



Arbitration Act 1996

1996 CHAPTER 23

PART I

ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO AN ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

The arbitral tribunal

16 Procedure for appointment of arbitrators

- (1) The parties are free to agree on the procedure for appointing the arbitrator or arbitrators, including the procedure for appointing any chairman or umpire.
- (2) If or to the extent that there is no such agreement, the following provisions apply.
- (3) If the tribunal is to consist of a sole arbitrator, the parties shall jointly appoint the arbitrator not later than 28 days after service of a request in writing by either party to do so.
- (4) If the tribunal is to consist of two arbitrators, each party shall appoint one arbitrator not later than 14 days after service of a request in writing by either party to do so.
- (5) If the tribunal is to consist of three arbitrators—
 - (a) each party shall appoint one arbitrator not later than 14 days after service of a request in writing by either party to do so, and
 - (b) the two so appointed shall forthwith appoint a third arbitrator as the chairman of the tribunal.
- (6) If the tribunal is to consist of two arbitrators and an umpire—
 - (a) each party shall appoint one arbitrator not later than 14 days after service of a request in writing by either party to do so, and
 - (b) the two so appointed may appoint an umpire at any time after they themselves are appointed and shall do so before any substantive hearing or forthwith if they cannot agree on a matter relating to the arbitration.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (7) In any other case (in particular, if there are more than two parties) section 18 applies as in the case of a failure of the agreed appointment procedure.