
ATOM F1 EASYFIX BAHRAIN GRAND PRIX
07 February 2022

From	The Stewards	Document	7
To	All Officials, All Drivers	Date	17/02/2022
		Time	13:49

Protest filed by Car number 74 driven by Raoul Baldan, against The Stewards' Document no. 4 for Race 120 (ATOM F1 EASYFIX BAHRAIN GRAND PRIX)

Stewards Decision:

The Protest is dismissed.

Procedure:

1. On February 15th the parties were (privately) informed about the admissibility of the protest.

On behalf of Car number 74:

- Raoul Baldan

On behalf of The Stewards:

- Omar Avdic
- Brendan Cahill
- Federico Giannalia
- Simone Pisanelli
- Alessandro Laconi

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 Raoul Baldan.
3. At the hearing The Stewards referred to the documents submitted. Raoul did not submit any further evidence.
4. The Stewards, to discuss their points, did not initiate the hearing of additional people.

The claims of Raoul Baldan:

"I file an appeal regarding the penalties assigned to me following the Bahrain Grand Prix on February 7, 2022. Precisely the penalties regarding article 12.6, since personally I have not noticed connection problems and I have not even been notified about them as happened in previous races through the race control; article 17.5, I believe I have never driven the car extremely slowly or in an attempt to ruin the race for someone else; article 17.9, according to various replays and facts I have not made more than one change of direction during a defense."

The Stewards' (relevant) declarations:

(quoting the Document 4):

"The driver was at fault for the conduct carried out.
Violations with similar past records and not tolerable anymore.
If recidivist in the future, more severe sanctions will be applied."

For The Stewards, this is a Breach of articles 12.6, 17.5, 17.9, 17.11 and 17.14 of the ATOM F1 2021 Regulations.

For The Stewards, such violation shall be penalized as following:

- The driver is disqualified from the Race Results (a. 32.2.8);
- The driver is suspended for 1 race (a. 32.2.9).

Conclusions of The Commission:

Having considered the various statements made by the parties:

The Commission determine that no evidence can disguise the fact that for more than five times there were oral reports made by competitors regarding the driving conduct of the driver.

The Stewards, talking about evidences, found the following:

1. Bahrain Edition 7 (1st race for the driver)
 - The driver was reported by multiple people for dangerous driving, lag and unsportsmanlike conduct.
2. Styria Edition 7 (2nd race for the driver)
 - The driver was penalized by The Stewards for causing a collision (Doc 5).
 - The driver was penalized by The Stewards for re-joining unsafely (Doc 6).
3. Italy Edition 7 (4th race for the driver)
 - The driver was reported by multiple people for lag.
 - The driver was warned by The Clerk of The Course in Doc. 11 for dangerous driving.
4. Singapore Edition 7 (5th race for the driver)
 - The driver was reported by multiple people for lag.
5. Portugal Edition 7 (6th race for the driver)
 - The driver was reported by multiple people for lag.
 - The driver was disqualified from the race for causing a collision (Doc 6).
6. Bahrain Edition 8 (8th race for the driver)

- The driver was reported by multiple people for lag.
- (the hereby disputed decision)

Following the statement of Raoul “personally I have not noticed connection problems and I have not even been notified about them as happened in previous races through the race control”: The Race Director in charge for this event was not in the lobby due to technical reasons (the lobby was full and not joinable) and could not spot the problem during the race. As the reports of the lag of the driver were done only after the end of the race by other drivers, considering that for so many times the driver was reported by others to have such problems, The Stewards found it appropriate to impose such penalty for the violation of the Article 12.6.

About Article 17.5: for this specific case, the car was driven unsportsmanlikely and dangerously at the last corner of the last lap (chequered flag was already out). The Driver re-joined the track in an unsafe manner, colliding with Car 46 and forcing it to retire. There was no hurry to re-join as the race was soon being ended, plus the Driver was lapped, to strengthen the thesis of The Stewards.

About Article 17.9: Due to the fact that the driver seems to lag so much, The Stewards can not consider his statements any realistic or affordable, because even if the competitor might be in good faith, what his opponents see is totally different. So, either he is lagging too much to race properly, or all the opponents of Raoul Baldan are lying on his conduct.

Considered all the above, The Stewards all agree with the decision imposed before, and even more, they remind to Raoul that they will consider to disqualify the Driver from the championship, if the competitor’s lag will ruin others’ race again.

Accordingly, the Protest is dismissed.

This decision shall be considered permanent and not appealable anymore.

Omar Avdic

Brendan Cahill

Federico Giannalia

Simone Pisanelli

Alessandro Laconi

The Stewards