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MSA COURT OF ENQUIRY 1173

ENQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE ON TRACK INCIDENT BETWEEN COMPETITOR DAMIAN MILLER AND MARK FONTINI IN THE FIRST RACE OF THE 2.1 CLASS AS WELL AS THE VERBAL ALTERCATION BETWEEN COMPETITOR DAMIAN MILLER AND THE OFFICIALS AT THE CHD CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT HELD AT KILLARNEY ON THE 25TH MARCH 2016.

HEARING HELD AT THE MSA OFFICE IN CAPE TOWN AT 18H00 ON 04th MAY 2016

<u>Present:</u> Brian Hoskins - Court President

Arlene Brown - Court Member Brenton Gregory - Court Member

Stephanie vd Merwe - Clerk of the Course

Andrew Fontini Jnr - Assistant Clerk of the Course

Andrew Fontini Snr - CHD Chairman
Carel vd Merwe - MSA Steward
George Schutte - Club Steward
Damian Miller - Competitor
Mark Fontini - Competitor

Richard Griessen - Competitor – Witness to circuit incident

William Paint - Damian Miller's Pit Mechanic
Revon Froslea - Damian Miller's Pit Mechanic
Shayne Miller - Damian Miller's Pit Mechanic
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Lizelle van Rensburg - MSA Scribe

The Court Members were introduced and there were no objections to the composition of the Court.

At the start of the hearing the Court asked Stephanie vd Merwe to explain how the penalty process works at an oval track racing event, so that everyone could have an understanding of it.

In the documentation received, the Court noticed that according to TORC rule OT 41.3.28 there is a specific penalty set out for disorderly conduct. Stephanie vd Merwe, the CofC of the event was asked why it was not applied to competitor D. Miller on the night of the said event. It was explained to all present that if the Court applied the penalty to the competitor, his next step, if he wanted to "protest" the decision would be to apply to a National Court of Appeal, a very costly process.

The Court requested the CofC to have a hearing with the competitor, so that the appropriate penalty could be applied.

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At this point, the Court members left the room and the CofC held the hearing. The on-track incident and the verbal altercation were discussed.

The outcome of the hearing was that the competitor was suspended in terms of OT 41.3.28.

The competitor protested the CofC's decision within time on the night of the hearing. As the Stewards of the event remained in the room when the hearing was held they were not in a position to hear the protest. The Court members therefore heard the protest. The protest was not successful as the appropriate protest fee was not put forward.

A further discussion took place with the officials of the event and the Chairman of CHD to understand their use of officials and to explain the various roles and responsibilities of all the players.

These findings distributed via e-mail on 03/06/2016.

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