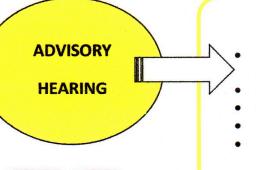
## RYA RULES DISPUTES - WHAT TO DO

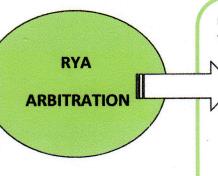
The best way of dealing with incidents (rules disputes) on the water, if no boat takes a penalty at the time, is to offer a choice of:

(i) an ADVISORY HEARING, (ii) RYA ARBITRATION or (iii) a PROTEST HEARING



## USE THIS IF YOU JUST WANT TO LEARN WHETHER YOU WERE IN THE RIGHT OR WRONG

- An incident has occurred and no party wishes to protest, but instead want to learn for the future from what happened
- No protest form is required
- All parties meet informally with a Rules Adviser
- The parties describe what happened
- The Rules Adviser explains what rules may have been broken and whether anyone was in the wrong
- No one is disqualified or penalised, although a boat in the wrong may accept an exoneration penalty (specified in the SIs and commonly a 20% scoring penalty) or retire

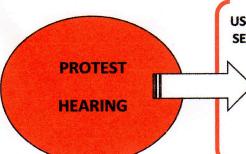


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USE THIS IF YOU WANT THE DISPUTE RESOLVED QUICKLY AND SIMPLY.
THIS IS NOT AS FORMAL AS A PROTEST HEARING, AND THE POTENTIAL
PENALTY NOT AS DAMAGING TO A BOAT'S SCORE

- An incident has occurred and a valid protest is lodged within the normal time limit
- All parties agree to opt for RYA Arbitration and meet with a Rules Adviser
- The parties describe what happened, and the Rules Adviser will decide whether any witnesses should be called
- The Rules Adviser explains what rules may have been broken and whether anyone was in the wrong
- A boat in the wrong is asked to accept the exoneration penalty
- No one is disqualified
- If the exoneration penalty is not accepted, the protest may go to a formal protest hearing
- There are very occasional scenarios when it is not possible or correct to resolve a dispute by RYA Arbitration and instead it has to be taken to a formal protest hearing



USE THIS IF THE DISPUTE IS COMPLEX, OR IF THERE HAS BEEN INJURY OR SERIOUS DAMAGE, OR IF YOU FEEL AN EXONERATION PENALTY WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE

- An incident has occurred and a valid protest is lodged within the normal time limit
- A traditional formal hearing of the parties with a Protest Committee (usually of 3 people) will be arranged
- Any boat that has broken a rule will be disqualified

The aim is to encourage everyone to follow The Racing Rules of Sailing.

This is only a guideline. More detailed information can be found on the RYA website under "Guidance Notes - Rules Disputes" at www.rya.org.uk/racingrules