

RYA ARBITRATION AT THIS EVENT

Before a protest hearing starts, ‘RYA Arbitration’ of the protest may be offered to the protestor and protestee.*

A protestor can also ask for RYA Arbitration of the protest by ticking a box on the protest form.

If both parties agree to RYA Arbitration, and if the protest appears to be valid, an Arbitrator will hear their stories at a short meeting, which may be by ‘Zoom’.

The Arbitrator will then give an opinion on whether any boat may have broken a rule, and, if so, which and why.

The Arbitrator will invite any boat that appears to have broken a rule to accept a Post-Race Penalty (see separate notice). If the Penalty is accepted, or if the Arbitrator’s opinion is that no boat broke a rule, the Arbitrator will invite the protestor to withdraw the protest – so there will be no protest hearing.

You don’t have to agree to arbitration of the protest. You don’t have to agree to take a Post-Race Penalty. You don’t have to agree to withdraw a protest even if the Arbitrator recommends it.

Whether or not there is RYA Arbitration, any boat can decide to take a Post-Race Penalty at any time after the race, until the start of any related protest hearing. A boat that takes a Post-Race Penalty cannot then be disqualified in the protest hearing unless other rules are found to have been broken.

*RYA Arbitration is available only for an incident that could have been resolved at the time of the incident by a boat taking a one-turn penalty (for touching a mark) or by taking a one-turn or two-turns penalty for breaking a rule of Part 2 of the Racing Rules.

RYA Arbitration is not available for redress claims or for protests involving redress, incidents where there was injury, serious damage or a significant advantage, for multiple-boat or complicated situations, or where the evidence of witnesses will be essential.