



## NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

Please be aware that protest and redress hearings conducted pursuant to the rules of RRS Part 5, Section B [Hearings & Decisions], that arbitrations conducted in accordance with the rules of Appendix T [Arbitration] to the RRS, and that misconduct hearings conducted pursuant to the rules of RRS Part 5, Section C [Misconduct] shall be conducted virtually using Zoom. It is, therefore, required that people participating in these hearings and meetings [parties, party representatives in misconduct hearings, and witnesses] have access to a device that has internet accessibility with audio and video capability. If someone participating does not have such a device, s/he will have to obtain access to and use of such a device from another person or have another person appear before the hearing panel/arbitrator in his/her place and stead in the case of protests or redress requests. If a person appearing before the hearing panel does not know how to use such a device, s/he can have someone else set the device up so audio and video is in use for the person participating. Information about Zoom is available on its website: <https://zoom.us>; it is available for computers, iPads, and mobile phones. Note that people participating in virtual hearings and arbitration meetings must use audio and video to appear before a hearing panel unless otherwise advised by the hearing panel. If a party or witness does not comply with this rule, the hearing panel may nevertheless decide the protest or request for redress as if the person did not come to the hearing [See RRS 63.3(b)], or take such action as is provided in rule 69 for a misconduct hearing [See RRS 69.2(f) and 69.2(k)].

In addition, Virtual Hearings will be conducted in accordance with the instructions provided below, a copy of which will be provided to the parties when a case is filed:

1. On the date of the hearing, and at least 10 minutes before the hearing is scheduled to begin, the parties, party representatives for misconduct hearings, and any witness a party intends to have testify during the hearing, are to join the virtual meeting.

2. All parties, party representatives for misconduct hearings, and witnesses who will participate in a hearing are to have access to, and the use of, a device [computer, iPad, or mobile phone] that has internet accessibility with audio and video capability with Zoom.
3. The parties to a virtual hearing are responsible for having their witnesses, if any, and party representatives for misconduct hearings, present in the virtual meeting at least 10 minutes before the time of the hearing on the date of the hearing.
4. At that time, the hearing panel will tell everyone what the procedure will be for having parties, party representatives for misconduct hearings, and witnesses participate in the hearing. Note: Parties and witnesses must be in separate locations when party testimony is being given: if a witness is present when party testimony is being given, the witness will not be permitted to testify.
5. No audio or video recording of the hearing is to be made by anyone other than the hearing panel; the hearing panel will advise the parties if a recording of the proceeding will be made.
6. Parties, party representatives for misconduct hearings, and witnesses must use audio and video to appear before a hearing panel unless advised otherwise by the hearing panel.
7. Parties and witnesses shall not communicate or share information with anyone other than the hearing panel by any means or technology during the pendency of the hearing except to testify or question a party or a witness.”

**VIRTUAL ARBITRATIONS** will be conducted in accordance with Appendix T and the instructions below:

1. On the date of the arbitration, and at least 5 minutes before the hearing is scheduled to begin, the parties [one per boat], are to join the virtual meeting.
2. All parties who will participate in an arbitration are to have access to, and use of, a device [computer, iPad, or mobile phone] that has internet accessibility with audio and video capability with Zoom.
3. At that time, the arbitrator will tell everyone what the procedure will be for having parties participate in the arbitration.
4. No audio or video recording of the arbitration is to be made by anyone.
5. Parties must use audio and video to appear before the arbitrator.
6. Parties shall not communicate or share information with anyone other than the arbitrator by any means or technology during the pendency of the arbitration except to testify.
7. A party who accepts a scoring penalty in arbitration shall send an email to the address below stating that s/he does so. A party withdrawing a protest shall send an email to the following address stating that s/he does so: [raceoffice@annapolisvc.org](mailto:raceoffice@annapolisvc.org).