



From the National Court

**MOTOR SPORTS COUNCIL NATIONAL COURT
SITTING TUESDAY 2ND APRIL 2019**

David Munro (Chairman)
Bob Kettleboro
Richard Norbury

CASE No J2019-03/04 – Slater/ Fusion Motorsport

The National Court has considered disciplinary proceedings in the conjoined matter of Adrian Slater and Fusion Motorsport.

Both parties were summoned to appear before the National Court for causing or permitting Alfie Slater, the holder of National 'B' Kart licence, to enter and participate in the IAME Winter Cup at Valencia when he was not so entitled by virtue of the grade of competition licence held, namely National 'B', and permission to start having been declined by Motorsport UK in writing, contrary to 2019 General Regulations C.1.1.2 (b) and C.1.1.4 and A 10.1.

The National Court noted that both Mr Slater, who holds a PG licence and Fusion Motorsport, who were the entrants licence holder admit the charges and whilst neither attended the hearing, both were represented by their solicitor, Mr Dan Chapman.

The chronology of events appears to be that Alfie Slater was entered for the IAME Winter Cup on the 11th December 2018. The entry form, sent by Fusion Motorsport, was in fact completed by an employee of Adrian Slater, one Craig Boyd, who stated on the face of the form that Alfie Slater held an 'A' grade licence.

This statement was patently misleading, but we accept that Fusion were unaware that it had been made.

It was not until 29th January 2019 that Dan Hazelwood of Fusion Motorsport sought permission from Motorsport UK for Alfie to take part in the IAME Winter Cup in Valencia, an event that was due to start on 7th February 2019.

Permission was promptly and unsurprisingly refused by Motorsport UK, there being no exceptional circumstances.

Alfie was not, at that time, entitled to hold a National 'A' Kart licence and was therefore not eligible to race in the IAME Winter Cup.

In fact, he did race. He started and took part in the event between 7th-10th February 2019.

We are satisfied that Mr Hazelwood was not present at signing on but that Adrian Slater as the PG licence holder was present.

A National 'B' kart licence must have been presented and it appears that the officials at the meeting accepted the licence together with a downloaded page from the Motorsport UK website, which actually does no more than to explain to competitors the grade of licence required for International competition and to confirm such entitlement to those undertaking licence verifications. This documentation was accepted.

It is plain that Mr Slater was aware that his 8-year-old son was not entitled to race in Valencia and that he produced the documentation in the hope that it would be accepted.

This action was undoubtedly prejudicial to the interest of motorsport.

It constitutes a grave breach of the General Regulations and could have had significant consequences for the ASNs involved and the organisers of the event and the potential to invalidate insurance.

Having heard the submissions made on behalf of Mr Slater it is hard to find any significant mitigation for his actions beyond the simple fact that he accepts the charge brought against him.

The position regarding Fusion Motorsport is that they accept their strict liability in this case. They should not have allowed the misleading entry form to have been submitted and they were plainly aware that Alfie was not eligible to race.

We are however satisfied that they were not the prime instigators of what occurred and bear a lesser responsibility in the light of the known facts.

It is obviously the case that Alfie Slater is blameless. He is undoubtedly a competent junior karter who has subsequently obtained a National 'A' Kart licence.

In the case of Adrian Slater, the National Court concludes that the appropriate penalties are as follows;

1. His 2019 PG licence is suspended with immediate effect.
2. He is suspended from holding a PG licence for a period of 5 years from today's date.
3. He is also suspended from acting as an Entrants Representative under General Regulation H 27.1.9 (c) for the same period.
4. He is fined the sum of £5,000.00
5. He is to pay a contribution of £1,500.00 towards costs.

The following penalties are imposed on Fusion Motorsport, the entrants of Alfie Slater;

1. The entrant's licence of Fusion Motorsport is suspended for a period of 2 years with immediate effect, but this suspension is itself suspended for 2 years pursuant to General Regulation C2.1.3
2. They are ordered to pay a fine of £2,000.00
3. They are to pay costs in the sum of £500.00

DAVID MUNRO
CHAIRMAN
02/04/2019