



MOTORSPORT SOUTH AFRICA NPC

Reg. No 1995/005605/08

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COURT OF ENQUIRY 1236

HEARING HELD IN THE MSA BOARDROOM ON TUESDAY 03 MARCH 2020

Present:	Wally Pappas	-	Court President
	Johan Fourie	-	Court Member
	Ian Richards	-	Court Member
	Retlafenya Ramphenyane	-	Court member
	Llewelyn Tait	-	Defendant
	Rodney Williams	-	Witness
	Barry Stuart	-	Witness
	Werner Obermeyer	-	Witness
	Willie Doman	-	Technical Consultant
	Marlene Swanepoel	-	Clerk of Course
	Charmaine Rossouw	-	Scrutineer
	Lee Gruben	-	F400 Chairman
In Attendance:	Allison Vogelsang	-	MSA Scribe
	Vic Maharaj	-	MSA Sporting Manager

INTRODUCTION

The court members and attendees were introduced, and no objections were raised against the composition of the court.

THE HEARING

The enquiry relates to the alleged contravention of GCR 172 iv) by Mr Llewelyn Tait at the F400 karting event that took place on 16 February 2020.

Mr Willie Doman, F400 Technical Consultant, alleged that Mr Tait was verbally abusive towards him. Mr Doman stated that he had measured Christopher Tait's (Mr Tait's son) kart's wheel rim which was found to be non-compliant with the regulations. Mr Doman informed the COC of the non-compliance and proceeded to impound the part. Mr Tait physically grabbed the part out of Mr Doman's hands and stated he was done with F400 karting.

Ms Marlene Swanepoel, the COC, stated that she had witnessed a heated argument between Mr Doman and Mr Tait. The COC informed Mr Doman to impound the parts while they procured seals for the non-compliant part. Mr Tait had already left the circuit when they wanted to seal the part

Mr Tait stated that:

- Mr Doman decides what technical checks will be carried out on the day.
- He bought the kart, in 2018, as a brand new kart and has raced it in that configuration ever since.

MOTORSPORT SOUTH AFRICA IS THE ONLY RECOGNISED MOTORSPORT FEDERATION IN SOUTH AFRICA



Directors: A. Roux (Chairman), A. Scholtz (Chief Executive Officer), A. Taylor (Financial), F. Alibhai, R. Beekun, FC. Kraamwinkel, G. Hall, A. Harri, Dr G. Mills, E. Murray, M. Rowe, R. Schilling, Ms M. Spurr, S. Themba, S. Van der Merwe

- He was informed that an unknown person had complained to the COC about his rims and that is when the checks had been done.
- Mr Doman measured the rim three (3) times before claiming his kart was illegal and needed to be excluded as per the regulations.
- He did not grab the rim from Mr Doman's hands and neither was he informed the part needed to be impounded.
- Mr Doman did state that Mr Tait could appeal the exclusion however Mr Tait stated there was no need to appeal the exclusion as he informed Mr Doman that he was done with F400 karting after which he left the track.
- The regulation with respect to the rim width measurement method was changed in 2020 and he was not aware of the change.
- He had informed the F400 committee of his resignation from the class.

Mr Gruben stated that the rule of measuring rim width from the inside lip was introduced from the beginning of the 2019 season. Mr Gruben also informed the court that prior to the regulations being released for 2020 they were sent to Mr Tait for checking, as he was part of the F400 committee at the time. According to Mr Gruben, it therefore stood to reason that Mr Tait was aware of the rule change.

Mr Williams stated that Mr Tait was not verbally abusive as he had been warned previously by MSA about his conduct. Mrs Vogelsang confirmed that a meeting was held at MSA between Mr Tait, Mrs Tait, Mr Gruben and Mr Adrian Scholtz to discuss Mr Tait's conduct at events.

Mr Obermeyer stated that he had witnessed the altercation and that Mr Tait had been verbally abusive, calling the F400 committee a "bunch of clowns" and that he was done with F400 karting.

Mr Stuart stated that he was in the pit next to Mr Tait and could confirm that Mr Tait did not snatch the rim from Mr Doman. Mr Tait was naturally upset that his son was excluded but he was not verbally abusive.

FINDINGS

1. The court, having taken into account the testimony of both parties and the witnesses, finds that Mr Llewelyn Tait, by his actions and behaviour, had contravened the regulations with reference to GCR 172 iv).
2. Due to the actions of his father, minor competitor Christopher Tait is excluded from all forms of MSA-sanctioned karting competition for 12 months, beginning from the publication of these findings to the end of February 2021.
3. The penalty referred to in clause 2 above is however suspended for a period of six (6) months and will only come into effect if competitor Tait and/or his parents are found guilty of any transgression of the regulations in terms of GCR 172(ix), (vi) or (x) during this six (6) month period.
4. Costs in the amount of R2,500-00 are awarded against Mr Tait, payable to MSA.

All parties are reminded of their rights in terms of GCR 212 B.

These findings are distributed via email on 24 March 2020 at 11h00am

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