



# 2024 SPA FRANCORCHAMPS EVENT

## 25 to 28 July 2024

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<b>From</b>	The Stewards	<b>Document</b>	36
<b>To</b>	The Team Manager, PREMA Racing	<b>Date</b>	26 July 2024
		<b>Time</b>	19:44

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The Stewards, having received a report from the Race Director, have considered the following matter and determine the following:

**No / Driver** 4 - Andrea Kimi Antonelli

**Competitor** PREMA Racing

**Time** 16:17

**Session** Qualifying

**Fact** Car 4 (Antonelli) was driving on the racing line at the top of Eau Rouge when Car 5 (Maloney) was approaching.

**Infringement** Breach of Article 27.4 of the FIA Formula 2 Sporting Regulations.

**Decision** Reprimand given to the Driver of Car 4. This is his first Driving Reprimand of the 2024 Season.

**Reason** The Stewards examined video evidence. They summoned and heard the drivers and team representatives (documents 28 & 29).

Having considered the matter extensively, the Stewards determined that Car 4 (Antonelli) was on the racing line at the apex of Turn 4 while on a slow lap with Car 5 (Maloney) rapidly approaching on an attempted push lap. Car 5 acknowledged that he slowed down between Turn 3 and Turn 4 due to the presence of Car 4 ahead. At this point Car 5's lap was clearly affected by Car 4 even though they were not yet in close quarters. Considering this statement, the Stewards determine that Car 4 did not unnecessarily impede Car 5 because it was Car 5's decision to lift in anticipation of a potentially dangerous situation.

Item 11.1 of the Race Director Event Notes makes it clear that drivers on slow laps should not be on the racing line. The Stewards acknowledge that Car 4 stopped short of making a full exit and got out of the way as soon as he was aware of Car 5. Nevertheless, considering the blind nature of Turn 4, the Stewards determine that Car 4 was positioned on the exit in a manner that was potentially dangerous to Car 5.

The Team Manager of Car 4 explained he didn't know any cars were on a push-push strategy and therefore did not advise his driver that another car was approaching. The Stewards acknowledge that push-push might not be the standard strategy, however, we conclude that is a legitimate thing to do. The fact that the team of Car 4 was surprised by it does not constitute an excuse.

The exit of Turn 4, which is blind to oncoming cars, is an exceptionally dangerous place and drivers not on a push lap do well to remain off-line. In the totality of the circumstances, the Stewards decide that a Driving Reprimand is the most appropriate 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.

**Steve Pence**

**Jean-Francois Calmes**

**Brieuc Kremer**

**The Stewards**