cars 9 and 88 at Turn 2 on Lap 1.
- The Request for Investigation received from Tickford Racing Pty Ltd to investigate the Incident between Cars 11 and 55 at Turn 4 on Lap 3.
- The Request for Investigation received from WFL Racing Pty Ltd to investigate the Incident between Cars 20 and 99 approaching Turn 6 on Lap 2.
- The Request for Investigation received from Tickford Racing Pty Ltd to investigate the Incident between Cars 26 and 56 at Turn 11 on Lap 25.
- The Request for Investigation received from Tickford Racing to investigate the Incident between Cars 6 and 99 at Turn 4 on Lap 84.

Stewards' Decisions – Penalties imposed

The Stewards imposed the following penalties during the Race:

- A PLP on Car 5, James Courtney, for repeatedly exceeding track limits (after receiving a Bad Sportsmanship flag for the same conduct).
- A 15 second Time Penalty on Car 20, Scott Pye, for a Safety Car Restart Infringement (weaving after the Safety Car lights had been extinguished).
- A second Time Penalty on Car 9, Will Brown, for a Driving Infringement (contact with Car 20, Scott Pye, at Turn 15 on Lap 83).

After the Race and following admission by Racing Team (Aust) Pty Ltd that during a Pit Stop for Car 11, the incoming rear left tyre on the Car was below the minimum pressure of 17psi when fitted, the Stewards imposed the recommended minimum penalty of disqualification from Race 32 on Car 11, Anton De Pasquale.

Matters from Top Ten Shoot-out Race 32:

Deputy Race Director Incident Determinations

There were no Determinations

Stewards' Decisions – Penalties imposed

No Penalties were imposed.

Matters from Qualifying Race 32:

Deputy Race Director Incident Determinations

Following receipt of a Request for Investigation from Erebus Motorsport Pty Ltd alleging that Car 9 was impeded by Car 55 at Turn 12/13 with approximately 6 minutes of the Session remaining, the DRD reviewed the available broadcast footage of the Incident, and determined the Incident did not warrant referral to the Stewards as no breach of the rules could be established.

Following receipt of a Request for Investigation from PremiAir Pty Ltd alleging that Car 22 was impeded by Car 34 in Last lap of Qualifying, when Car 34 backed off in front of Car 22 at Turn 15 causing Car 22 to miss the flag by 0.5-1

sec. the Session, the DRD reviewed the available broadcast footage of the Incident and determined the Incident did not warrant referral to the Stewards as no breach of the rules could be established.

STEWARDS SUMMARY OF JUDICIAL OUTCOMES, Update 2: issued Saturday 29 October 2022 at 1845hrs.

Matters from Race 31:

Deputy Race Director Incident Determinations

The DRD determined during the Race not to refer the following Incidents to the Stewards:

- The Request for Investigation from Tickford Racing to investigate the Incident involving a 'bump & run' contact between Car 55 and Car 99 at Turn 4 on Lap 37 and there was insufficient evidence to establish a breach of the Rules.

Stewards' Decisions – Penalties imposed

No Penalties were imposed during the Race.

After the Race, and following admissions by PremiAir Pty Ltd that during the Pit Stops for Cars 22 and 31 that the ongoing tyres were not positioned between the axle centre lines, on the fast lane side of the Cars, while completing their Compulsory Pit Stops (as required by Rule D11.1.2.2(a)), the Stewards imposed the penalty of a fine of \$1,500 plus the loss of 30 Teams Championship Points (per Car) on PremiAir Pty Ltd.

STEWARDS SUMMARY OF JUDICIAL OUTCOMES, Update 1: issued Saturday 29 October 2022 at 1420hrs.

Matters from Top Ten Shoot-out Race 31:

Deputy Race Director Incident Determinations

There were no Determinations

Stewards' Decisions – Penalties imposed

No Penalties were imposed.

Matters from Qualifying Race 31:

Deputy Race Director Incident Determinations

Following receipt of a Request for Investigation from WAU Racing alleging that Car 2 was impeded by Car 99 in the Session, the DRD reviewed the available broadcast footage of the Incident/s and determined the Incident did not warrant referral to the Stewards as no breach of the rules could be established.

Stewards' Decisions – Penalties imposed

No Penalties were imposed.

Matters from Practice:

Deputy Race Director Incident Determinations

There were no Determinations

Stewards' Decisions – Penalties imposed

Following Practice 2, the DRD received a report from Supercars Technical that Car 35 was logging the damper settings at 50Hz during Practice Sessions 1 and 2, in breach of Rule C15.7.13 (Logging rates are free except for those channels listed in the table – Suspension or Damper Position – 25Hz). **Attached** is a copy of Stewards Decision 135 relating to a Stewards' Hearing in relation to the matter.



In summary, the Stewards imposed the following penalties on Car 35, Matt Stone Racing:

- (a) Car 35 is disqualified from Practice 1 and Practice 2.
- (b) The data recorded from Car 35 in breach of the Rule is to be deleted from the Competitor's computer systems.
- (c) The loss of 5 Grid Spots for Car 35 in Race 31; and
- (d) The loss of 50 Teams Championship Points on the Competitor

Motorsport Australia Stewards

Document: 09

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The Stewards, having received a report from the Deputy Race Director and heard from the Competitor's Authorised Representative(s), have considered the matter and determine the following.

Competitor Car 35 Matt Stone Racing Pty Ltd

Car and Driver Car 35 Todd Hazelwood

Date Friday, 28 October 2022

Session Practice 1 & Practice 2

Fact Following Practice 2, the DRD received a report from Supercars Technical that Car 35 was logging the damper position at 50Hz during Practice Sessions 1 and 2.

Rule C15.7.13 – Logging rates are free except for those channels listed in the table – Suspension or Damper Position – 25Hz.

Decision The Stewards impose the following penalties:
(a) Car 35 is disqualified from Practice 1 and Practice 2.
(b) The data recorded from Car 35 in breach of the Rule is to be deleted from the Competitor's computer systems.
(c) The loss of 5 Grid Spots for Car 35 in Race 31; and
(d) The loss of 50 Teams Championship Points on the Competitor.

Reasons The Stewards heard from the DRDs (David Mori and James Delzoppo) and the Competitor's Authorised Representatives (Matt Stone and Peter Vale).

The Authorised Representatives admitted the facts alleged and accepted that it amounted to a breach of the Rule but wished to make submissions on the Penalty to be applied. The Hearing proceeded on that basis.

The DRDs submitted the Penalty to be applied should be disqualification of Car 35 from both Practice Sessions and further that Car 35 start from rear of grid for Race 31.

The Authorised Representatives accepted that disqualification of Car 35 from the two Practice sessions was appropriate and that an additional penalty is warranted but submitted the penalty of starting from rear of grid put forward by the DRDs would be too harsh and submitted that the Stewards should take the following factors into account when determining what further Penalties to apply:

- a) The Competitor has engaged junior engineers to staff their Team. It was one of these engineers who was responsible for resetting the parameters for the data logging on Car 35 from the prior Event. The engineers are still undertaking their studies and so are inexperienced. The engineer made an error in the setting of the damper logging rate.
- b) The Competitor was unaware until contacted by Supercars Technical that the data was being logged at a rate greater than is permitted by the Rules. They assured the Stewards that the data had not yet been analysed by their engineering team.



- c) The Competitor undertook to the Stewards to allow Supercars Technical to supervise and/or undertake the deletion of the relevant data from its systems.
- d) This was an unintentional error on their part. There was no direction from the Competitor to log the data at that rate, but it is accepted that the Competitor is responsible for the error.
- e) The Competitor is aware that Supercars Technical receive and monitor all telemetry data being logged and transmitted from the Cars and so it is inconceivable for them to think that Supercars would not discover any breach of the logging Rules.
- f) Starting from the rear of grid is too harsh because of all of the above factors and there is no incentive for Car 35 to compete in Qualifying (and the flow on impact of that, plus the penalty, will have on its reputation in relation to commercial sponsorships etc).

Despite the above, a penalty of disqualification from the Practice Sessions only is an insufficient penalty. A greater penalty for the breach (as above) is still warranted. The Stewards consider the penalties applied in this situation fits the breach.

It is important for the Stewards to record that their decision about the penalties applied in this instance is based on their acceptance as to the truth of the Competitor's representations as to the above matters and this amounted to an oversight on their part by a junior, inexperienced team member and not any deliberate attempt to record data in breach of the prescribed rate and that the data had not been analysed.

It is also important to record that this decision should not be taken as a precedent by any Competitor as to the likely penalty that would be applied by the Stewards for any breach of this Rule in the future. It is important that the penalty be appropriate for the extent of the breach in the accepted circumstances. Should there be evidence that the data had been analysed, a greater penalty would have been applied.

The Competitor is reminded that Decisions and Penalties that may be subject to Appeal are set out in B7.7.2 and the Rights to and process for an Appeal are set out in B5.

Issued by the Stewards of the Event: