

MOTORSPORT SOUTH AFRICA

IN THE COURT OF ENQUIRY NO. 1295

HELD VIRTUALLY BY ZOOM ON THURSDAY, 30 JULY 2026 AT 18H00

COURT COMPOSITION :	Mr Wayne Field Mr Michael Daniel Mr Anthony Taylor	Court President Court Member Court Member
ADMINISTRATIVE ATTENDANTS :	Mrs Carmen Hill Mrs Allison Vogelsang Mr Rashaad Monteiro	MSA Sporting Services Manager MSA Sporting Co-Ordinator - Circuit and Karting MSA Safeguarding Officer
PARTIES IN ATTENDANCE :	Mrs Katherine Tait Mr Llewellyn Tait Master Christopher Tait Mr Robbi Cosani Mr Stelio Nousias Mr Craig Gammie Mr Greg Gossman Mr Eric Schultz Mr Raoul Farah Mr Philip Croeser	Complainant and Entrant or Minor Competitor, Christopher Tait Witness and Father of Minor Competitor, Christopher Tait Minor Competitor First Respondent and Competitor Second Respondent and Competitor Driving Skills Coach and Mechanic for Christopher Tait and Witness VW Challenge Driver Representative and Witness Clerk of the Court and Witness Club Manager and Witness VW Challenge Chairman and Witness

INTRODUCTION

1. This Court of Enquiry ("the Court") was duly convened by Motorsport South Africa ("MSA") in terms of General Competition Rule ("GCR") 211. The proceedings were conducted in accordance with GCR 220, read with the MSA Safeguarding Policy ("the Policy"), noting that Master Christopher Tait ("Tait Junior") is a minor.

2. The Court sat as an independent adjudicative forum mandated to enquire into the relevant jurisdictional requirements facts, to assess compliance with the applicable regulatory framework and to determine such findings and if required, consequential measures as may be warranted.
3. The Court's mandate is to investigate the complaint of Mrs Katherine Tait ("Mrs Tait"), the mother and entrant for minor competitor, Tait Junior. Mrs Tait's complaint is contained in an email addressed by her to the abovementioned administrative attendants, Mrs Carmen Hill ("Hill") and Mrs Allison Vogelsang ("Vogelsang") as well as Mr Eric Schultz ("Schultz") dated 18 June 2026. The email is included in the bundle of documents furnished to the Court at pages 1 – 4 thereof and will not be repeated here, save to mention that in summary the allegations are that the First Respondent, Mr Robbi Cosani ("Cosani") had shouted at and verbally abused Craig Gammie ("Gammie") and Tait Junior. A brief video clip filmed by Llewellyn Tait ("Mr Tait") featuring Cosani in the *parc fermé* area was submitted together with the complaint by Mrs Tait. Furthermore, Mrs Tait alleges that the brother of Stelio Nousias ("Stelio"), a competitor, Yotti Nousias ("Yotti"), had screamed and sworn at Schultz and that Schultz had been required to restrain Yotti from confronting Tait Junior. These events occurred during the Regional Extreme Festival Round 3 after Race 2.
4. The enquiry is required to investigate the following charges :
 - 4.1 *"Whether Robbi Cosani is guilty of breaching, inter alia, GCR 172 iv) and/or part of the MSA Safeguarding policy due to his alleged verbal abuse of Master Christopher Tait and Mr Craig Gammie."*
 - 4.2 *"Whether Mr Stelio Nousias is guilty of breaching, inter alia, GCR 172 iv), and/or any part of the MSA Safeguarding policy due to his brother Mr Yotti Nousias alleged verbal abuse of Master Christopher Tait."*
 - 4.3 *"Whether Mr Stelio Nousias is guilty of breaching, inter alia, GCR 172 iv) and x), due to his brother Mr Yotti Nousias alleged verbal abuse of Mr Eric Schultz."*
5. The Court is required to determine whether there is any conduct on the part of the First and/or Second Respondent arising from the three charges referred to immediately above as MSA licence holders which did not comply with the GCR's or the Policy.
6. Where breaches are established, the Court is further required to determine appropriate steps / sanctions which are fair, proportionate and consistent with the objectives of safety, integrity, deterrence and protection of minors (where applicable).
7. Pursuant to the complaint of Mrs Tait, these proceedings were initiated and the Court was convened by MSA.

BACKGROUND

8. Whilst not part of this Court's mandate it is noted that the immediate prelude to the events which formed the subject of this Court's mandate involved an on-track incident during Race 2 of the ATE VW Challenge Series on 13 June 2026, which included a collision between competitor A61, Stelio, and competitor A42, Tait Junior, which resulted in Stelio's car making contact with the barrier just before turn 5 and the race being red-flagged. Once the car and debris was removed from the racing area, the race was restarted. On completion of the race, the vehicles entered *parc fermé* in the normal manner, at which point the events forming the subject matter of the charges are alleged to have taken place.
9. It is understood, although no evidence was led in this regard, that Stelio suffered a minor injury and was required to be attended to in the medical centre.

THE EVIDENCE AS GIVEN BY THE WITNESSES WHO TESTIFIED

10. The Court heard the evidence of seven witnesses, whose evidence is briefly summarised below. It is not the intention of the Court to set out the evidence of the witnesses in its entirety, but rather to concentrate on facts testified to which are relevant to the charges. The witnesses called were as follows :

10.1 Witness 1 : Tait Junior

Tait Junior testified that after Race 2, that he was in *parc fermé* with Gammie when he and Gammie were approached by Cosani, who made a scene and uttered verbal abuse. Tait Junior testified that Cosani focused his anger primarily against Gammie and partially against himself. Cosani used profanities and referred to Tait Junior as a dirty driver. Tait Junior testified that it appeared to him that Cosani was labouring under the misapprehension that Gammie was his father. This was subsequently confirmed by other witnesses, including Cosani himself. Cosani and Gammie had been separated by others and Tait Junior had left the immediate area.

Tait Junior testified that he was not in the vicinity when the incident referred to in the second and third charges against Stelio took place. Tait Junior testified that Yotti, Stelio's brother, was moving towards him when the drivers came off the track at the end of the race into *parc fermé*, but he (Yotti) was moved away by others.

10.2 Witness 2 : Llewellyn Tait

Mr Tait had come out of the toilets after the second race and had observed Cosani shouting at Gammie with Tait Junior close by. Cosani said words to the effect, "*I am not Chad, I'll f..k you up*", and referred to Gammie, again erroneously believing that he was Tait Junior's father, as a "*p.es*", and also words to the effect, "*I'll f..k you p.eses up*".

Tait Senior was filming this on his mobile phone which he testified Cosani attempted unsuccessfully to grab. Tait Senior did not at that time observe Yotti.

Cosani had uttered to Mr Tait, *"I'll f.ck you up."*. A short time later there was an attempted apology by Cosani and Stelio but this had only resulted in harsh words between the parties again.

10.3 **Witness 3 : Craig Gammie**

He is the driving skills coach and mechanic for the Tait family and, in particular, Tait Junior. Gammie testified that Cosani had threatened Tait Junior and him, but a mechanic had taken Tait Junior aside away from the altercation. Gammie testified that Cosani had threatened to beat *"us"* up, the inference being that this was directed at Gammie and also Tait Junior. Gammie testified that Cosani also threatened Mr Tait.

Gammie, together with Tait Junior, had completed an incident report which Tait Junior had handwritten. The report is included in the bundle of documents presented to the Court and appears at page 5. It primarily deals with what happened on the track, and concludes with the following :

"Inc 2 : in parc fermé both my mechanic and I were verbally attacked by Robbi / Cosani."

Gammie testified that he had no knowledge of any conduct at the time of Yossi.

Under cross-examination by Cosani, it was put to Gammie that Tait Junior was not in the immediate vicinity when Cosani's admitted verbal abuse was taking place. Ultimately, Cosani put it to Gammie that Tait Junior was approximately two to three metres from where Gammie was standing, which Gammie appeared to accept as correct.

10.4 **Witness 4 : Greg Gossman**

Greg Gossman is the driver representative for Class B for ATE VW Challenge. He testified that he was on the pit wall as the restarted Race 2 came to a conclusion. He had received a call from Raoul Farah, the Club Manager, asking him that if there were any heated exchanges that he should please attempt to control the situation. There had been harsh words uttered as testified to by other witnesses on the part of Cosani. Schultz had intervened and Gossman had told Cosani that this was not the time or place to behave in the manner in which he was behaving. Cosani apologised on more than one occasion. Gossman did not remember the exact words used by Cosani on the day on account of the fact that his back was turned to him, but there had been hand gestures on Cosani's part and shouting. He also could not say with any precision where Tait Junior was standing in relation to Gammie. Under cross-examination from Cosani, Gossman conceded that Cosani had left the area when requested to do so by Gossman.

10.5 Witness 5 : Eric Schultz

Schultz testified that he did not witness the incident between Cosani and Gammie. Stelio was annoyed on account of the accident in which he had been involved on track with Tait Junior. Schultz had warned Stelio that Tait Junior was a minor and he should therefore be cautious as to his language towards Tait Junior. He had used foul language, but it had not been directed at Tait Junior.

10.6 Witness 6 : Raoul Farah

He testified that he is the Club Manager. He saw to the weighing of cars post-race and the handing out of incident reports if required.

He did not witness the verbal attack which allegedly was instigated by Cosani towards Gammie. Gammie had asked him for an incident report form and he had provided it.

10.7 Witness 7 : Philip Croeser

Before Croeser began giving his evidence, the Court considered the complaint of bias against him by Mrs Tait. She informed the Court that Croeser had phoned Mr Tait on two occasions and had called others who had in turn called Mr Tait encouraging the Tait's to drop the complaint against Cosani and Yotti. She described this conduct as harassment aimed at persuading the Tait's to withdraw the case and also represented in her view, that Croeser sided with Cosani. The Court considered the objection and after some discussion, Mrs Tait elected not to press her objection very strongly. The Court noted her concern, but ruled that there was no reason not to hear Croeser's evidence.

Croeser testified that he had received a telephone call from Farah asking him to keep the competitors apart from one another after the on-track accident, in particular Yossi should be kept away from *parc fermé*. Schultz had warned Yossi that Tait Junior was a minor and Yossi should not engage with him and they did not.

Croeser did not witness any interaction between Gammie and Cosani.

10.8 Witness 8 : Carmen Hill

Carmen Hill, MSA Sporting Services Manager, testified briefly regarding sanction, that MSA views allegations of the nature that were levelled at the respondents in this matter in a serious light, and that depending on the Court's finding on the facts, should apply the GCR's.

10.9 Witness 9 : Robbi Cosani

As was testified to by certain of the other witnesses and as was conceded by Cosani during his questioning of certain of the other witnesses, he admits that he swore at Gammie and, for that matter, at Mr Tait thereafter when he emerged from the toilets and commenced filming Cosani on his mobile phone. He admits that he was wrong for swearing at Gammie and Mr Tait, claiming it

to be something which happened on the spur of the moment, but he denies having directed any verbal abuse at Tait Junior.

11. Stelio declined to give any evidence and thus the evidential stage of the hearing was concluded.

ANALYSIS OF THE FACTS

12. CHARGE 1

- 12.1 Cosani, by his own admission is guilty of the first charge in relation to Mr Craig Gammie. Cosani openly and frankly admitted that he had shouted and otherwise directed verbal abuse at Gammie in the *parc fermé* area after Race 2. His admission was confirmed by others, including Gammie. Accordingly, this Court must find him guilty as regards verbal abuse directed at Gammie.
- 12.2 The issue of whether Cosani directed verbal abuse at Tait Junior is however a more complex issue. In making his admissions in relation to verbally abusing Gammie, Cosani expressly denied that he had verbally abused Tait Junior. He had claimed that Tait Junior was not present when he directed verbal abuse at Gammie. Ultimately on Cosani's own version Gammie and Tait Junior were only two or three metres apart when Gammie was verbally abused by Cosani.
- 12.3 On a balance of probabilities therefore, it must have been so that Tait Junior witnessed at close quarter the abuse which Cosani was uttering. The more important question is whether the abuse was directed at Gammie only or at Gammie and Tait Junior? There are contradictory indications in the evidence of the various witnesses.
- 12.4 Tait Junior testified that in the initial approach by Cosani to him and Gammie, that the verbal abuse had been partially directed against himself, although conceded that it was primarily focused at Gammie. Tait Junior confirmed that he had left the area of the interaction seemingly before the exchange had come to an end. Tait Junior hand wrote the incident report and recorded as the second incident the following :

"In parc fermé both my mechanic and I were verbally attacked by Robby (sic) Cosani."
- 12.5 In Mr Tait's evidence, it was stated that Tait Junior was close by when Cosani was observed by him, shouting at Gammie.
- 12.6 Gammie testified that Cosani had threatened Tait Junior and himself, but that a mechanic had taken Tait Junior aside and away from the altercation. His testimony was that Cosani had threatened to beat both of them up being himself and Tait Junior.

- 12.7 Gossman had testified as to verbal abuse being uttered by Cosani, but could not state with any precision where Tait Junior was in relation to Gammie at that time.
- 12.8 Schultz did not witness the incident between Cosani and Gammie and nor did Farah, or Croeser.
- 12.9 For the Court to decide what exactly happened as between Cosani, Gammie and Tait Junior is difficult given that there is no video evidence save for the very brief clip filmed by Mr Tait, which does not reveal whether Tait Junior was the target of Cosani's abusive shouting or not. Tait Junior himself and Gammie are of the view that Tait Junior was the subject of Cosani's abuse. Mr Tait did not expressly testify that Gammie's verbal abuse was directed at his son, Tait Junior. Rather he testified that Tait Junior had been close by when Cosani had been shouting at Gammie. Gossman was unable to say with any exactitude to say where Tait Junior was when Gammie was being verbally abused by Cosani and none of the other witnesses had been eye-witnesses to the abuse directed by Cosani at Gammie and possibly also Tait Junior.
- 12.10 The Court must decide on a balance of probabilities what the most likely version of events is the correct one. The Court, after careful consideration, and having noted its finding above that Cosani had indeed verbally abused Gammie as per charge 1, based, *inter alia*, on his own admission, is of the view that the likelihood is that Cosani did not intend to expressly and directly verbally abuse Tait Junior. It is quite clear from the evidence, including that of Tait Junior himself, that the target of the abuse in *parc fermé* by Cosani was primarily intended to be Gammie, who Cosani erroneously believed to be Tait Junior's father. It seems that it is a matter of interpretation rather than proven fact as to whether Cosani's verbal abuse was also sought to be directed at Tait Junior.
- 12.11 Based on the evidence of the witnesses, and weighing up their competing versions, it is the view of the Court that it has not been proven on a balance of probabilities that Cosani deliberately intended to verbally abuse Tait Junior. This does not discount the possibility that Tait Junior may have thought in the heat of the moment, when things suddenly exploded in the form of Cosani's verbal attack on Gammie, that he too may have been included in the utterances which Cosani was directing at Gammie, but that belief does not on its own prove that Cosani intended to verbally abuse Tait Junior, or that he did.
- 12.12 Accordingly, the finding of the Court is that Cosani is not guilty of having verbally abused Tait Junior.

13. CHARGES 2 AND 3

- 13.1 By necessary implication, charges 2 and 3 must be read together. GCR172(x) reads as follows :

“Abuse of officials by competitors and/or their family members and/or members of their pit crew. Such breach of rules may result in the competitors concerned, if found guilty, following a hearing, being suspended for a minimum period of six (6) months or six (6) events (whichever is more appropriate) for a first instance”

And GCR113(xiv) reads as follows :

“In particular entrants shall :

...

(xiv) have the prime responsibility for all acts and omissions of all persons connected with his entry (notably his driver/s, mechanic/s, pit personnel, and service crews) and for ensuring that they comply with the rules and regulations, and be responsible for the payment of any fines levied on such persons.”

- 13.2 From the evidence before the Court, Stelio, who participated in the ATE VW Challenge Races, was supported by his brother, Yotti, who formed part of his crew. Accordingly, in terms of GCR113(xiv) and GCR172(x) Stelio would be liable for any actions by his brother, Yotti, in breach of the GCR's.
- 13.3 Turning to the facts in relation to these charges, the question is then whether Yotti did indeed verbally abuse Schultz or not? Interestingly, Schultz's evidence was that Yotti, whilst swearing and shouting, was not directing same at Tait Junior or at himself, although one other witness, Gossman, testified that there was an exchange of words involving Yotti and Schultz. No other eye-witnesses to the interaction between Schultz and Yotti were called to testify and accordingly the Court is left with these two contradictory versions, namely that of Schultz and Gossman. Given that Schultz was the alleged subject of the verbal abuse by Yotti, his testimony that he was not the subject of Yotti's abuse must be viewed as carrying considerable weight. It is also possible that what Gossman saw as verbal abuse was not objectively seen as verbal abuse directed at himself by Schultz.
- 13.4 Be that as it may, the Court must decide on a balance of probabilities whether Yotti verbally abused Schultz. On the evidence, the Court is unable to come to such a finding and in the circumstances, Yotti is guilty of neither the allegations against him in charge 2 or 3. Therefore Stelio is not guilty of charges 2 and 3 as set out in the charge sheet.

PENALTIES

14. In the circumstances of the findings set out above, the penalty is only required to be imposed in relation to the finding that Cosani verbally abused Gammie in breach of GCR172(iv) as set out in charge 1 (see below). GCR177 provides that the following penalties can be adopted :

- (i) Reprimand
- (ii) Fine in relation to an MSA Court of Enquiry is R600 000,00
- (iii) Time penalty
- (iv) Exclusion

In addition the following penalties may be imposed by formal MSA Courts :

- (v) Suspension and Withdrawal of Licence
- (vi) Disqualification
- (vii) In addition to any other penalty, forfeiture of Championship points which shall be imposed by MSA or the National Court of Appeal (except as provided for in GCR176).

One or more of the above penalties may be imposed as a result of a single finding.

15. The Court has carefully considered the conduct which Cosani has been found guilty of, the severity thereof, the brief evidence of Hill, the fact that Cosani did not attempt to deny the events to which he admitted, and the surrounding circumstances, amongst others. The Court accepts Hill's evidence as to the severity of the allegations. GCR172(iv) provides that "prejudicial acts" include, *inter alia*, verbal and physical abuse and acts (including comments or gestures) which would reasonably be considered by the general public to be abusive or inappropriate.

16. In all of the circumstances the Court, in exercising its discretion as to the penalty to be imposed, imposes the following penalty on Cosani :

- 16.1 a fine of R10 000,00; and
- 16.2 preclusion of Cosani from taking part in one competition of the ATE VW Challenge Championship. For the avoidance of any doubt, this means that Cosani shall not be permitted to race in either Race / Heat 1 and Race / Heat 2 on a particular event date.
- 16.3 Suspension of Cosani's Competitor Licence for six months, which suspension is in turn suspended for a period of six months provided that Cosani is not found guilty of the same or similar breach of the GCR's.

THE FINDING

17. The Court finds that Robbi Cosani is guilty of charge 1, a breach of GCR172(iv) in respect of his verbal abuse of Mr Craig Gammie. He is found not guilty of verbal abuse of Master Christopher Tait.
18. The Court finds that Yotti Nousias did not verbally abuse either Master Christopher Tait or Eric Schultz.
19. The Court therefore finds that Stelio Nousias is not guilty of breaching GCR172(iv).
20. The Court imposes the following penalty on Robbi Cosani based on the finding set out in paragraph 17 above :
 - 20.1 A fine of R10 000,00 payable in terms of GCR180 within forty eight hours of this judgment being served on Robbi Cosani.
 - 20.2 The exclusion of Robbi Cosani from one ATE VW Challenge event, yet to be run.
 - 20.3 Suspension of Robbi Cosani's Competitor Licence for six months from the date of service of this judgment being served on him, which suspension is in turn suspended for a period of six months, provided that Cosani is not found guilty of the same or similar breach of the GCR's.

This judgment was handed down on 8 September 2026.