

# Rally Dakar 2022

30. December 2021 - 14. January 2022



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Date: **Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

Time: **16.00 hrs**

Subject: **STEWARDS DECISION N° 7**

Document No: **2.9**

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From: *The Stewards*

To: Competitor car no **421** Name: **JEROME DE SADELEER**  
Crew: **Jérôme DE SADELEER / Michael METGE**

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*Number of pages: 2*

*Attachments: 0*

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The Stewards, having received a report with photos from the FIA Technical Delegate, have considered the following matter, determine the following:

**Fact:** Car no 421 has been presented to the pre-event scrutineering with modified gussets between the diagonal reinforcement members of the main rollbar.

**Offence:** Breach of the FIA International Sporting Code, Appendix J Art. 283-8.3.

**Decision:** a) **To impose a fine of 500 €**

In accordance with Article 12.7 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.

**b) Not allowed to start the next World Rally Raid Championship competition**, being suspended during the FIA World Rally-Raid Championship 2022. The car (Technical Passport No. TT-21-967) must be presented for pre-event scrutineering, with the safety cage being in conformity with the Homologation Regulations and the Certificate being amended otherwise the start will be not allowed.

**Reason:** The representative, of the competitor Mr. Micouleau explained that the car was prepared according to the information available to him. He had a Certificate from FFSA, conforming the compliance with the regulations. During the pre-event scrutineering in Baja Aragon the FIA Technical Delegate made him aware of the non-compliance of the roll cage. After that he asked FFSA whether he could solve the problem by adding a half-pipe to the too small gussets and FFSA agreed. Mr. Micouleau, cannot present any document confirming his last statement. Mr. Micouleau also stated that he never got the latest Homologation Regulations from FFSA.

In July 2021, the safety cage in the car has been found that the gussets were not made according to the requirements of the Homologation Regulations for safety cages. They were too small. The gussets were less than 3 times the outer diameter of the biggest of the tubes. It was mentioned in the passports of the car entered in Baja Aragon and the team (who is the safety cage builder) was asked to get in touch with the FFSA and to replace them for the correct gussets. In parallel, the FFSA were warned by the FIA Technical Delegate about their mistake and were asked to get in touch with the team, to support them.

In October (Rallye du Maroc), same remarks regarding the non-compliance were added in the passport of the car, specifying that the gussets must be compliant for Dakar Rally 2022 at latest. However, the car was presented again with a safety cage not compliant.

The FIA Technical Delegate confirms that this is a homologation issue only and not a safety issue.

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The Stewards concluded that not complying the homologation is an infringement of the sporting and technical regulation. It is to the competitor to ensure that its car is always in conformity. According to Art. 12.1.1.a of the Code offences or infringements are punishable, whether they were committed intentionally or through negligence.

The Stewards finally conclude that there is a breach of the regulations and that a fine is necessary but also to state that the car cannot start in the next W2RC competition if it not compliant.

Due to the certification of the FFSA that the safety cage was built according to the homologation rules, the competitor could trust that his safety cage followed the rules. The competitor has no access to Homologation Regulations, and he relays on the information given by his ASN. Furthermore, there was probably an information deficit between the FFSA and the builder. Therefore, the Stewards suspend the sentence "Not allowed to start"

The decision is based on the FIA International Sporting Code Art. 11.9.1, Art. 11.9.3 f; Art. 12.3.1, Art. 12.4.1.c., Art. 12.4.5 and Art. 12.4.6.

Competitors are reminded that they have the 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.

**Uwe M. SCHMIDT**  
FIA Chairman of the Stewards

**Jordi PARRO**  
FIA Steward

**Ahmad JAN**  
ASN-Steward

This decision was notified via SPORTITY to the competitor representative as below:

<i>Name in block letters</i>	<b>Guillaume Micouleau</b>	Date	<b>01.01.2022</b>
<i>Position in the team</i>	<b>Representative</b>	Time	<b>16.00 hrs</b>