

2023 SAUDI ARABIAN GRAND PRIX

17 - 19 March 2023

From	The Stewards	Document	51
To	The Team Manager, Aston Martin Aramco Cognizant F1 Team	Date	20 March 2023
		Time	00:36

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

No / Driver 14 - Fernando Alonso

Competitor Aston Martin Aramco Cognizant F1 Team

Time 20:33

Session Race

Fact Failure to serve a penalty during a pit stop.

Offence Breach of Article 54.4(c) of the FIA Formula One Sporting Regulations.

Decision 10 second time penalty

Reason Car 14 had come into the pits during the safety car period to serve the 5 second penalty that was imposed on Car 14 for being out of position at the starting grid. As is customary, race control aided by the Remote Operations Centre (ROC) in Geneva examined whether Car 14 served its penalty in accordance with the regulations. The Stewards were informed that both race control and ROC had determined that the penalty had been properly served. The stewards did not examine the matter further thereafter.

Subsequently, at the last lap of the race, the Stewards received a report from race control that they considered that the penalty was not properly served by CAR 14 and they asked the Stewards to investigate the matter. The matter was reported to race control by ROC.

The Stewards were shown video evidence of how Car 14 served the penalty by the Race Director and the Sporting Director. They stated that what was agreed at the SAC meetings with the teams was that no part of the car could be touched while a penalty was being served as this would constitute working on the car.

In this case, it was clear, that the car was touched by the rear jack. Based on the representation made to the Stewards that there was an agreed position that touching the car would amount to “working” on the car, the Stewards decided to impose a penalty.

Article 54.4(e) gives the Stewards the discretion to disqualify a car for failure to comply with Article 54.4(c). However, given that no work was done while the car was touched, we considered that disqualification would be too harsh an outcome. In the circumstances, the Stewards imposed a 10s penalty on Car 14.

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.

Nish Shetty

Mathieu Remmerie

Enrique Bernoldi

Hassan Alabdali

The Stewards