

2023 MELBOURNE EVENT

30 March to 2 April 2023

From	The Stewards	Document	22
To	The Team Manager, ART Grand Prix	Date	31 March 2023
		Time	18:45

The Stewards, having received a report from the Technical Director, have considered the following matter and determine the following:

No / Driver 9 - Nikola Tsolov

Competitor ART Grand Prix

Time 14:29

Session Qualifying

Fact Wheels removed from Car 9 during the session were allegedly cleaned and not refitted to the car during the session

Offence Alleged breach of Article 24.6 of the 2023 FIA Formula 3 Sporting Regulations - work on wheels under parc ferme conditions

Decision No further action

Reason The Stewards examined video evidence. They summoned and heard from the Team Manager of Cars 7 (Frederick), 8 (Saucy) and 9 (Tsolov) (documents 13, 14, 15). The Stewards determined that during the session Cars 7, 8 and 9 progressively entered the pit lane and had work performed on them - Car 8 first, followed by Car 9 and then Car 7. At one point all 3 Cars were lined up adjacent to each other with tyre trolleys behind them and video evidence showed Team mechanics removing wheels from the cars and fitting new wheels. The video evidence clearly showed 2 wheels removed from Car 8 being carried to the rear of Car 8 and placed on the ground in front of a tyre trolley. Wheels which had been removed from one of Car 9 or Car 7 were carried and placed on another trolley. It was not possible to definitively identify from the video evidence whether those wheels were removed from car 9 or car 7. After cars 7, 8 and 9 left the pit lane, one Team mechanic was seen to clean the 2 wheels removed from Car 8 using a rag. Another Team mechanic was seen to lift 2 wheels off the trolley behind car 9 and cleaned them but the video evidence did not definitively show if these were the same wheels removed from Car 9 or Car 7 and lifted onto the trolley or other wheels which were on the same trolley. The Team Manager was unable to identify the mechanics seen in the video to assign them to any particular Car.

The evidence available to the Stewards was insufficient to establish to the satisfaction of the Stewards from which other car other wheels seen to be cleaned had been removed. In the circumstances the Stewards determined to take no further action with respect to Car 9.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards, in accordance with Article 15 of the FIA International Sporting Code and Chapter 4 of the FIA Judicial and Disciplinary Rules, within the applicable time limits.

Andrew Mallalieu

Mazen Al-Hilli

Matthew Selley

The Stewards