

**FIA World Endurance Championship  
Round 5 - 6 Hours of São Paulo  
2024 July 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Decision No. 7**

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**From:** The Stewards **Date:** 14 July 2024  
**To:** Toyota Gazoo Racing **Time (decision):** 11:15 h

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The Stewards, having received a report from the Media Delegate, having summoned and heard the Team representative M. John Steeghs and the Team Director M. Rob Leupen, have considered the following matter :

**Competitor:** Toyota Gazoo Racing  
**Time (fact):** On 12th July  
**Session:** Before the event  
**Fact:** The Competitor responded to questions from a journalist concerning the topic of BOP in the WEC championship.  
**Offence:** Article 6.2.1 of WEC Sporting Regulations and 12.2.1.f of FIA ISC  
**Decision:** Fine of € 10000 suspended for the balance of 2024 for a similar infringement

Hearing:

Mr. Leupen acknowledged responding to questions from a journalist, Mr. Laurens Stade, concerning the topic of BOP in the WEC championship, which resulted in a press article published on July 12, 2024, on the website motorsport.com, in its Dutch, Italian, versions and English on R by Ruetir website..

Mr. Leupen requested that only the Dutch version be considered in assessing the regulatory breaches for which he was summoned before the stewards. In the absence of a sworn translator available to the panel, it was agreed that a word-for-word reading of the English version of Mr. Leupen's statements would be conducted by the President of the panel, allowing any potential distortions, as claimed by him, in the English version compared to the original Dutch version to be noted. The corrections requested by Mr. Leupen were taken into account by the stewards in their analysis of the facts.

Reason:

Mr. Leupen's statements to the press, asserting that in 2023 the FIA published a BOP one week before the 24H of Le Mans, which "was not in accordance with the applicable regulations," that in 2024 the FIA process "is not transparent," and that "in the future, honesty is required, » in total constitute a violation of Article 12.2.1.f of the International Sporting Code. These statements call into question the impartiality of the FIA, cast suspicion on its integrity, and thus causes moral harm, particularly given that the press article in question was disseminated in multiple countries. Furthermore, these comments have the direct consequence of casting doubt on the integrity of the sporting results of the Championship and damaging their credibility. Accordingly, these statements also constitute a violation of the last paragraph of Article 6.2.1 of the WEC Sporting Regulations.

The Stewards consider this a serious breach of the regulations, but given that this is the first application of these regulations in the championship, chose to suspend the fine for the balance of 2024 subject to there being no further violations of these regulations by anyone associated with the competitor. All competitors are put on notice that future violations may not receive a suspended penalty.

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.

Fines should be paid within 48 hours at the following link: <https://fiafines.fia.com/> or by bank transfer: Crédit du Nord Code IBAN: FR76 3007 6020 2025 3680 0020 034, Swift Code: NORDFRPP.

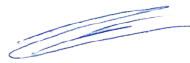
In accordance with Article 12.8 of the FIA International Sporting Code, fines shall be paid within 48 hours of their notification. Any delay in making payment may entail Suspension during the period a fine remains unpaid.



Jean-Francois  
VEROUX  
**FIA Steward  
(Chairman)**



Tim  
MAYER  
**FIA Steward**



Brieuc  
KREMER  
**FIA Steward**



Felipe  
Maluhy  
**National Steward**

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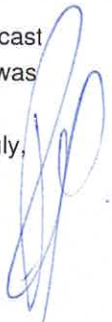
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Hearing:

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The Stewards consider this a serious breach of the regulations, but given that this is the first application of these regulations in the championship, chose to suspend the fine for the balance of 2024 subject to there being no further violations of these regulations by anyone associated with the competitor. All competitors are put on notice that future violations may not receive a suspended penalty.

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Jean-Francois  
VEROUX  
**FIA Steward  
(Chairman)**



Tim  
MAYER  
**FIA Steward**



Brieuc  
KREMER  
**FIA Steward**



Felipe  
Maluhy  
**National Steward**

for receipt.



14/07/24.  
R. Lequer

Time: 18:00

