



F4 United States Championship

NOLA Motorsports Park

8 – 10 April 2022

From	The Stewards	Document	Stewards Decision 105
To	The Team Manager	Date	8 April 2022
	Crosslink Kiwi Motorsport	Time	19:00

The Stewards, having received a protest from Velocity Racing Development on behalf of driver Noah Ping (F4 #65) (Document No F4-P-06), having summoned and heard from team representative Dan Mitchell (Velocity Racing Development) and driver Gabriel Fonseca and team representatives Garry Orton and Gil Kaszuba (Crosslink Kiwi Motorsport), have considered the following matter and determine the following:

No/Driver 76 – Gabriel Fonseca

Competitor Crosslink Kiwi Motorsport

Time 14:30

Session Practice

Facts Velocity Racing Development filed a protest against F4 #76 alleging that the car took part in the official Practice session using a new set of tires rather than a “scrubbed” set of tires as required by the Sporting Regulations and the Driver & Team Meeting Notes. The Stewards reviewed the protest, found it to be timely and admissible, and summoned the drivers and team representatives for a hearing at 17:15. Mr. Mitchell represented Velocity Racing Developments at the hearing while Mr. Orton, Mr. Kaszuba and Mr. Fonseca represented Crosslink Kiwi Motorsport. As there were five other protests alleging the same violation against five other Crosslink Kiwi Motorsport cars, those five drivers attended the hearing as well. Also present at the hearing was Aaron Coalwell, the Technical Director for the F4 United States Championship.

During the hearing, Mr. Orton acknowledged that all six of the protested cars were on new sets of tires for the official Practice session. Mr. Kaszuba stated that the team had been given permission to use new tires for the session from Mr. Coalwell. Mr. Coalwell agreed that he had given that permission to Mr. Kaszuba.

Offence Breach of Article 24.5 of the Sporting Regulations read with the Tire Scanning section of the Driver & Team Meeting Notes.

Decision F4 #76 will start at the back of the grid for qualifying, along with the other five protested cars, in order of their fastest laps set during the official Practice session.

Reason The Stewards determined that the car used a new set of tires for the official Practice session in violation of the Sporting Regulations and the Driver & Team Meeting Notes. The Stewards uphold the protest and direct the protest deposit to be returned to the protestor.

In coming to that determination, the Stewards considered whether this was a protest against an automobile per Article 16.1.4. The Stewards determined that this was not the case, but rather a protest against tire usage per the Sporting Regulations. As such, Mr. Coalwell was not a judge of fact in this matter, and therefore his permission to run new tires was in fact subject to protest.

In addition, the Stewards considered what was meant by a set of “scrubbed” tires. The Stewards determined that scrubbed tires had generally been used on track. The Stewards advise the F4 series to consider clarifying that definition in the Sporting Regulations and the Driver & Team Meeting Notes.

Competitors are reminded that they have the right to appeal certain decisions of the Stewards in accordance with Article 16.2 of the Sporting Regulations, except where the penalties are not susceptible to appeal (Articles 16.1.4.d, 16.2.2.e and 16.2.5 of the Sporting Regulations), within the applicable time limits.



John Walsh

Steward (Chairman)



Wesley Cunningham

Steward



Robert Clark

Steward

Received by the Competitor:

Signature: _____

Printed name: _____

Date: _____

Title: _____