

# Azores Rallye

## 24.-27. March 2022



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Date:	<b>Sunday, 27 March 2022</b>	Time (decision):	<b>17:42 hrs</b>
Subject:	<b>DECISION No. 04</b>	Document No.:	<b>2.7</b>
From:	The Stewards		
To:	Competitor car No: <b>44 Manuel Osorio</b> Crew: <b>Manuel Osorio / Alberto dos Reis</b>		
Number of pages: 2		Attachments:	[0]

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The Stewards, having received a report from the Technical Delegate, summoned and heard the crew (Individual Communication No 4, Doc. No. 4.4), have considered the following matter, determine the following:

**Fact:** During routine checks at the Stop Control zone at the end of SS 9, car 44 was found with the control unit of the extinguisher system in test position.

**Offence:** Breach of Article 253-7 of Appendix J to the FIA International Sporting Code in conjunction with Article 32.2.1 of the FIA Regional Rally Sporting Regulations

**Decision: 1000 € fine**

In accordance with Article 12.8 FIA International Sporting Code, the payment of the fines must be done online, within 48 hours of their notification, at the following address: <https://fiafines.fia.com>. Any delay in making payment may entail Suspension during the period a fine remains unpaid.

**Reason:** The drivers were informed accordingly by the Stewards and were given the possibility, if they wished, to bring forward any representations other than having forgotten to activate the extinguisher system. The co-driver, Mr. Alberto dos Reis explained that the system was activated when they left the overnight Parc Fermé. He assumes that in the service somebody has set the system to test mode and forgot to activate it again. Mr. dos Reis confirmed that he and his driver are aware of the CoC Communication No 3.

As stipulated in Article 253-7.2.4 of Appendix J to the 2022 FIA International Sporting Code, the system must work in all positions. Article 253-7.2 of Appendix J to the 2022 FIA International Sporting Code does not specify when the system can be switched on or switched off. For this reason, it must always be active during the rally. Doubtless it must be armed on Special Stages, which was obviously not the case in car # 44.

The fire extinguisher system is a major safety item to protect the crew in case of fire in the car. It is essential for the driver's safety and safety is one of the major concerns by the FIA. Safety remains a key challenge and the FIA is committed to do everything possible to protect, among others, the drivers.

It is further to be noted that the Clerk of the Course issued Communication No. 3 on 23 March 2022 reminding all competitors about the activation of the extinguisher system. Competitors must always ensure that the system is activated before leaving the service park. Also, the FIA ASN Safety Bulletin # 11 was published on 23 March 2022 on the Digital Notice Board advised the competitors to activate the fire extinguishing system.

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The Stewards therefore concluded that this was a breach of Article 253-7.2 of Appendix J to the 2022 FIA International Sporting Code in conjunction with Article 32.2.1 of the FIA Regional Rally Sporting regulations.

The decision is based on the FIA International Sporting Code Art. 11.9.1, art.11.9.2.a, Art. 11.9.3.a, Art. 11.9.3.f, and Art 12.4.1.c.

Competitors are reminded of their right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the FIA International Sporting Code and Article 9.1.1 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules, within the applicable time limits.

Since the crew is still competing in the rally and thus may limited possibilities to communicate the Stewards decide in accordance with Article 15.4.2.b to set the time limit for the notification of the intention to appeal to 27. March 2022 at 19.00 hrs.

**Uwe M. SCHMIDT (DEU)**  
FIA Chairperson of the Stewards

**Wilhelm SINGER (AUT)**  
FIA Steward

**Luís TOURAIS DE MATOS**  
ASN Steward

This decision was notified by SPORTITY to the Competitor's representative as below:

<i>Name in block letters</i>	<b>Alberto dos Reis</b>	Date	<b>27.03.2022</b>
<i>Position in the team</i>	<b>Co-driver</b>	Time	<b>14.00 hrs</b>

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