

2024 MIAMI GRAND PRIX

03 - 05 May 2024

From	The Stewards	Document	27
To	The Team Manager, Mercedes-AMG PETRONAS F1 Team	Date	03 May 2024
		Time	20:00

The Stewards, having received a report from the Race Director, summoned (document 25) and heard from the team representative, have considered the following matter and determine the following:

No / Driver 44 - Lewis Hamilton

Competitor Mercedes-AMG PETRONAS F1 Team

Time 16:55

Session Sprint Qualifying

Fact Failure to wear helmets by team personnel during the pit stop.

Infringement Alleged breach of Article 34.13 of the FIA Formula One Sporting Regulations.

Decision No further action.

Reason The Stewards heard from the team representative and reviewed video evidence and determined that team personnel carried out work on Car 44's front wing while it was its pit stop position during the sprint qualifying session, and were not wearing the required protective gear.

This was in breach of Article 34.13 of the FIA Formula One Sporting Regulations.

However, as we were examining the conduct of the team in relation to this infringement (which was reported to us by Race Control), it came to our attention that a number of other teams had engaged in similar work without helmets and/or without eye protection during the session either within the pit stop position or in close proximity to it.

Certainly, those that were working on the car within the pit stop positions would also have been in breach of Article 34.13 (for example by touching the car or jacking up the car).

Indeed, those slightly outside of their pit stop position may not been in breach of the above article but the distinction, from a safety perspective (which is the likely purpose for this rule), was not obvious to us.

Furthermore, it appears to be the established practice to jack the car up, while blowers are used to cool the brakes, within the pit stop position to bring the car back into the garage. That too, read strictly, could be in breach of the above regulations.

So, in these circumstances, penalising one team, where all or nearly all the teams may potentially have been in breach of this article in some form or the other would not

serve a useful purpose.

We accordingly took no further action. However, we request the FIA to consider whether changes need to be made to either the current practices during Qualifying/Sprint Qualifying or the regulations themselves.

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.

Decisions of the Stewards are taken independently of the FIA and are based solely on the relevant regulations, guidelines and evidence presented.

Nish Shetty

Andrew Mallalieu

Vitantonio Liuzzi

Dennis Dean

The Stewards