



# MICHELIN LE MANS CUP COMMITTEE



<b>Request number</b> (to be completed by the Committee Secretariat)	<b>MLMC_2021_R0002_Teal Thor_PSHT_for_Bronze_Bronze</b>
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## APPLICANT INFORMATION

**Type of applicant:**     Team             Manufacturer             Other: .....

**Licence name:**            Team Thor

**Applicant name:**        Thomas Ashton

**Quality:**

**Email address:**         teamashton@hotmail.co.uk

**Date:**                        16.03.2021

## CATEGORY

LMP3             GT3

## CAR MODEL

Ligier JS P320

## HOMOLOGATION NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE)

## PURPOSE OF THE REQUEST

To whom it may concern,

We have been looking into the bronze+ categorisation which we understand is in place to level the playing field for teams consisting of a fast bronze driver alongside a silver driver to prevent an unfair advantage whereby a team is, in effect, 2 silver-speed drivers. However, this is not the case for us and as such I submit this form to request clarity and consideration for our circumstances.

Our team (Team Thor) consists of a very inexperienced bronze driver (Audunn Gudmundsson) and an experienced bronze driver (Thomas Ashton – myself). As such, if I, as the experienced bronze driver, achieve silver-level pace on occasion, that would mean we only equal (not exceed) a standard silver/bronze pairing. If we then incur the additional Bronze+ penalty, I cannot see a situation where we would not finish in last place due to the severe time penalties imposed.

For example, if I was graded Bronze+, our overall race time would be 20-120 seconds more than if I was silver graded. This makes sense if a bronze+ driver is paired with a silver driver to level the playing field, however, in our case we are a (potential) bronze+ paired with another slower, bronze, gentleman driver. This already puts us on a level playing field with a bronze/silver pairing, so any penalty would only be penalising us further.



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Therefore, I ask if this bronze+ rule will also apply to a bronze/bronze pairing such as ours. As the only bronze/bronze team in the series, this would be very prohibitive for us. I would like to ask if this rule could be reviewed or waived for bronze/bronze pairings in light of this. As bronze/bronze, we do not stand to have an unfair advantage in the championship even if I were to perform well, unlike teams with a silver and fast-bronze pairing, and therefore any penalty would be very punishing.

Many thanks in advance for your consideration of this matter, I look forward to hearing from you and hope that there may be a way to resolve this.

Kind regards,

Thomas Ashton  
Team Thor

## APPLICABLE REGULATION

- 2021 Michelin Le Mans Cup Sporting Regulations
- 2021 Technical Regulations for LMP3 Prototypes
- 2021 Technical Regulations: as applicable for FIA GT3 cars
- Other: .....

## DESCRIPTION OF THE TECHNICAL ITEM (SKIP IF NOT APPLICABLE)

## ILLUSTRATION (SKIP IF NOT APPLICABLE)

## APPLICABLE REGULATION (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE COMMITTEE)

- 2021 Michelin Le Mans Cup Sporting Regulations – **Article: 6.3.4**
- 2021 Technical Regulations for LMP3 Prototypes – **Article:**
- 2021 Technical Regulations: as applicable for FIA GT3 cars – **Article:**
- Other: .....



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## DECISION (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE COMMITTEE)

- Accepted
- Accepted (conditional – see comments below)
- Rejected
- Suspended
- Other: see comments below

Date: 22/03/2021

## COMMENTS (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE COMMITTEE)

Article 6.3.4 for the Pit Stop Handicap Time has been implemented in 2021 and will be clarified in a decision which will be published by the Michelin Le Mans Cup Committee shortly.

Regarding your request for the use of 'Bronze+' categorization, please note that the Michelin Le Mans Cup uses the FIA Drivers Categorisation system (as stated in Art. 3.4). Therefore, the Committee is not in a position to rule over your proposal.

## PERIOD OF VALIDITY/APPLICATION OF THE DECISION

This decision comes into effect:

- with immediate application
- from:

And is applicable:

- until further notice
- for the above-mentioned Competition only