



## 2022 Rally in the 100 Acre Wood, 18-19 March 2022

### DECISION 5

posted at: 5 Apr 2022 12:00 CDT

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**From:** the Stewards

**Date:** 2 Apr 2022

**To:** Competitors, Event Officials & ARA Officials

**Time (decision):** 18:00

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The Stewards, having received a report from the ARA Competition Director, have considered the following matter and determined the following:

**Drivers, Co-drivers, and car Nos:** Multiple

**Time (fact):** 19 Mar 2022 16:25 CDT

**Session:** Stage 10

**Fact:** Incidents that took place on this stage revealed examples of experienced ARA competitors not following established procedures, which indicated that expectations in these circumstances may not have been well communicated. Examples include:

a) Unclear communications and failure to follow or understand the Safety Protocols

A team failed to determine what was happening with a stopped car on stage and was thus unable to communicate that to the following teams, resulting in the situation being reported as an SOS more than once.

After thinking that they had triggered a SOS, a team proceeded to the next radio point without collecting any information about the incident that they intended to report. Because they thought that a SOS had been triggered, they thought that there would be no traffic coming up, so they could drive in reverse on a hot stage, not understanding that, even if all competition cars had stopped, a sweep or ambulance could be driving quickly through the stage.

b) Misinterpretation and incorrect operation of the RallySafe unit display

A team attempted to trigger a SOS, but it was cleared by RallySafe due to incorrect operations of the unit. (Another team did something similar.) Despite a lack of indication on the RallySafe that the stage had been downgraded, this team thought and acted like it had been.

A team did not seem to appreciate that a Hazard indication on the RallySafe unit that is unseen could be a complete blockage of the stage road and collided with another team's car.

c) Failure to follow RCR 5.11.3

RCR 5.11.3 states: *“Competitors coming upon a total road blockage shall make all efforts to ensure the safety of the area. After securing the scene, competitors are to make all efforts to clear the road blockage and continue to the end of the stage. The first competitor to pass through shall notify event officials of the situation via the next radio point or control.”*

Based on interviews and photos, it appears that there was insufficient effort by the stopped competitors to clear the road blockage at Instructions 9/10 and continue to the end of the stage, which contributed to unnecessary delay of the event.

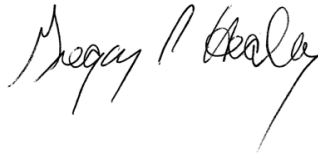
**Offence:** Not applicable

**Decision:** The Stewards request that competitors, event officials, and ARA review these areas to determine whether procedures and expectations are being sufficiently well communicated to all parties involved and that these procedures are correctly recalled when needed to be put into practice.

**Reason:** Basic mistakes in the safety procedures are being made by competitors.



Alan Perry, Senior Steward



Greg Healey, Event Steward