



MOTORSPORT SOUTH AFRICA NPC

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MSA COURT OF ENQUIRY 1121

FORMAL ENQUIRY (GCR'S 154 & 211) HELD INTO THE TIME ATTACK AND DRAG DEMO EVENT ORGANISED BY THE BMW CAR CLUB OF KZN IN PORT SHEPSTONE ON THE 29TH SEPTEMBER 2013.

Hearing held at the MSA KZN Office, 101A Jan Hofmeyer Road, Westville on Thursday 10th October 2013 at 17h00.

PRESENT:

Jack Cheney	Court President
Don Kirby	Court Member
Rob Spencer	Court Member
Gary Moodie	BMW Committee member
Kanaya Maharaj	Organiser
Terence Peter	BMW Club member
Dieter Zeising	BMW Committee member
Sharmaine Peter	BMW Club member
Andrew Strike	Private
Brandon Harding	BMW Club
Derrick Watterson	BMW Club
Bernice Watterson	BMW Car Club
Mohammed S Khan	Competitor
Rikesh Singh	Competitor
Ashandra Ramdayal	Competitor
Darren Taljaard	Clerk of Course / Environmental Officer
Kas Moodley	KZN Drag Racing Representative
Richard Vaughan	Rally Representative / MSA Steward (available telephonically)
Heinz Kruppe	MSA Official / Safety Officer
Leigh Dewar	Scribe/MSA KZN Regional Secretary

APOLOGIES:

Mirkash Ramnath

Hearing all the evidence, the court is of the following opinion:

Allegations:

Racial allegations were addressed and Mr Khan could not substantiate any racial allegations against any person.

Timing is not 100% correct for drag racing – the event was a demo / club event. The competitors were happy once the reasons were explained to them.

Speed fencing blown over by the wind was there for crowd control. The fence was repaired before the event started. The windscreen that was mentioned was chipped and not cracked.

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



sport & recreation
Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Directors: S. E. Miller (Chairman), A. Scholtz (CEO – Operations), A. Taylor (Financial), K. G. Doig, J. du Toit, M. du Toit, P. du Toit, D. Lobb, N. McCann, C. Pienaar, B. Sipuka, D. Somerset, L. Steyn – Hon. Presidents : T. Kilburn, Mrs. B. Schoeman

Crowd control: The uncontrolled crowd management was in fact pit crew and officials that were in the staging area behind the start line. The safety officer and the Clerk of the Course were quite happy. There was safety fencing and a manned crossing area for spectators.

Allegations of spectators doing scrutineering are unfounded. One scrutineer and an assistant were present. Forms were completed as per regulations.

People on Circuit: A child managed to get through the fencing but was stopped and taken back behind the barriers prior to a run. There was a spectator who pushed past a marshal and the marshal stopped the run and the spectator was dealt with.

No firetruck: The venue is a registered airstrip and as such there is a fire truck at the event and the marshals all had fire extinguishers.

Recommendations:

The court felt that MSA should make sure that all permits issued clearly state what type of event is being held. The Supplementary Regulations state Time Attack and Drag Day. The permit is issued for Time Attack. The Supplementary Regulations state that 40 entries will be accepted and there were 73 entries accepted at the start. This is where everything started going wrong.

There seems to be conflicting understanding of what a demo event is between Derrick Watterson and Wally Pappas and what Wally Pappas said to Jack Cheney and Rob Spencer about running one car at a time.

It is recommended that for any events taking place in the KZN region, Head Office should send copies of the Supplementary Regulations and Permit issued to the Regional Secretary.

The BMW Club was unaware that, according to the KZN Regional Committee, the Port Shepstone venue is not approved for drag racing.

MSA Steward was nominated by the BMW Club but the club failed to notify the Steward of his appointment.

Although the writers of complaints directed at the club were happy with the explanations, the court finds that the event had the following shortcomings:

- 1) The club did not limit their entries as stated in the Supplementary Regulations.
- 2) The club did not let the MSA Steward know that he had been appointed.
- 3) The club need to relook at some of the speed fencing which was able to be undone by the spectators.
- 4) The club did not communicate to the competitors that the event had been downgraded to a demo drag so they were not given the opportunity to withdraw.
- 5) Officials' reports were not completed in full.
- 6) The court does not feel that the event Supplementary Regulations were sufficiently detailed.
- 7) The main objectives of safety and fairness were adhered to but the club should learn from the shortcomings that occurred.

The court imposes a fine on the BMW Club of R10 000.00. This fine is however suspended until 01st March 2014 and will only become payable should the club be found guilty of running an event with similar shortcomings in the period between the date of publication of these findings and 01st March 2014.

All parties are reminded of their rights of appeal to the MSA National Court of Appeal.

These written findings are distributed via e-mail on the 11th October 2013, at 10:30

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