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## **MSA COURT OF ENQUIRY 1179**

# ENQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS OF VERBAL AND PHYSICAL ABUSE AT THE SWARTBERGSVLEI 200 EVENT ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> OF JULY 2016.

#### HEARING HELD AT THE MSA OFFICE IN CAPE TOWN AT 18H00 ON 27 JULY 2016

**Present:** Joy Dolinschek - Court President

Arlene Brown - Court Member Wayne Arendse - Court Member

Jan Thorsen - Clerk of the Course
Carol Wiltshire - MSA Steward
Romanda Marais - Club Steward
Vincent Harth - Defendant

Ashton Harth - Competitor / Witness

Troy Sullivan - Competitor

Donna Sullivan - Mother of Competitor

In attendance: Lizelle van Rensburg - MSA Scribe

The Court President introduced herself and the other court members. There were no objections to the composition of the court.

Mr. Vincent Harth was asked to advise the court of the events as he saw them relating to the injury of his wife at the event concerned. Vincent said he had stopped to assist his wife who had taken a fall about 7km from the start of the loop. He stated that competitor Troy Sullivan had approached the accident without caution at about 40/60km per hour. Vincent then stopped Troy and admitted that he was harsh in his reaction to the 'perceived' speed that Troy was travelling at. He further admitted to physical contact and abusive language. He told the court that notwithstanding he had smacked Troy on his helmet, that he hadn't hurt Troy.

Troy Sullivan stated he had slowed for the incident, but that Vincent had wanted him to stop entirely. Troy (age 14) became nervous due to Vincent's anger and physically attempting to stop him. He (Troy) had left the scene and ridden back to the pits in tears.

All present, supported that Troy was in tears when arriving back at the pits, and indeed needed to be persuaded to complete the event.

#### **Court Ruling:**

1. The Court finds that Vincent Harth, notwithstanding the emotional situation regarding his wife's accident, did indeed abuse Troy Sullivan, both verbally & physically and is contravention of GCR 172 (iv).

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2. Mr. Vincent Harth is fined in the amount of R1000.00 and the competition licence of Mr. Vincent Harth is withdrawn for 3 months, which withdrawal is suspended for 1 year from the date of these findings, provided Mr. Vincent Harth is not involved in any similar offence for the next 12 months.

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

These findings are published via email on 26/08/2016.

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