
February 3, 2018

Subject: Explanation of the Post-Endurance Inspection at Formula Bharat 2018 with respect to Car 01

After completion of the Endurance event at Formula Bharat 2018, teams' vehicles were directed into Parc-Ferme and the vehicles were checked for a couple of items with respect to rules legality. Based on feedback from the previous year, we decided to have teams view the post endurance scrutineering in order to encourage event transparency.

During this phase, Car 01 was checked for leaks on the intake system by one of our technical inspectors. When this was done the first time, the engine killed, but slowly. The technical inspector was unsure of the situation and asked the driver to start the engine again to repeat the test, this time applying pressure on the intake manifold in an attempt to block it fully. The second time the engine did not kill at all nor did it seem to choke, unlike the first attempt. This was unfortunate because at this point the car behaved significantly different from the first time a kill was attempted.

The technical inspector may have affected the way the engine behaved in this test. In this situation, the Technical Inspection Lead and the Rules Lead at the event were forced to not penalise the team because of possible interference to the car by the technical inspector. Attempts were made as to find the cause of the leak with assistance of the team, to determine if there was another source of leak in the air intake that was the obvious cause of the issue (as in issues that could not be caused by the interference of the technical inspector, for example a hole in the intake manifold). None were found.

This situation was unfortunate because we do understand that there may have been a chance that Car 01 may have had a real issue which we may have failed to detect. However, we were not able to confirm this with certainty, and without certainty it would be incorrect to impose a penalty.

The organizers and the technical inspectors at the event have noted this incident as a major issue that we must address and we can assure the teams that measures will be in place in future events to avoid such incidents.

We do understand that certain teams might be upset because the uncertainty influences the results of the event significantly. However, we would assure you that neither the competition organizers nor the technical inspectors have had bias towards a team. The event

organization is highly committed to deliver a fair and transparent event, and stands to gain no advantage from favouring any particular team.

The Formula Bharat 2018 event saw a huge marked step of improvement in the quality of teams and the number of teams completing endurance, which is what has made the organizers of the event proud of their volunteered efforts. We apologize for the ambiguity that this specific incident at the post endurance scrutineering may have caused to the overall results. Be rest assured that we will make efforts towards fixing these issues as we work towards a competition of international standard.

Sincerely,

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Rules Lead

Cathy D'Souza
Event Manager

Suraj Vallamkonda
Technical Inspection Lead