

RYA GUIDANCE

RACE OFFICIALS' CODE OF CONDUCT

RYA race officials (race officers, mark layers, equipment inspectors, judges and umpires) are among the most exposed officials of the sport. It is therefore essential that they behave with the highest degree of competence, propriety and integrity. At no time can or should a race official do anything to bring the sport into disrepute.

RYA Race Officials who breach this Code of Conduct may face disciplinary action by the RYA.

Specifically, RYA race officials are expected to:

1. Maintain a good level of understanding and application of the racing rules and any additional rules relevant to their discipline as well as RYA procedures and policies.
2. Ensure that decisions are based upon the rules and principles of fairness and objectivity and are made with care without prejudice.
3. Uphold the confidentiality of race official deliberations during and after the regatta.
4. Be polite, open-minded and patient with colleagues, competitors, regatta officials, team officials, coaches and hosts, and deal with dissent in a fair and courteous manner.
5. Declare any conflict of interest before accepting a race official invitation or when one becomes apparent at an event (a conflict of interest exists when an RYA race official has, or reasonably appears to have, a personal or financial interest which could affect the official's ability to be impartial).
6. Plan to arrive at an event on time and remain until relevant issues are resolved.
7. Incur only expenses that are necessary and when expenses are reimbursed claim only legitimate and essential out-of-pocket costs. This may include sharing a room with another race official if requested.
8. Be on time and wear appropriate clothing on the water and ashore.
9. Abstain from consuming alcohol until duties are over for the day. Race officials must never become inappropriately inebriated during an event. Race officials should also refrain from smoking indoors or whilst carrying out their duties.