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at: 14 h 35 m

24h
LE MANS

WEC
FIA WORLD ENDURANCE
CHAMPIONSHIP

24 HEURES DU MANS 2017
FIA WORLD ENDURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP
2017 June 4th to 18th

From The Stewards of the Meeting
To The Competitor's Representative
N° 13

Decision N°59

The Stewards, having received a report from the Technical Delegate and heard the Team Representative Bart Hayden, have considered the following matter, determine a breach of the regulations has been committed by the competitor named below and impose the penalty referred to.

No 13

Competitor Vaillante Rebellion

Time 2017.06.18, 15.56 hrs.

Facts Works and/ installations at the car during Parc Ferme conditions

Offence Art. 10.13.1 and Art. 10.14.1 Specific Regulations 24h Le Mans, Art.2.5.1 International Sporting Code

Penalty

1. Disqualification from the Race
2. The other competitors move up
3. The competitor will lose the right to obtain any of the awards assigned to the completion i.ac. with Art. 12.17 ISC
4. The stewards refer this case to the competitors ASN for further investigation.

Reasons

The Stewards received a report from the Technical Delegate and a supplemental report from his assistant, viewed pictures from the Technical Delegate and heard from the Competitor's Representative.

The supplemental report stated that while in Parc Fermé, Mr. Benjamin Caron, one of the FIA's Assistant Technical delegates nominated in Appendix 1 of the 2017 Specific Regulations of the 24 Hours of Le Mans, saw the hole that the competitor placed in the homologated bodywork (see Stewards' Decision #58.) He then stated that while he was downloading information from the car, mechanics from the team came to the car, and placed "bear bond" (which is large sections of sticky tape commonly used to effect quick repairs to bodywork in motorsports) with a white tape cover similar to the color of the bodywork, over the hole. Mr. Caron stated that he told Ian Smith, technical representative of the team who was permitted in Parc Fermé to assist in the downloading of technical information, that it was not permitted to touch the car in Parc Fermé, and Mr. Smith attempted to remove the tape before being stopped by Mr. Caron. Mr. Smith was only able to remove the white covering in the process, but not the "bear bond."

The Competitor's Representative, Mr. Bart Hayden, stated that having discovered that the team had modified the bodywork while he was with the Stewards discussing another matter, he ordered that the team effected a "repair" to close the hole in the bodywork, similar to repairing crash damage, but that he believed that this had been done, or would be done during one of the last pit stops. He agreed that this was not discussed with the Technical Delegate or his representatives. The Competitor's Representative was candid with the Stewards that he could not offer any explanation for the actions of the mechanics in Parc Fermé.

Handwritten signatures and initials:
- A signature in blue ink at the top left.
- A signature in blue ink below it.
- The initials "W" in blue ink.
- The initials "M.S." in blue ink.
- A circular stamp containing a signature in blue ink.

The Stewards made no determination as to whether the actions of the mechanics were a deliberate attempt to hide the modification of the bodywork by the team, which was in violation of the regulations. However, the Stewards will refer this matter to the Competitor's ASN.

However, the Stewards determined that the actions of the Mechanics constituted a breach of Art. 10.13.1 and Art. 10.14.1 of the 2017 Specific Regulations of the 24 Hours of Le Mans, which both state "In no case are further works or installations of any kind permitted" and further is a breach of Art. 2.5.1 of the International Sporting Code of the FIA (ISC) which states, "No operation, checking, tuning or repair is allowed." Whether the placing of the tape to cover the hole was a repair, work or installation, in any case the Stewards determined that this was not permitted under the regulations. The Stewards determined that this was a serious breach of the Parc Fermé conditions and therefore used their discretion under Art. 11.9.2.a of the ISC and ordered the Disqualification.

The competitor is reminded of his right of Appeal under and in compliance with Art. 4.11.2 of the Sporting Regulations, Art. 15 of the ISC, and the Judicial and Disciplinary Rules of the FIA

 Jean François Veroux Chairman	 Kazuo HIOKI Steward	 Michael SCHWAEGERL Steward	 Tim MAYER Steward	 Jean-Pierre BAUDRILLER Steward	 Yves BACQUELAINE Steward
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Date: 19 June 2017

Time: 14:15

Received by the Competitor:

Name: HAYDEN

Signature: 

Time: 14:30

Date: 19, 6 / 2017

Copy to: The Competitor
The FIA Race Director
The Clerk of the Course
The Secretary of the Meeting
The Press Delegate
The Timekeepers
The Official Notice Board
The Technical Delegate