

Pedder Confirms Injury Not As Serious As Feared

Last weekend's International Rally of Queensland ended on a sour note for Scott Pedder who wasn't sure if he'd done major injury to his right foot during a late stage mishap where his Renault Clio under steered off the road.

After receiving physiotherapy during the week though he has confirmed that the injury is painful but not as serious as he'd first thought, and definitely not broken as he'd immediately feared.

"It's not broken, and nothing is torn, I'm happy to report that," Pedder said. "I've just stretched the ligament and tendon. It looks like I've actually reinjured the same ligament and tendon that I'd hurt during the Rally SA crash back in 2010."

The mishap happened when Pedder and co-driver Dale Moscatt were chasing down Eli Evans during the closing stages of last weekend's event. Powering into an uphill hairpin the Renault bounced badly out of a rut and threw the car off the outside of the corner.

"It was probably the slowest corner of the weekend," explained Dale Moscatt. "That's the most frustrating thing, it's not like we'd made a stupid judgment error or we were pushing too hard. The car did something unexpected and the result was we were beached off the road."

The Renault slid to a stop with the underbody of the car pivoted on a bank, the wheels dangling in open air. A couple of marshals came to help, but unable to push the car clear Pedder and Moscatt looked for rocks and sticks to wedge under the wheels to get enough traction to extricate them from their predicament.

"We tried to jam it all under the wheels, to leverage the car out, we even dragged a fallen tree over to try to help. I suggested Scott jump into the boot to weight the car down in the rear while I jumped in the drivers seat and gave it a boot full," Moscatt continued.

"I dumped the clutch and the car shot out. Scott tried to jump out of the boot but caught his foot under the roll cage tube and fell, that's what did the damage to his ankle."

Despite the instant pain Pedder completed the stage but knew he was in trouble. Able to use the throttle with his injured foot would allow him to drive the special stages remaining, but applying the brake was proving too painful. Moscatt took over to drive the liaison stages, including crossing the finish ramp at the stage finish.

Even though he suspected his foot was broken Pedder still managed to win the final stage of the rally.

“With this injury, and the injuries from my big accident at Rally SA a few years back, at some stage I will need to have an operation on both my ankles. I’ll be fighting fit by the time we get to Rally Australia though!” Pedder added.