



MEMBER OF



SUMMARY OF STEWARDS HEARING

Event:	2022 Classic Outback Trial	Date:	26 th March – 2 nd April 2022		
Stewards Present:	Allan Denney (Chief), Peter Lambie				
lark of Course:	Phillip Bernadou				
Protestant:	Michael Valantine			Car Number:	5
Protest: Supplementary Regulation, Article 113.2 – Protest against course.					
Advice to Competitors	The Chief Steward advised the Competitor of his / her rights and then outlined the procedures of the hearing. The Competitor advised that he had been advised of his rights and was ready to proceed.				
Protestant					
Name:	Michael Valantine				
Witnesses:	Tim Valantine				
Summary of Evidence: Mr Valantine’s written Protest lodged against a clearly incorrect and dangerous instruction on SS 3 at 12.01 amended to 11.55 kms. Stated:- The Instruction states: “Care KL at Dam” and tulip shows as RGL with a dam on the outside of the corner just as you start to turn. What there is in fact is a large dam on the property, but there is also a siltation dam before this dam which is completely hidden until you are right upon it and the road kicks sharply left. The road leading up to this is Flat out fast straight. The Instruction does not adequately describe the turn or even the nature of the hazard and it was an accident waiting to happen. Other cars did not drive into the dam because we were there to slow them down and even these cars were startled and went close to going off, I do not believe that we should be penalised for a wrong instruction. We feel lucky that we didn’t have any injuries or severe car damage. We request our time for the stage be in keeping with our other stage times. Also we were significantly held up, having to run at the back of the field, passing cars and getting caught in dust. At the Hearing, Mr Valantine presented video evidence of the scene showing the height of the grass, the long straight & tracks from previous cars leading towards the dam. It was noted that there were actually 2 water holes & the one they landed in was a water trap or siltation pond in front of the main dam. It was noted that you could see the actual dam wall on approach & wasn’t expecting to find the siltation pond between the dam & the road to be taken. Two written statements were presented from the 2 previous cars who stated they also had similar problems with the instruction & tulip diagram. Following competitors were waved down by us warning them of the danger. Mr Valantine pointed out that viewing the corner from the survey vehicle would have been different to that of most rally competitors due to the different heights of the drivers heads, He also stated that the survey car had been through that area several times over the last couple of years & would have been more familiar with the lay of the land. It is entirely different to a competitor approaching the instruction for the first time at speed.					

Respondent			
Name:	Phillip Bernadou – Clerk of Course	/Event Director	
Witnesses:	David Officer – Deputy Clerk of Course Ross Runnalls – Motorsport Australia Course Checker		
Summary of Evidence: Mr Bernadou stated that he believed the instruction was entirely correct & that he had one of Australia's Top Course Checkers in Mr Runnalls check the event. Also the Deputy Clerk of Course Mr Officer who set the course is a very experienced Rally Driver. Mr Officer presented a Google Earth Picture of the said area. Mr Officer also reminded everyone of Article 603.7 in the Supplementary Regulations "Hazards Warnings in Road Book". The course was last checked only 3 weeks ago.			
Findings (to be read to those present)			
<p>We the Stewards find from the evidence presented that the Instruction & Tulip 18 on page 40, SS3 of Day 1 Road Book is incorrect & misleading. On a competitors arrival at speed, on his 1st pass of the area, the Instruction & Tulip did not fully represent the actual situation.</p> <p>The Stewards find that Mr Valentine was inconvenienced & direct the Organizers to give Car 5 a derived time of 39.09 minutes for SS 3 on Day 1. No other times are to be amended in relation to this matter.</p> <p>The Organisers are directed to re-score the Un-official scores accordingly.</p> <p>The Protest Fee is to be refunded.</p>			
Date :	29/03/22	Time :	1900 hrs
Place :	Orange		
Stewards Sign :			
Competitor Sign :		Date :	29/03/22
All parties are reminded of their right of appeal under Part XIII of the NCR			
Distribution List : Protestant, Stewards, Secretary of the Meeting, Clerk of Course			