

DARTS REGULATION AUTHORITY

RULE BOOK

THE DARTS REGULATION AUTHORITY

Nelson House
2 Hamilton Terrace
Leamington Spa
Warwickshire
CV32 4LY

All correspondence should be marked for the attention of The Council and directed to the above address.

The Darts Regulation Authority, a company limited by guarantee, registered in England with number 4509423,

registered office:

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FOREWORD

The Darts Regulation Authority (DRA) has been established as a not-for-profit Company, limited by guarantee. Its members and management will come from the world of darts and its initial management council will be made up of three individuals and a single representative from each of the Professional Darts Players Association (PDPA) and the Professional Darts Corporation (PDC). As more individuals and groups (whether incorporated or not) involved in the game of Darts join, the membership of the DRA will grow but the DRA will always remain independent and outside the control of other entities involved in Darts.

The stated aim of the DRA is to become the recognised regulatory authority for Darts worldwide, with responsibility for providing and administering rules and regulations that will improve the image and profile of the game of Darts within both the Professional and Amateur game.

The DRA Rule Book lays out a Code of Conduct, General Playing Rules and Disciplinary Rules and Procedures that DRA Members and Players must adhere to. This is the start of a new chapter in Darts as any additions or changes to the Rule Book in the future must be agreed by the DRA Council, and must be designed to improve the image and profile of the game of Darts and bring it, worldwide, into line with other high profile sports.

Michael W Titmus.
Chairman

CODE OF CONDUCT AND PLAYING RULES OF THE DARTS REGULATION AUTHORITY

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Rules contained in this Rule Book have been drawn up in accordance with Regulation 13 of the Articles of Association of the DRA (a copy of which is reprinted as an Appendix to this DRA Rule Book), and shall apply to all members of the DRA and to all Players and other parties agreeing to abide by them from time to time.
- 1.2 This Rule Book will be distributed to all members of the DRA and all Players.

2 DEFINITIONS

Various words and phrases are used in these Rules for which purpose they have the meanings defined below:

“Bye”

an uncontested Match, resulting in automatic progression for the sole Player or Team involved;

“DRA”

the Darts Regulation Authority of Nelson House, 2 Hamilton Terrace, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV32 4LY a Company limited by Guarantee with number 4509423;

“DRA Rules”

the rules and regulations drawn up by the DRA from time to time in accordance with Regulation 13 of the DRA Articles of Association including without limitation the rules set out in this DRA Official Rule Book;

“Darts Event”

a darts match or tournament organised under the jurisdiction of or in accordance with the rules of the DRA;

“Game Shot”

a throw, which must land on a double-score section of the board, that reduces a Player’s aggregate score for that leg to zero, thus winning the leg;

“Match”

a darts match between two Players or between two teams of Players as part of a Darts Event;

“Marker”

or “Scorer”

the person appointed by the DRA to mark scores on official score sheets or an official score board during Matches;

“Match Board”

the dart board on which a Match is played;

“Member(s)”

any member or members of the DRA;

“Official(s)”

any official or officials appointed by the Promoter to officiate at a Darts Event;

“Organiser”

the Promoter, its directors or Officials;

“PDPA”

the Professional Dart Players Association;

“Player”

any darts player whether or not a Member and whether or not registered as a darts player with the DRA and participating in any darts event or activity held under DRA rules;

“Playing Attire”

the clothes and accessories worn by a Player during a Match;

“Promoter”

any organisation or individual promoting or organising a Darts Event under DRA Rules;

“Recorder”

any Official appointed by the Promoter to record all Match scores and enter all relevant matchplay details on official result sheets or record cards;

“Referee”

the Official appointed to take charge of matchplay at a match board or on stage during a Darts Event;

“Regulations”

the Articles of Association of The Darts Regulation Authority as amended from time to time;

“Tournament Venues”

the physical location at or in which a Darts Event takes place.

3 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 3.1 No Player or Member shall act in a manner which may reasonably be considered to be prejudicial to the interests or standing of the DRA or which could reasonably be considered to injure or discredit the DRA or bring the game of darts into disrepute.
- 3.2 All Players and Members will steadfastly adhere to the DRA Rules. Any breaches will invite disciplinary action in accordance with the DRA Rules.
- 3.3 Any Player or Member who is asked to leave a venue at which a darts tournament is taking place under the rules by the Tournament Director must do so immediately.
- 3.4 No Player, Member or official of the DRA will bet or make any form of wager in connection with any darts event connected with the DRA in which he or she is directly involved as an Official or as a Player. Any Player or Member involved in placing bets on darts matches in relation to his or her own performance or in any way that may be reasonably considered dishonest may be subject to a ban from all Matches and activities of the DRA.
- 3.5 No Player or Member will abuse, ignore or refuse reasonable requests from the general public, the broadcaster, the Promoter or the media at any Tournament or event held under the DRA rules.
- 3.6 All Players and members will desist from any behaviour which may reasonably be construed as gamesmanship before, during or after any match at any Darts event held under DRA Rules.

GENERAL PLAYING RULES

- 1 Players shall provide their own darts which shall not exceed an overall maximum length of 30.5 cms (12 ins) nor weigh more than 50 grams. Each dart shall consist of a needle shaped point which shall be fixed to a barrel. At the rear of the barrel shall be an attached flighted stem which may consist of up to three separate pieces (i.e. a flight, a flight securing device and a stem).
- 2 The promoter reserves the right to seed Players in certain Events at its absolute discretion.
- 3 All Players and Teams shall abide by and play within the DRA Rules and any supplementary rules laid down, from time to time, in an entry form, programme or otherwise by the DRA or the organiser.
- 4 All Players and Teams shall play under the supervision and direction of the appointed Organisers in all Darts Events organised under the jurisdiction of the DRA.
- 5 All trophies awarded to a Player by the Organiser shall be retained by the relevant Player, unless they are of a challenge or perpetual type, which shall be returned to the organiser on request.
- 6 Any Player failing to comply with any of these Playing Rules during an Event shall be liable to disqualification from that Event at the discretion of the Organiser.

- 7 The interpretation of these Playing Rules in relation to a Darts Event shall be determined by the Organisers whose decision shall be final and binding.
- 8 Information concerning any interpretation in accordance with Playing Rule 7 shall be forwarded to the Council of the DRA for consideration in the preparation of any subsequent amendment of these Playing Rules.
- 9 Any matter not expressly covered by these Playing Rules shall be determined by the Council of the DRA whose decisions shall be final and binding.

10 Throw:

- 10.01 A Player shall throw darts from a standing position, excepting only in those circumstances when a physical disability or physical injury requires a Player to adopt a non-standing position (i.e. a wheelchair or similar form of support).
- 10.02 All darts must be deliberately thrown in an overarm fashion, one at a time, by and from the Player's hand.
- 10.03 A "Throw" shall consist of a maximum of three darts thrown consecutively (without interruption for any throw by any other Player) by a Player unless a leg, set or match is completed in less than three darts thrown by that Player.
- 10.04 If a Player himself physically touches any dart which is in the dartboard during a Throw, then that Throw shall be deemed to have been completed.
- 10.05 Any dart bouncing off or falling out of the dartboard prior to being retrieved by the throwing Player after that Player's Throw does not count and shall not be re-thrown.

11 Starting and Finishing:

- 11.01 In all Darts Events, each leg shall be played with a straight start from 501 to the finish at zero which must be on a "double", unless stated otherwise in the playing format of a particular Darts Event.
- 11.02 The "Bull" shall count as 50 and if 50 is required to complete a leg, set or match then the Bull shall count as double 25.
- 11.03 The "Bust" rule shall apply i.e. if a Player scores more than the number required then that score shall not count and the Player's score shall revert back to the score the Player required prior to the opponent's last throw.
- 11.04 A Game Shot called by a Referee is valid only if the darts thrown achieve the required finish and remain in the dartboard until retrieved by the Player whose Throw it is at the time that the Game Shot is called, or the Players have shaken hands on the result.
- 11.05 If a Game Shot called by a Referee is declared invalid then the Player shall have the right to continue the throw which is in progress in an attempt to achieve the required finish.
- 11.06 If, as a result of the error declared in Clause 11.05 the Player has retrieved a dart, or darts, then the Referee shall replace the dart, or darts, in as near as is practicable the same position or positions and then invite the Player to complete that Throw.
- 11.07 Any darts mistakenly thrown by a Player after scoring the Game Shot shall not be counted as the respective leg, set or match is concluded by the Game Shot.

- 11.08 No indication of the required double to make the Game Shot shall be given by the Marker or the Referee (i.e. “32 required” and NOT “Double 16 required”).
- 11.09 The first Player to reduce the score required to exactly zero by obtaining the required “double” is the winner of that leg, set or match, whichever is applicable.

12 Scoring:

- 12.01 A dart shall only score if the tip of the dart remains in [or touches] the face of the dartboard within the outer double wire and, having been “called”, is retrieved from the face of the dartboard by the Player throwing that dart.
- 12.02 The score is counted from the side of the segment wire where the point of the dart enters and remains in [or touching] the face of the dartboard.
- 12.03 Darts shall be retrieved from the dartboard by the throwing Player but only after the score has been called by the Referee and/or recorded by the Marker.
- 12.04 A protest about the score attained or called after the retrieval of the dart, or darts, may not be upheld.
- 12.05 All scores and subtractions made should be checked by the Referee, the marker and the Players after each Throw and, where practicable, before the next Player’s Throw commences.
- 12.06 All requests by a Player to check scores recorded or subtractions made must be made before that Player’s next Throw.
- 12.07 The actual score required by a Player must be shown on the score sheet, clearly visible at eye level in front of the Players and the Referee.
- 12.08 The Referee shall act as an umpire in all matters pertaining to these Playing Rules when conducting a darts match and shall, if it is necessary, consult with scorers and other officials before announcing any decisions during the course of matchplay.

13 Dartboards:

- 13.01 All dartboards shall be of the “Bristle” type.
- 13.02 All dartboards shall be of the “1 - 20” Clock pattern.
- 13.03 The inner narrow band shall score treble the segment number.
- 13.04 The outer narrow band shall score double the segment number.
- 13.05 The outer centre ring shall score 25.
- 13.06 The inner centre ring shall score “50” and shall be called the “Bull”.
- 13.07 All the wires forming the doubles and trebles segments, inner and outer centre rings which together form the “Spider”, shall be affixed to the face of the dartboard in such a manner that they lie flat on the face of the dartboard and feature no gaps or splits.
- 13.08 The dartboard shall be fixed in such a manner that the perpendicular height from the floor (to be at the same level as the Oche) to the centre of the “Bull” shall measure 1.73 metres (5ft 8ins).
- 13.09 The dartboard shall be fixed such that the “20” segment is coloured “black” and is at the top of the dartboard.
- 13.10 Subject to these General Playing Rules a Player or team captain shall have the right to request that a dartboard be changed or moved during the course of a match always providing that the opposing Player or team captain concurs with the

- request. Such change or move shall only be made before the start of or after the completion of a leg.
- 13.11 Adjustments to the position of or changing of a dartboard shall only be carried out by an Official.
- 13.12 Other dartboards may be used only with the prior approval of the DRA.

14 Lighting:

- 14.01 In Tournament play, all floor dartboards shall be adequately lit by a suitably positioned light fitting at each dartboard (i.e. 100 watt minimum intensity).
- 14.02 Dartboards used in Stage Finals shall be adequately lit by suitably positioned light fittings (i.e. 2 x 100 watt minimum intensity fittings).
- 14.03 All light fittings must be fitted with screens to, as far as possible, divert light from the Player's eyes when standing at the Oche.
- 14.04 In Stage Finals, the general level of illumination can be augmented by the use of "floods" and "spotlights" provided that in the opinion of the Referee such lighting does not create shadows on the dartboard during matchplay.

15 Oches:

- 15.01 A raised Oche, 38 mm high and 610 mm long (1.5ins high and 24ins long) must be placed in position at the minimum throwing distance and shall measure from the back of the raised Oche 2.37 metres (7ft 9.25ins) along the floor to a plumb line at the face of the dartboard.
- 15.02 The diagonal distance from the centre of the Bull to the back of the raised Oche at floor level shall measure 2.93 metres (9ft 7.5ins).
- 15.03 In those circumstances where the Oche is set down on a raised playing area, then the raised playing area must be constructed such that it is centrally placed in relation to the dartboard; the minimum width at the Oche shall not be less than 1525 mm (5ft 0ins) and the minimum depth of the standing area to the rear of the Oche shall not be less than 1220 mm (4ft 0ins).
- 15.04 During matchplay, no player shall tread on any part of the raised Oche nor shall the player deliver any dart whilst his feet are in a position other than behind the toe edge of the raised Oche.
- 15.05 A Player wishing to throw a dart, or darts, from a point on either side of the raised Oche must keep his feet behind an imaginary straight line, the position of which shall be adjudged by the Referee, extending on either side of the raised Oche.
- 15.06 Any Player in breach of Clause 15.04 or 15.05 shall first be warned by the Referee in the presence of the Player and, where applicable, the Player's captain or team manager. Any dart subsequently delivered in breach of these Clauses shall not score and shall be declared invalid by the Referee.
- 15.07 A Player or team captain shall have the right to request that the Oche dimensions be checked and adjusted, if necessary, always providing that the opposing Player or team captain concurs with the request. Such request must be made before the start of or after the completion of a leg. The match official shall, at his discretion, convey the request to the stage manager or floor controller so that a check and adjustment, if necessary, can be effected by Match Officials. Such check and any

adjustment shall only be made in the absolute discretion of the Match Officials and before the start of or after the completion of a leg.

- 15.08 Adjustments to and the checking of Oche dimensions shall only be carried out by an appointed match official.
- 15.09 In all televised events, the stage finals will be subject to an exclusion zone for the competing Players. The exclusion zone will be clearly marked and will measure at least one foot at the sides of the Oche and at least 3 feet behind the Oche.
- 15.10 The Player with the Throw, after retrieving his darts, will be obliged to turn to his / her right and to walk back to the non playing position without stepping in to the marked exclusion zone.
- 15.11 The non throwing Player must not enter the exclusion zone behind or at the side of the oche until the throwing Player has taken at least two strides towards retrieving his / her darts from the board.
- 15.12 In all televised events, the stage finals will be subject to the scrutiny of a second Referee. This second Referee will be positioned at the apron of the stage and as near as possible to the line of the oche.

The powers of the second Referee will be as wide ranging as those of the Match Referee but will be confined to events not concerned with the actual scoring and adjudication of the Match.

In particular, the second Referee will supervise the exclusion zone and general behaviour which is out of sight of the Match Referee.

16. Tournament and Championship Playing Rules:

- 16.01 Unless stated otherwise, all Tournaments and Championships shall be run on a knockout basis.
- 16.02 Special Events or multiple Team Play-Offs may involve a Round Robin basis (i.e. each Player or team plays every other Player or team in that Event).
- 16.03 The Organisers reserve the right to cancel or change all dates, venues and scheduled Darts Events without prior notice.
- 16.04 Decisions on all matters pertaining to these Playing Rules in any Tournament or Championship shall be made by the Organisers whose decisions shall be final and binding.
- 16.05 All Players shall play within these Playing Rules and, where necessary, any supplementary Rules laid down in a Darts Event entry form or programme.
- 16.06 Any Player or team found guilty of deliberately losing a leg, set or match shall be disqualified from any further participation in that particular Darts Event and shall also be subject to any other penalty that the DRA may decide to impose.
- 16.07 No Player nor any team that has been knocked out of a knockout tournament shall play again in that tournament either as a substitute Player or team or in his/their own right, excepting in those circumstances when a breach of these Playing Rules has occurred which materially affected the losing Player or team, such breach not having been occasioned by the losing Player or team.
The Organisers may, at their own discretion, reinstate the Player or team in the Tournament either in substitution for or in addition to the winning Player or team.

- This Clause shall be construed as embracing any number of Players up to and including a complete team.
- 16.08 If a Player or team representative is not present at the official presentation ceremonies to receive trophies, prizes or prize monies without the appointed Organiser's or the event sponsor's prior permission, then that Player or team representative shall forfeit the right to receive any such trophies, prizes or prize monies that may be due.
- 16.09 Any Player or team not fulfilling the playing commitments of a Tournament by failing to complete all scheduled matches, including Grand Finals, shall forfeit the right to receive any trophies, prizes or prize monies that may be due in relation to that Tournament.
- 16.10 If any additional expenses are incurred due to a default by a Player or team then that Player or team (as the case may be) shall be liable for those additional expenses.

17 Entry:

- 17.01 Admission fees into Tournament Venues are not refundable.
- 17.02 Entry Fees into Tournaments are not refundable except in the absolute discretion of the Organiser.
- 17.03 All entries are to be made on official entry forms which must be accurately completed and returned to the Organiser, together with the appropriate entry fees, before or on the specified closing date.
- 17.04 Any entry form found to be inaccurately completed or not submitted strictly in accordance with the requirements laid down on the entry form may be refused by the Organisers in their absolute discretion. A Player whose entry form is inaccurate may be disqualified before, during or after the relevant event depending upon when the inaccuracy is discovered.
- 17.05 The first named Player or representative on a team entry form shall assume the responsibility of notifying the second or other named Players of the receipt of and the contents of all communications in connection with the Darts Event received by him from the Organisers.
- 17.06 The receipt of an entry form will only be acknowledged if a self addressed envelope is enclosed with the entry form together with sufficient postage to cover the return of the receipt.
- 17.07 Only the Players named on an entry form as the competing individual or team shall be eligible to play in the relevant Darts Event.
- 17.08 No Player or team shall enter more than once in any respective Darts Event, unless the Rules of the Event allow.
- 17.09 No Player shall play in more than one team in any respective Darts Event.
- 17.10 All Players participating in a singles or pairs Darts Event must play under their own name.
- 17.11 Unless stated otherwise, all entry fees shall be used exclusively in defraying Tournament expenses, to further the promotion of the Sport of Darts or to support a specific charity.

- 17.12 The completion of an entry form by a Player or team for a Darts Event and the acceptance of that entry form by the Organiser shall be deemed as an acceptance by that Player or team of these Playing Rules in relation to that event.
- 17.13 The Organisers reserve the right to refuse or cancel any entrant at any stage prior to, during or after a Darts Event, providing a reason is given in writing to the Player concerned, and their decision shall be final and binding in all matches relating to that event.

18 Registration:

- 18.01 All Tournament Players shall register at each Darts Event at scheduled times which are predetermined by the Organisers.
- 18.02 Any Tournament Player failing to register by the notified time may be eliminated from that respective Tournament, in which instance no entry fee shall be refundable.
- 18.03 No Player shall be allowed to register more than once in any respective Event in any one playing season.
- 18.04 Any Player or team that is not in attendance when called upon to play at the nominated time may forfeit that leg, set or match, whichever is applicable. In such instances no Entry Fee shall be refundable.
- 18.05 Only three minutes shall be allowed from the time of calling over the public address system for the Player or team to reach the Control Desk or the assigned Match Board, as required. Extensions may be made at the discretion of the appointed officials.
- 18.06 The Organisers reserve the right to alter scheduled times and the playing format of a Darts Event whenever it is deemed necessary.
- 18.07 Any Player or team has the right to be advised the time of the next match that the Player or team is scheduled to play at least an hour in advance.

19 Draw:

- 19.01 The Organisers shall arrange preliminary matches so as to eliminate all “Byes” from the first round proper of the Darts Event, unless otherwise specified in the Rules of the Event.
- 19.02 Draw Charts must be displayed, where possible, at the Control Desk, in the event programme, at the Match Board or at a convenient point in the Tournament Venue.
- 19.03 The times indicated on the Draw Chart are for Players’ guidance only. Players should be prepared to be called up to the Control Desk at least 45 minutes earlier than the times indicated.
- 19.04 The Organisers reserve the right to seed Players or teams in the draw for a Darts Event.
- 19.05 No substitutes shall be allowed in an individual Darts Event.
- 19.06 No substitutes shall be allowed after the first round of a team event unless the playing rules of the particular event allow for reserve members of a team to be used, or in extenuating circumstances allowed for in the absolute discretion of the Organisers.

20 Order of Play:

- 20.01 It is recommended that the Order of Play shall be determined by a draw or toss of a coin or throw at the Bull, at the location determined by the Officials, prior to the issue of a match assignment card.
- 20.02 The winner of the draw or toss or throw at the bull shall have the choice to throw first in the first leg or set and all odd alternate legs or sets thereafter in that respective match.
- 20.03 If the Order of Play has not been correctly adopted then that respective leg shall be stopped and then re-started using the correct Order of Play.
- 20.04 If legs have already been completed using an incorrect Order of Play then the results determined in those legs shall stand but the next leg shall be started using the correct Order of Play.
- 20.05 Should a match go to a deciding leg then nearest the Bull will decide who throws first in that deciding leg. The Player who won the initial toss will have the option to throw first or second for the Bull.
- 20.06 Tournament organisers may wish to operate an alternative system, if so this must have prior approval from the DRA and must be communicated to all Players in advance of the event.

21 Match Assignment / Result / Record Card:

- 21.01 An assignment, result or record card ("Card") may be made out at the Control Desk detailing the Order of Play and indicating the order of throwing. This card shall be presented to the Referee by the Player. The Referee shall be responsible for ensuring that the Order of Play and order of throwing is strictly adhered to during that respective match.
- 21.02 On conclusion of the match the Referee shall sign the Card clearly indicating the winning Player and the card shall be returned immediately to the Control Desk by the winning Player.
- 21.03 The progression of Players shall be marked up on Draw Charts or made available at the Control Desk so that Players or spectators can determine the current positions during the Event.

22 Practice:

- 22.01 Each Player is entitled to specified number of practice darts to be thrown at the assigned Match Board prior to the match commencing. No other practice darts may be thrown during that match without the prior permission or instruction of the Match Board Referee. If no number is specified, this shall be deemed to be nine.
- 22.02 In round robin Events a Player's practice darts shall be no more than three in number for the second and subsequent visits to the Match Board.
- 22.03 No practice shall be allowed on Match Boards after the Darts Event has officially started.
- 22.04 Practice Boards shall be provided in or adjacent to the Tournament Room for the exclusive use of tournament Players only.

23 Tournament Play:

- 23.01 In tournament play all Players shall play under the supervision and direction of the appointed Organisers and Officials.
- 23.02 No person shall be allowed within the playing area other than Referees, Markers, Scorers, Recorders and Players.
- 23.03 Only Referees, Markers and the dart board indicator operators shall be allowed to be situated in front of a Player actually at the Oche throwing darts.
- 23.04 Stage officials are expected to restrict their own movements to a minimum during the course of a Player's Throw and they are not permitted to smoke or drink alcohol on stage during a match.
- 23.05 In "Stage Finals" the Players shall engage in matchplay under the supervision and direction of stage Officials and in between throws shall be located in such a position as to afford an unrestricted view of proceedings for Players, Officials, spectators and, in some Darts Events, for television/video cameras or other means of visual recording.
- 23.06 During matchplay all Players shall remain silent and only the Player at the Oche shall direct enquiries to the Referee. Neither shall any prompting be allowed by any other Player, any spectator or any official.
- 23.07 Any Player in breach of Clause No. 23.06 shall first be warned by the Referee in the presence of the Player's captain or team manager. Any subsequent breach during the same match shall incur the immediate disqualification of that Player from that match.
- The voicing of an enquiry or protest in a reasonable manner to the Referee relating to the match then in progress shall not constitute a breach of Clause 23.06.
- 23.08 A Player at the Oche is entitled to consult with the Referee on the amount scored or required at any time during a throw. However, the Player shall not be advised on how to finish.
- 23.09 Any enquiries on scores recorded or subtractions made will not be entered into after the conclusion of that respective leg, set or match.
- 23.10 In team events where all Players throw in rotation, the order of throwing must be determined and displayed on the Match Board before the first throw of that leg, set or match, whichever is applicable.
- 23.11 Any protest must be lodged with the Match Board Referee or floor controller at the time of the alleged violation and a judgement given on the spot before the leg, set or match is allowed to continue. Any late protests will not be honoured.
- 23.12 If a Player's playing equipment becomes damaged or is lost during the course of a Throw then the Player shall be allowed up to a maximum of three minutes in which to repair or replace the playing equipment.
- 23.13 A time limit set by the Referee, and taken only with the Referee's permission, shall be allowed in the instance of a Player requiring to leave the playing area in exceptional circumstances during the course of matchplay.
- 23.14 During matchplay, any Players using offensive language or deemed to be "mouthing" any offensive language or seen to be making offensive gestures shall be deemed to have brought the Sport of Darts into disrepute and shall become liable to Disciplinary Proceedings being taken against them by the DRA.

24 Tie Breaker:

- 24.01 In some Events the “tie breaker” principle as set out in this rule 24 is brought into operation when the match result has reached an equality in sets for each Player with one set, the final set, remaining to be played. The terms of the “tie breaker” shall then apply to the Last Leg of the Final Set of that match.
- 24.02 Each Player shall throw for the Bull to determine which Player shall throw first in the Last Leg of the Final Set but the Player that won the initial toss shall throw first for the Bull.
- 24.03 The decision will be based on the Player’s dart that enters the board, remains in the board and is judged by the Referee to be nearest the Bull.
- 24.04 Darts that hit and remain in the Bull or the 25 bed shall be retrieved by the Player before the opponent throws a dart if the second Player so requires.
- 24.05 If a dart rebounds from the board or falls out of the board during a throw then the Player shall throw a further dart, or darts, until one remains in the board.
- 24.06 If the darts thrown for the Bull prove to be a tie then both Players shall retrieve their darts and shall throw again in reverse order until a decision has been made by the Referee.
- 24.07 The Player who wins the last leg of the final set of a Match is the winner of that Match.

25 Playing Attire:

- 25.01 Players are not permitted to wear jeans: neither shall they wear trousers or skirts made with denim or corduroy material which have been fashioned in a “jeans style”. No training shoes will be allowed except for medical reasons. This restriction shall also apply to any form of “track suit” attire.
- 25.02 No headgear shall be worn without the prior permission of the Organisers.
- 25.03 Players are not permitted to wear anything over their approved Playing Attire in any introductions, matchplay on stage, interviews and presentations, other than at the discretion of the Organisers.
- 25.04 In all Events the Playing Attire of any participating Player shall be subject to Organisers approval. Any unacceptable Playing Attire must be changed before that Player can participate in any introductions, matchplay on stage, interviews and presentations.
- 25.05 Any Player refusing to meet with Organisers’ requirements in respect of that Player’s Playing Attire shall be liable to forfeit that respective match and shall be reported to the Council of the DRA for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.

27 Advertising:

- 27.01 The Organisers reserve the right to protect their sponsor’s interests with regard to any advertising material, slogans or logos used by Players, teams or other sponsors during a Darts Event.
- 27.02 Players in a Darts Event will not be allowed to wear any clothing, or use any equipment, that bears any advertising material, slogans or logos relating to any marketable product or concern without the prior written permission of the Promoter.

- 27.03 At all televised Darts Event, 4 advertising patches will be allowed to be displayed on playing shirts of Players, preferably positioned with two on the front and one on each sleeve.

These patches should have a maximum area of 153 square millimetres (6 square inches).

The Promoter reserves all the rights to two of these patches, the other two are held at the personal discretion of the Player.

The Player's personal two patches must not conflict with the brand sector of the Promoters' patches, or the sponsors of the darts event, and must only be brand names, not slogans.

Any Player intending to wear a badge or badges other than that of a Dart Manufacturer or Distributor must inform the Promoter prior to a television tournament advising the design of the badge. Failure to do so could result in a shirt bearing the badge or logo being disallowed.

For guidance please see below.



Only a Player's name, and/or caricature, is allowed on the back of a playing shirt, or other non-commercial item such as a country or county name or flag.

- 27.04 Before any televised stage matches at darts events, the appointed Officials, including the Referee, are empowered to request a Player to withdraw or remove any offending advertising material, slogans or logos which contravene any Clause

- in Playing Rule No. 27 or any television advertising rules or any relevant laws or regulations currently in force at the time of the Event.
- 27.05** In those instances where a Player introduces on to stage any advertising material, slogans or logos which contravene any Clause in Playing Rule No.27 or any television advertising rules or any other relevant rules or regulations currently in force at the time of the Darts Event then that Player or team may forfeit that match.
- 28 Smoking:**
- 28.01 No smoking shall be allowed by any Player or match official whilst engaged in a match played on stage which is being covered by television.
- 28.02 No smoking shall be allowed by any Player or match official whilst engaged in the televised introductions to matchplay during any televised interviews either on or off the stage and during presentation ceremonies made on the stage.
- 28.03 Any Player found to be in breach of Clause 28.01 or 28.02 shall be liable to forfeit that respective match and shall be reported to the DRA for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.
- 28.04 Any match official found to be in breach of Clause 28.01 or 28.02 shall be reported to the DRA for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.
- 28.05 The Council of the DRA, or a promoter, reserves the right to prohibit smoking in any other matches under its jurisdiction if it is considered to be in the best interests of the promotion of the sport of darts to do so.
- 29 ALCOHOL:**
- 29.01 No alcoholic drinks shall be allowed to be consumed or introduced into the area covered by television by any Player or Match Official whilst engaged in a match played on stage which is being covered by television.
- 29.02 No alcoholic drinks shall be allowed to be consumed or introduced into the area covered by television by any Player or match official during televised introductions to matchplay, during any televised interviews, either on or off the stage, and during presentation ceremonies made on the stage.
- 29.03 Any Player found to be in breach of Clause 29.01 or 29.02 may be liable to forfeit that respective match and shall be reported to the DRA for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.
- 29.04 Any match official found to be in breach of Clause 29.01 or 29.02 may be reported to the DRA for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.
- 29.05 The DRA, or a promoter, shall reserve the right to prohibit the consumption of alcoholic drinks in any other matches under its jurisdiction if it is considered to be in the best interests of the promotion of the sport of darts to do so.
- 30 Amendments and Additions:**
- 30.01 After consultation the DRA reserves the right to add to or amend any or all of these Playing Rules to meet any purpose deemed to be necessary at that time by the Council.

31 Copyright:

- 31.01 The entire contents of these Playing Rules are the copyright of the DRA and may not be reprinted, copied, duplicated or otherwise reproduced, wholly or in part, without the prior written consent of the copyright owner.
- 31.02 When a Darts Event is being staged outside the jurisdiction of the DRA, the Organisers of that Darts Event may be given consent to state that “DRA Playing Rules Apply” on entry forms and other Darts Event literature. Consent to do this can only be obtained by making application in writing to the The Council, DRA, Nelson House, 2 Hamilton Terrace, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV32 4LY, United Kingdom.

DRA DISCIPLINARY RULES AND PROCEDURES

1. Disciplinary Powers of the DRA

In accordance with Regulation 13 of the DRA’s Articles of Association (a copy of which is reprinted as an appendix to this DRA Rule Book), the Council of the DRA has the following powers to discipline Members or Players for any breach of the DRA Rules:

- (a) to charge a Member or a Player with a breach of the DRA Rules;
- (b) to hear complaints from another Member, a Player or any person with responsibility under the Regulations for any matter referred to in the DRA Rules that a Member or a Player has breached the DRA Rules;
- (c) to hear the charges or complaints and to determine whether a Member or a Player has breached the DRA Rules;
- (d) discipline a Member or a Player for a breach of the DRA Rules including without limitation by way of expulsion (whether from membership of the DRA or from the physical area at which a DRA Event is taking place), public reprimand, fine and/or suspension as the Council may think fit including without limitation the power to suspend the operation of any disciplinary measure;
- (e) to hear appeals from any decision on a charge or complaint or disciplinary action;
- (F) to refer charges, complaints or appeals for resolution by any means of alternative dispute resolution which complies with the rules of natural justice; and
- (g) to make regulations with respect to the procedures for exercising any of the powers of the Council under this rule, subject to the prescribed procedures in the DRA Rules, including without limitation the regulation of the exercise of powers to cancel, modify or suspend Members’ or Players’ rights and privileges by the Disciplinary Committee.

2. Disciplinary Committee

- (a) There shall be a Disciplinary Committee Chairperson appointed by resolution of the Council. The Council shall also appoint an alternate Disciplinary Committee Chairperson to act when the Disciplinary Committee Chairperson is unable to act.
- (b) There shall be a Disciplinary Committee appointed as required from time to time by the Disciplinary Committee Chairperson which is to consist of no less than three individual Members but so that there is always an odd number of Members. The Disciplinary Committee Chairperson may be one of those Members and may, subject to paragraph 2 (d), chair hearings by the Disciplinary Committee Appeal Board.
- (c) There shall be a Disciplinary Committee Appeal Board appointed as required from time to time by the Disciplinary Committee Chairperson which is to consist of no less than three individual Members but so that there is always an odd number of Members. The Disciplinary Committee Chairperson may be one of those Members and may chair appeals to the Disciplinary Committee Appeal Board.
- (d) If an appeal is made to the Disciplinary Committee Appeal Board from a determination by a tribunal which had as one of its members the Disciplinary Committee Chairperson, the appeal shall be heard by a Disciplinary Committee Appeal Board appointed and chaired by the alternate Disciplinary Committee Chairperson.
- (e) The Committees referred to in this paragraph 2 shall have the same powers as the Council to discipline a Member or a Player.

3. Procedure for Laying Charges and Making Complaints

- (a) Any Member or Player or any person who has responsibility under the DRA Rules for any matter referred to in the DRA Rules may make a complaint in writing to the Council that a Member or Player is in breach of the DRA Rules.
- (b) Where the Council receives a complaint in writing or is of the opinion that a Member or a Player may have breached the DRA Rules, the Council shall consider the matter and shall:
 - (i) determine not to proceed with the matter;
 - (ii) charge the Member or a Player with the breach and refer the matter for hearing by the Disciplinary Committee;
 - (iii) refer the matter for hearing by the Disciplinary Committee; or
 - (iv) refer the matter for alternative dispute resolution and in any case shall notify the Disciplinary Committee Chairperson of the proposed action.

4. Notice of Charges or Complaints

- (a) If a Member or a Player is charged or if a decision is made to hear a complaint, notice of the charge or complaint must be served on the Member or Player at least 14 days before the date of the hearing which specifies:
 - (i) particulars of all charges and complaints to be heard and the grounds upon which they are based;

- (ii) the date, place and time of the hearing and to the Committee which is to hear the charges or complaints; and
- (iii) that the Member or Player may do one or more of the following:
 - (i) attend and speak at the hearing;
 - (ii) submit to the Committee at or prior to the hearing written representations relating to the matter;
 - (iii) procure representation at the hearing by any person.

5. Procedure at Hearings

At any hearing of a charge or complaint, the Committee must:

- (a) give the Member or Player or Member's or Player's permitted representative an opportunity to make oral representations;
- (b) consider any written representations submitted to the Committee by the Member or the Player or on the Member's or the Player's behalf;
- (c) make a determination whether the DRA Rules have been breached by the Member or the Player; and
- (d) make a determination of the sanction or sanctions to be imposed on the Member or the Player.

6. Notice of Committee Determinations

- (a) The Committee must cause written notice of any determination it makes under paragraph 5 above to be served on the Member or Player within 14 days of the hearing which specifies:
 - (i) the determination;
 - (ii) the date upon which the determination will take effect if the Member or Player does not appeal or if the Member or Player has no right of appeal under the DRA Rules;
 - (iii) any right of appeal which the Member or Player may have under the DRA Rules against the determination.

7. Effect of Notice under Paragraph 6

- (a) Subject to paragraph 6(ii), a determination by a Committee under paragraph 5 takes effect seven days after the notice referred to in paragraph 6 is served on the Member or Player, or on any later date specified in that notice.
- (b) The Committee may determine that the cancellation or suspension of a Member's or a Player's rights or privileges take effect immediately and remain effective until the period of cancellation or suspension ends or until the Disciplinary Committee Appeal Board on an appeal in accordance with paragraph 8 determines that the cancellation or suspension should be set aside. Alternatively, the Committee may determine that the sanction be postponed until an appeal by the Member or Player is heard. The sanction takes effect in accordance with the Committee's determination.

8. Right of Appeal

- (a) A determination by the Disciplinary Committee may be appealed by the Member or Player lodging with the Disciplinary Committee Chairperson a notice of the appeal,
 - (i) in the case of a determination by the Disciplinary Committee within seven days after the notice referred to in paragraph 6 has been served on the Member or Player;
 - (ii) and in the case of a determination by a Disciplinary Committee the appeal is to include copies of the notices served on the Member or Player under paragraphs 4 and 6.
- (b) The Disciplinary Committee Chairperson must refer the appeal to the Disciplinary Committee Appeal Board and must cause notice of the appeal hearing to be served on the Member or Player at least seven days before the date of the hearing which specifies the matters in paragraph 4(ii) and 4(iii).
- (c) The Committee to which an appeal has been referred must conduct the appeal hearing in accordance with paragraph 2 and with the procedures in paragraph 5 and 6.
- (d) Any determination of the Disciplinary Committee Appeal Board is final and a Member has no right of appeal.
- (e) A notice of appeal lodged under paragraph (a) of this rule must clearly set out the grounds of appeals and must clearly identify new evidence (if any) that the Member or Player seeks to rely on. The Committee to which the appeal is referred shall consider only those matters set out in the notice of appeal.
- (f) The Council may at any time intervene in an appeal commenced by a Member or Player under this paragraph 8 and may conduct the appeal hearing itself in accordance with the procedures in the DRA Rules. The decision of the Council shall be final and there is no further right of appeal.

9. No Claim for Reserved Determinations

No Member or Player who has a penalty of any kind imposed by a determination of a Committee under paragraph 5 and 8 has any claim against the Company, Members or any officer, employee, contractor or agent of the Company even if the determination is subsequently found to be invalid or is overturned on appeal by the Member.

10. DRA Rules

The DRA Rules may prescribe an administrative fee to be paid by a Member or Player and such other requirements as the Council thinks fit in relation to any hearing against a Member or Player. The DRA Rules may also prescribe that the Company may refund the whole or part of Member's or Player's costs incurred in relation to a successful appeal by a Member or Player under paragraph 8.

11. Alternative Dispute Resolution

- (a) The Disciplinary Committee Chairperson or a Committee may, with the agreement of the Member or Player affected, refer a matter or any issue arising in a matter under its control to arbitration, conciliation, mediation, expert determination or any other appropriate method of alternative dispute resolution.
- (b) The procedural and other rules apply in the forum to which the matter is referred will apply to the resolution of the matter.
- (c) If, under the rules applying to the method of alternative dispute resolution chosen, the matter is not finally determined so as to be binding on the Member or Player after a reasonable attempt has been made to resolve the matter, action may be continued against the Member or Player under the DRA Rules.
- (d) A Committee may take into consideration any report, recommendation or determination made in the course of the attempted alternative dispute resolution when the Committee makes any determination under the DRA Rules.

12. Records and Minutes

- (a) The Disciplinary Committee Chairperson shall cause detailed minutes to be made of all hearings before the Disciplinary Committee and shall sign and keep those minutes as a permanent record of the hearings.
- (b) Copies of all notices served on Members or Players under paragraph 4 and 6 shall be forwarded to the Disciplinary Committee Chairperson by the person who causes the notice to be served at the same time the notice is served on the Member or Player and the Disciplinary Committee Chairperson shall keep all such notices as a permanent record.
- (c) The Council may make DRA Rules with respect to the keeping of these records and the rights of Members or Players (if any) to inspect part or all of the records. The Council may by ordinary resolution delegate someone other than the Disciplinary Committee Chairperson to keep the records.

APPENDIX

Regulation 13 of the DRA Articles of Association

13. RULES AS TO DISCIPLINE AND CONDUCT

- 13.1 Notwithstanding the provisions of Regulations 3.10 and 12 the Council shall have power by Ordinary Resolution from time to time and at any time:
 - 13.1.1 to make and enforce rules and regulations with regard to the conduct of Players and/or Members which could injure or discredit the Association or bring the game of darts into disrepute;
 - 13.1.2 to make and enforce rules and regulations regarding the participation of Players and/or Members in, and the conduct of darts tournaments or matches;

13.1.3 to make and enforce rules of the game of darts; and

13.1.4 to discipline members and/or Players for breaches of any rules and regulations made in accordance with this Regulation 13 and to provide procedures, rules and regulations in relation thereto.