

## GT Cup Championship Stewards' Decision – Jamie Stanley

### Background

At a round of the MSVR GT Cup Championship held at Spa – Francorchamps circuit, Belgium, on 10 June 2017, Jamie Stanley, holder of International C licence # 197220, issued by the Motor Sports Association, who is a competitor in the above Championship, became involved in a verbal altercation with Senior Officials within the Race Control building which resulted in security staff being called.

The matter was reported to the Stewards of the Meeting by the Clerk of the Course, Jean Yves-Muster. The Stewards concluded that “aggressive verbal behaviour” had occurred at that this constituted both a breach of Article 12 of the International Sporting Code as well as General Regulation A 10.2 of the 2017 MSA Yearbook and recommended to the MSA Clerk of the Course that the driver should be excluded from the next GT Cup Championship race in the UK. A copy of the Stewards' Decision was published at 13.05 and receipt acknowledged by Mr Stanley at 14.07

Upon receipt of the above information Mr Stanley was contacted by David Scott, Race Operations Manager, MotorSport Vision Racing by email on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June in which Mr Scott made the following observations:

*The GT Cup Championship Regulation 4.2.3 details sanctions available for competitors who bring the Championship into disrepute. My view, based upon the Belgian Stewards decision, is that you may have brought GT Cup into disrepute and that these sanctions include being refused entry into any number of events in the Championship.*

*MSA Regulations C 1.1.4 and C 1.1.9 may also have been contravened:*

*As Race Operations Manager for MSVR, the permit holder for the Championship, I expect a written apology along with an assurance that there will be no further outbursts. I also expect similar apologies to be sent to Ms Wilson & Mr Delettire.*

*The incident would be referred to the Championship Stewards for further consideration*

This email was copied to the Championship Stewards for GT Cup, Hannah Wilson (GT Cup Championship co-ordinator), Tony Watts (MSVR Clerk of the Course for GT Cup at the Spa Championship rounds), Cheryl Lynch (the MSA Race, Speed and Kart Executive) and Pierre Delettire of the Royal Automobile Club de Spa (the event organiser).

Following an initial acknowledgement on 15 June Mr Stanley responded in more detail on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June in which he apologised to all concerned for his conduct and indicated that such incidents would not happen again.

## Stewards' Conclusions and Decision

The Championship Stewards are:

- Eric Cowcill
- Bill Shewan
- David Simons
- Mike Dixon

The GT Cup Championship Regulations provide that '*Any three of the Stewards may make a decision*', however, all four Championship Stewards were engaged in this decision which was arrived at by way of exchanges of email correspondence.

Whilst having noted Mr Stanley's comments, apologies and assurances regarding future behaviour the Stewards are unanimous in their opinion that any form of abuse to race officials is not to be tolerated and especially when the latter are pre-occupied with on-track events taking place. Clearly there has been a breach of GT Cup Championship regulations and this must be acknowledged by an appropriate penalty.

The Stewards instruct that Mr Stanley serve one-Race ban from a future round of the 2017 GT Cup Championship. However in acknowledgement of his forthright and comprehensive response to Mr Scott's email this ban is to be suspended through to the end of the 2017 GT Cup Championship season on the understanding that any future transgressions of this nature will result in its application at the next available Championship Round

The Stewards understand that Mr Stanley is classified as a "Pro Driver" within the Championship and as such is only entitled to drive in the Pit Stop Race at each Championship round.

Mr Stanley to be advised of his right of appeal in accordance with the provisions of General Regulation C 7.1 of the 2017 MSA Yearbook.

Signed (Electronically):

Eric Cowcill, Championship Steward

Bill Shewan, Championship Steward

David Simons, Championship Steward

Mike Dixon, Championship Steward

Decision handed down : 15.55. Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017