

GRAND PRIX OF PORTUGAL
10 January 2022

From	The Appeal Commission (The Stewards)	Document	7
To	All Teams, All Officials	Date	15/01/2022
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Protest filed by Car number 34 driven by Luca Rondelli, against The Stewards' Document no. 5 for Race 117 (ATOM F1 EASYFIX ROMA GRANDE PRÊMIO DE PORTUGAL)

Stewards Decision:

The Protest is dismissed.

Procedure:

1. On January 13th the parties were informed about the admissibility of the protest.

On behalf of Car number 34:

- Luca Rondelli

On behalf of The Stewards:

- Omar Avdic
- Matteo Benassi
- Brendan Cahill
- Lee O' Brien
- Federico Giannalia

2. At the hearing of the Commission, there were no objections against the composition of The Clerk of The Course for this event. The Stewards set out oral arguments and addressed the matter writtenly asked by Luca Rondelli.

3. At the hearing The Stewards referred to the documents submitted.

Luca submitted further evidence (video proof).

Consequently, the material of the analysis consists on the following:

- The Stewards' Video Proof (TV Camera);
- Luca's Video Proof (Onboard Camera).

4. The Stewards, to discuss their points, and in order to obtain more points of view, initiated the hearing of additional people (person), whose are (is):
- Riccardo Pontremolesi
 - Giovanni Rizza
 - Simone Pisanelli

The claims of Luca Rondelli:

Luca claimed that about the incident at turn 1 during lap 14 of the Race occurred at 22:20, he is not at fault and therefore his penalty must be removed.

(quoting the Appeal declaration):

“You can see how I make a small correction to get out of the racing line to leave room for Car 91 but once I opened my line Car 91 came against me, probably taking the curb badly and then spinning around.”

The Stewards’ (relevant) declarations:

(quoting the Document 5):

“The Car 34 had noticed the presence of Car 91 on the inside since the start of the downhill section. While approaching Turn 1, Car 34 turned to the right using a line such as no car was on the inside. This lead to a spin for Car 91.”.

For The Stewards, this is a Breach of article 17.11 ATOM F1 2021 Regulations.

For The Stewards, such violation shall be penalized with a 5 Second Time Penalty and with 2 points imposed on Driver’s Super Licence.

Conclusions of The Commission:

Having considered the various statements made by the parties:

The Commission determine that the key contradiction about this case is the point of The Stewards: concerning how the racing line was used by both Cars while approaching the apex of turn 1. Both parties seems to be struggling on agreeing.

The Commission evaluated the incident and did not find any “small correction” successfully done before the collision. The Car 34 eventually had widened its line, but only after making contact with the other car.

The fact that the Car 91 was flanking Car 34 for a (relatively speaking) long amount of time before the crash, excludes any doubt regarding the awareness that Driver of Car 34’s racing line (in doing turn 1) would have to be modified in order to avoid any collision and/or incident. Drivers must make every reasonable effort to use every part of the track without leaving it at all times and this was not the case.

Accordingly, the Protest is dismissed.

This decision shall be considered permanent and not appealable anymore.

Omar Avdic

Matteo Benassi

Brendan Cahill

Lee O’Brien

Federico Giannalia

The Stewards