

2023 QATAR GRAND PRIX

06 - 08 October 2023

From	The Stewards	Document	26
To	All Teams, All Officials	Date	07 October 2023
		Time	00:25

Title Qualifying SC2-SC1 Times
Description Qualifying SC2-SC1 Times
Enclosed QAT DOC 26 - Qualifying SC2-SC1 Times.pdf

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

Session Qualifying

Fact The cars below exceeded the 1:46.0 time limit between the Safety Car lines.

No	Car	Driver	Competitor	Time of Day	Lap
1	44	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes-AMG PETRONAS F1 Team	20:13:21	6 (Q1)
2	22	Yuki Tsunoda	Scuderia AlphaTauri	20:13:51	7 (Q1)
3	40	Liam Lawson	Scuderia AlphaTauri	20:16:43	9 (Q1)
4	44	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes-AMG PETRONAS F1 Team	20:16:47	8 (Q1)
5	81	Oscar Piastri	McLaren F1 Team	20:17:00	8 (Q1)
6	22	Yuki Tsunoda	Scuderia AlphaTauri	20:17:30	9 (Q1)

Infringement Alleged breach of Article 33.4 of the FIA Formula One Sporting Regulations and Article 12.2.1 i) of the FIA International Sporting Code (non-compliance with the Race Director's Event Notes, item 4.2, document 16)

Decision No further action.

Reasons The Stewards thoroughly reviewed Marshalling/Positioning data, timing data, on-board cameras and CCTV cameras. Most of the incidents were easily judged based on the video evidence and therefore there was no necessity to hear from the drivers involved. For one incident, the Stewards summoned (document 23) and heard from the driver of Car 44 (Lewis Hamilton) and the team representative to obtain more clarity.

All drivers concerned stayed at or above speeds necessary to stay below 1:46.0 around the vast majority of the circuit. However, in all six cases the Stewards determined that the drivers took appropriate actions to not impede other drivers, and in all cases they slowed down significantly to allow other drivers to pass while giving those drivers a clear track. The Stewards therefore determine that they did not drive "unnecessarily slowly", and that evidently the reason they were above the maximum time was due to their appropriate actions and take no further action.

However, the Stewards noted that in most of the incidents the fact that other cars were making a gap at the end of the lap influenced the drivers trying to maintain their delta time. The drivers are reminded once again that no car may be driven unnecessarily slowly and the Stewards will continue to monitor the issue closely.

Note

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.

Decisions of the Stewards are taken independently of the FIA and are based solely on the relevant regulations, guidelines and evidence presented.

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