

Date: **14.8.2021**

Time: **21:15 hrs**

Subject: **STEWARDS DECISION NO. 13**

Document No: **2.14**

To: *The Competitor VINCENT VERSCHUEREN of car No. 37  
Crew VINCENT VERSCHUEREN / FILIP CUVELIER*

The Stewards, having received a report from the Clerk of the Course, summoned a representative of the above Competitor, have considered the following matter and determine the following:

**Facts** On SS9 Car no 37 did not slow down nor acknowledge the red flag on the FIA safety console as required.

**Offence** Breach of Article 53.5.1 a) and Article 53.5.3 of the 2021 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations.

**Decision** Driver VINCENT VERSCHUEREN and Co-driver FILIP CUVELIER shall be jointly and severally liable to pay a **fine of € 1000**.

**Reason** During the running of SS9, due to an accident of car No. 31 at km 12.7, the Clerk of the Course deployed the Electronic Red Flag at 9:57 hrs to all the cars between the start line and the accident scene.

The Red Flag was shown on the FIA safety console of car No. 37 at 9:57 at km 9.6. According to the tracking data, car 31 did not slow down before reaching the accident scene. The crew of car 31 only acknowledged the red flag on the safety console at the accident scene.

As stipulated in Article 53.5.1 a) of the 2021 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations, the crew must confirm acknowledgement of the electronic Red Flag by pressing the ACKNOWLEDGE button immediately.

A hearing was held on Saturday 14 August 2021 at 19.00 hrs in the presence of the Crew and Team Co-ordinator, Joeri Demeestere.

During the hearing, the Driver and Co-driver stated that they had not seen the screen of the FIA Emergency Console because they were concentrated competing through the stage. They added that the console was visible by both crew members, but they saw and acknowledged the Red Flag only at the accident scene.

The Stewards concluded that both Driver and Co-driver of car 37 were in breach of Article 53.5.1 a) and Article 53.5.3 of the 2021 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations, which explicitly mandates that crews must immediately acknowledge the red flag, reduce their car speed and maintain that reduced speed until the end of the special stage.

All participating competitors and crews must understand the severity and sensitivity of Article 53.5 of 2021 FIA WRC Sporting Regulations.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the 2021 FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the 2021 FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules.



Timo Rautiainen  
The Stewards



Surinder Thatthi



François Dumont

**RE: Stewards Decision No. 13**

*This decision was notified by email to the Competitor's officially nominated representative as below:*

<i>Name (in block letters):</i>	<b>JOERI DEMEESTERE</b>	<i>Date:</i>	<b>14.8.2021</b>
<i>Position within the team:</i>	<b>TEAM CO-ORDINATOR</b>	<i>Time:</i>	<b>21:25</b>

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