

ATA

From the National Court

MOTOR SPORTS COUNCIL NATIONAL COURT SITTING TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2019

Nicky Moffitt Chris Mount David Munro (Chairman)

J2019/34 – Paul Tompkins

The National Court, sitting as a Disciplinary Tribunal, has considered the case of Paul Tompkins. This matter comes before the Court as Mr Tompkins was convicted of conduct contrary to GR C1.1.5 by the Stewards of the Meeting at Croft Circuit on 22nd September 2019. The matter was then referred to the MSC National Court under GR C2.6.3 due to the serious nature of the conduct in question.

The conduct referred to the Court involved what amounted to a deliberate decision by Mr Tompkins to drive at Car Number 86, which was driven by Daniel Petters. This occurred during the second Pick-up Truck Race (Race 10) in which Car 86 had collided with Car 12, driven by Mr Tompkins, on two occasions on the same lap. At Tower Corner Car 86 was involved in contact with several other competitors before colliding with Car 12. Car 12 spun as a consequence of the contact. Having recovered from the spin, Mr Tompkins deliberately drove at Car 86. Had Car 86 not moved away, Car 12 would probably have hit it in the area of the driver's seat.

The Court considered in-car footage from both Car 86 and Car 12. This included in-car camera recording from Car 86 of the whole Race. There can be no doubt that the driving standards displayed by Daniel Petters were very poor. There were at least 9 incidents of avoidable contact with Car 12 which were caused by the driver of Car 86. Daniel Petters was, as a result, penalised for his driving which was incompatible with general safety.

However, although Mr Tompkins was both provoked and angered by the manner in which Car 86 had been driven, this cannot justify the action that he then took.

The Court has given careful consideration to the matters that he has raised in evidence and notes that he genuinely regrets his behaviour. He was clearly contrite.

In the circumstances, the Court considers that further penalty is required but has regard to the circumstances in which the unsafe driving occurred. The Court, therefore, orders that Mr Tompkins' licence shall remain suspended until 31st December 2019.

Mr Tompkins is ordered to pay £500 towards costs.

David Munro Chairman 12th November 2019