

American Honda has a commitment to your satisfaction and to you. From your first phone call or visit to the dealership, through the purchase and delivery of your new American Honda, motor vehicle to after-sales service, your satisfaction is Number One.

If you should experience a problem which has not been resolved to your satisfaction through American Honda's franchisee dealers or Customer Assistance Center, additional assistance may be available through the National Center for Dispute Settlement (NCDS), an independent, not-for-profit dispute settlement service organization.

NCDS will resolve your complaint through arbitration—a process by which two or more parties authorize a third party to resolve the dispute.

This procedure is offered to you at no charge. The decision is binding on American Honda but not on you.

### **WHAT IS THE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT PROGRAM?**

NCDS maintains an active panel of neutrals who are trained and experienced in the process. NCDS will investigate your case by reviewing the facts, inspecting the vehicle if necessary, and rendering a fair and equitable decision. You have the option of having an oral hearing either in person or you can have your dispute decided based upon a review of documents only before an arbitration panel.

### **WHAT TYPES OF DISPUTES ARE ELIGIBLE?**

NCDS arbitrates disputes involving alleged product reliability or warranty performance problems concerning your American Honda vehicle which arise during the greater of (1) three years or 36,000 miles from the date of original delivery whichever is earlier, or (2) the applicable provision of American Honda's New Vehicle Limited Warranty.

However, NCDS will not arbitrate claims involving:

- A non-American Honda product
- A vehicle sales transaction
- A request for reimbursement of consequential expenses, unless incidental to a service or product complaint being reviewed
- Items not covered by your warranty
- Personal injury
- Property damage where such damage is significant when compared to the economic loss alleged under the warranty dispute
- Cases currently in litigation

You must file a request for arbitration with NCDS within sixty (60) days of the expiration of the eligibility period, provided the concern or alleged defect was brought to the attention of American Honda or one of its dealers during the eligibility period.

You may obtain a copy of the Program's written operating procedures upon request and without charge by writing to NCDS at the address shown on the application enclosed with this brochure or by calling 1.877.545.0055.

### **HOW DO I REQUEST ARBITRATION?**

If you believe your concern qualifies for arbitration:

1. Fill out the attached Customer Claim Form.
2. Complete all of the information requested.
3. Attach legible copies of any repair orders, reports of inspection, technical service bulletins or other documents related to your concern.
4. **Mail to: NCDS**

**P.O. BOX 1108**

**MT. CLEMENS, MI 48046**

### **WHEN SHOULD I USE NCDS?**

American Honda's dispute settlement program does not take the place of any state or federal legal remedies available to you. Whether or not you decide to submit your dispute to NCDS, you are free to pursue other legal remedies. However, certain presumptions under your state lemon law may not be available to you if you do not use the program before pursuing other legal remedies.

### **HOW DOES THE ARBITRATION PROCESS WORK?**

1. When NCDS receives your claim, it will be reviewed to determine whether your concern is eligible for arbitration. If it is determined that your concern is eligible for the program, a copy of your request will be forwarded to American Honda for response. NCDS will send an acknowledgment letter by First Class Mail assigning a case number. Should your claim not be eligible, NCDS will mail a letter of explanation of why your concern is not eligible. Should you feel that the determination of eligibility was made in error, you have the right to appeal the determination within thirty (30) days of the notice of ineligibility to an independent three (3) member arbitration panel. The panel will consider and review any written appeals contesting the lack of eligibility at their next board meeting.
2. There is no cost to you for submitting your request to NCDS.
3. To assess your situation, NCDS will request a written statement from American Honda. You will be provided a copy of the submissions at least five (5) days prior to your scheduled hearing. Please review it carefully. If you find information you believe is contradictory to your original application or information that you believe requires further explanation by you, **promptly** submit any additional written materials directly to NCDS at the address you received with your case or fax it to NCDS.

NCDS must receive this information no later than 48 hours before your scheduled hearing. Be sure to include your case number. If the additional material from you is not received by NCDS prior to the scheduled hearing, the Arbitrator will decide your case based upon the available information.

4. If you have elected an oral hearing in person, all evidence is admissible. In an oral hearing, you and a American Honda Representative will present each of your positions to the Arbitrator. Both of you will have an opportunity to present testimony and provide documents. Then you and American Honda will be given time for rebuttal of the other party's position. If you request an oral hearing and if either party to the dispute fails to appear, the other party to the dispute may still present their case before the Arbitrator. If you elected a "documents only" hearing, your case will be decided based upon all available documentary evidence submitted prior to the scheduled date.

5. During the period that your dispute is pending, American Honda may contact you directly, or through NCDS, to see if your case can be settled by agreement. If a settlement is offered to you, you will be asked to sign a form that contains that settlement so that your arbitration case can be closed. There is no requirement for you to participate in this settlement process. Unless you reach a settlement with American Honda, your participation will not affect the handling of your case or decision of the Arbitrator.

6. If the Arbitrator determines that an independent technical evaluation of your vehicle is necessary, NCDS will arrange the inspection with you. These arrangements will be made to minimize any inconvenience to you.

7. If a technical evaluation was made, the inspector will forward a report to NCDS. At the oral hearing the Arbitrator will listen to all testimony, review all of the available information, the applicable legal standards, and render a decision within ten (10) days of a closed hearing.

The entire dispute settlement process, from the time NCDS receives your request to the time the Arbitrator makes a decision, will normally take no longer than forty (40) days. To inquire about the status of your dispute, please call NCDS.

**WHAT TYPES OF DECISIONS ARE RENDERED, AND HOW DO I KNOW IF AMERICAN HONDA WILL ABIDE BY THE DECISION?**

Decisions are based on what the Arbitrator believes is fair and appropriate under the circumstances after applying the appropriate legal standards. Remedies include, but are not limited to: repairs; reimbursement for repair or incidental expenses, such as towing costs; or repurchase or replacement of your vehicle. The decision is binding on American Honda, but not on you, the Customer. American Honda must comply with the decision within thirty (30) days after you accept it. NCDS will contact you within twenty (20) days after scheduled performance to ensure that American Honda has complied with the decision in a timely manner.

**ARE THERE LIMITS ON THE SCOPE OF THE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT PROGRAM?**

The program decision will not award consequential expenses such as lost wages, punitive damages or attorney fees. Also, the Arbitrator is unable to alter the terms of the New Vehicle Limited Warranty.

**WHAT OTHER RECOURSE DO I HAVE AVAILABLE?**

If you are dissatisfied with the Arbitrator's decision, you may reject the decision and pursue any other legal remedies which you may have, including small claims court. You should be aware that the arbitration findings are admissible as evidence in any subsequent legal proceedings concerning your dispute.

**AMERICAN HONDA  
MOTOR CO., INC.**

**AUTO  
WARRANTY  
DISPUTE  
SETTLEMENT  
PROGRAM**

As administered by the National  
Center for Dispute Settlement for  
eligible Honda branded vehicles

---

**NCDS: 877.545.0055  
586.226.2559 fax**