

Racing Rules of Sailing

New Appendix X, Arbitration

A submission from US Sailing

Purpose

In 2014 Submission 201-14 proposed that a new appendix – Appendix X, Arbitration – be added to *The Racing Rules of Sailing*. The Racing Rules Committee and Council accepted Submission 201-14 amended to state that Appendix X would be located on the ISAF website. The purpose of this submission is to propose that that appendix also be included in all printed editions of *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2017-2020* published by ISAF and MNAs.

Proposal

Include the new experimental Appendix X, Arbitration, as an appendix in *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2017-2020*.

Current Position

As recorded in the minutes of the November 2014 meeting of the Racing Rules Committee, Appendix X, Arbitration, was approved for publication on the ISAF website, but not in *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2017-2020*.

Reasons

For at least twenty years arbitration has been widely used and welcomed by competitors and judges as a way to reduce the number of protest hearings at an event and to provide a less formal forum in which sailors can present their cases. Currently the race committee for an event wishing to use arbitration must copy the sailing instructions implementing it from another event's sailing instructions or invent their own set of rules for arbitration. As a result there is no consistency in the rules for arbitration from one event to another, and many of the sailing instructions for arbitration are not consistent with one or more racing rules.

One of the main purposes of Submission 201-14 was to provide a standard set of rules for arbitration that an event can use in its sailing instructions by simply stating in the event's SIs, 'Appendix X will apply.' If Appendix X is only available on the ISAF website, then it will be necessary to include it, in its entirety, in the SIs. If the appendix is in the rulebook, then it will only be necessary to state in the SIs, 'Appendix X will apply.' This will markedly shorten the sailing instructions. (This is exactly how events currently invoke Appendix P without copying all of its rules into the SIs.)

In addition, including Appendix X in the rulebook will encourage events to use the appendix without making changes in it and, thereby, provide uniformity in the rules for arbitration tested over the 2017-2020 rules cycle. Several decades ago, it was the inclusion of an appendix in the rulebook that resulted in the acceptance of today's very popular Two-Turns Penalty, now located in rule 44.

Finally, if the appendix is in the rulebook, it is much more likely to be tested and evaluated than it will be if it is located only on the website.