

Date : 10th June 2017

Time : 22.00 hrs

Subject : STEWARDS DECISION No: 8

Document No: 2.9

From : The Stewards

To : The Competitor of car No. 36 PIERRE-LOUIS LOUBET
Crew PIERRE-LOUIS LOUBET / VINCENT LANDAIS

The Stewards received a report from the Clerk of the Course concerning car No. 36 stating as follows:

During SS12 "Monte Lerno 1" the rear bonnet car No 36 - Crew Pierre Louis LOUBET / Vincent LANDAIS running at km 24.72 (box 33 of RB 2) suddenly opened and a spare wheel fell in the road.

The wheel was collected by our Safety 2 vehicle crew (Vittorio CARLINO / Demitri BRUNELLO) standing at this point.

Attached photos of the tyre and its bar-code.

Another report was received from the FIA Technical Delegate including the following:

Car n°36:

- Tyre Marking Zone located after TC9E: left with 6 wheels
- Tyre Checking Zone (technical zone / after TC12A): arrived with 5 wheels

The Stewards then summoned the Competitor/Driver PIERRE-LOUIS LOUBET and the Co-driver VINCENT LANDAIS of car No. 36, who appeared in front of the Stewards the same evening at 20.55 hrs.

The Co-driver stated that they had changed a punctured tyre just before SS12 and they did it in a hurry. He suspected that he either tightened the strap too tight or it was worn out and thus got loose under the heavy compressions towards the end of the stage. When he was asked how the boot could have opened he explained that possibly under these compressions the spare wheel forced the boot to open. He added that he had closed the secure pins of the boot, but one of them was slightly bent.

The Stewards then explained the crew how important it is to have all objects inside the cockpit to be securely fastened, especially a heavy spare wheel. This is not only very dangerous for the crew but also a potential danger for the spectators or the next rally car on the stage. Both crew members understood this and apologized for their lapse.

The Stewards conclude that an infringement of Article 60.11 of the 2017 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations has been committed. The Stewards further conclude that the crew failed to make sure that the second spare wheel was solidly installed with fully functioning and secure straps in the car and that the boot lid was correctly secured before continuing after the tyre change. This represents an unsafe act

under Article 12.1.1.h of the 2017 FIA International Sporting Code which could have resulted in very serious consequences.

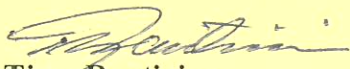
The FIA Technical Delegate further confirmed that this is the second time during the 2017 World Rally Championship that this very same car loses the spare wheel on a special stage. In the previous case this car was driven by a different crew. It is nevertheless the Competitor's responsibility to make sure that the rally car complies with the technical and safety requirements.

The Stewards, under the above circumstances and after due deliberation

DECIDE

To impose a **Fine of € 2,000** on the Competitor of car No. 36 PIERRE-LOUIS LOUBET for an infringement of Article 60.11 of the 2017 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations as well as Article 12.1.1.h of the 2017 FIA International Sporting Code.


The Competitor is reminded of his right to appeal.



Timo Rautiainen
Chairman of Stewards



Zrinko Gregurek



Edoardo Delleani

Received by :

Name : I. TULLIÈ

Competitor : PIERRE-LOUIS LOUBET

Car No : 36

Date : 11-06-17

Time : 07:04.

Signature : 

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