

# WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ BYE-LAWS



## BYE-LAWS

Twenty-sixth revised edition



**A Full Member of SPORTACCORD and committed to compliance with the WADA Code on Anti-Doping.**

**'Random drug testing could occur at any event as required by WADA'**

# **WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ BYE-LAWS**

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**NOTE – This is the twenty-sixth revised edition of this document.**

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## Foreword.

During the course of discussions that have taken place in WDF Meetings and Conferences that have been held since its inception, several items of WDF Policy have been considered, and adopted as being part of the "modus operandi" of the WDF.

These items do not form part of the WDF Constitution, nor part of the WDF Playing Rules, and yet they are referred to by the WDF Executive when considering the WDF's official response to enquiries and problems.

## 1.00 The Federation

1.01 The World Darts Federation is the only governing body for the Sport of Darts. The words '**World Darts**' refers exclusively to the World Darts Federation.

### 1.02 Official WDF Colours and Uniform

- (a) The official WDF colours shall be Black; Silver / Grey; Blue; and Red as depicted in the artwork of the WDF logo.
- (b) The official WDF Uniform shall be Black Blazer with WDF Badge of Office, a White Shirt with a WDF Tie, and Light Silver / Grey Trousers.
- (c) The WDF Badge design includes a scroll in which can be inserted a WDF Executive Member title, or the Country name relevant to a Member Darts Body.

## 2.00 Membership

### 2.01 WDF Definition of a Playing Member

- (a) A Playing Member is a player who is currently registered as a member in a darts body which is a full member of the World Darts Federation.
- (b) A Playing Member is a player who agrees to abide by the Constitution, Playing Rules, and Bye-Laws of the World Darts Federation.
- (c) No person can be a 'playing member' of more than one WDF Member Darts Body.
- (d) A player that has been given a disciplinary suspension by the WDF Member Darts Body of his or her country of residence shall not be considered to be a 'playing member' of that WDF Member Darts Body during the term of the suspension.

Reciprocal support requirements in regard to Disciplinary Suspensions by WDF Member Darts Bodies are set out in detail in Clause 11.00 of the current WDF Code of Practice on Disciplinary Proceedings.

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## 2.02 Renewal of Membership by 'Lapsed' WDF Member Darts Bodies

- (a) No WDF Member Darts Body shall be allowed to remain in arrears for more than TWO years. If outstanding monies are not paid in full by the due date, at the end of the TWO year period, then the WDF Financial Director shall declare that Darts Body's membership to have 'lapsed'.
- (b) If a Member Darts Body fails to maintain its responsibilities as a WDF Member, and as a result ceases to be a Member, then the time period covered by the staging of two successive WDF World Cup Championships must elapse before a re-application by the same darts body can be considered by the WDF Executive.
- (c) An outstanding debt is still payable and must be paid at the time when a re-application for membership is submitted.
- (d) A redemption of Membership will be allowed if all outstanding debts have been cleared within (3) three months of the declaration of the 'lapsed' membership.

## 2.03 Participation with other 'World' Darts Bodies

Members of the World Darts Federation are cautioned about having any dealings with any Organisations claiming to be a 'World Darts' organisation, or claiming to be the controlling authority for darts throughout the World. Such dealings could seriously jeopardise their 'membership status' within the World Darts Federation.

## 2.04 Application for Membership from 'independent' Darts Bodies

- (a) In the instance of a membership application from a Darts Body known to be 'independent' from an existing Member Darts Body, then the WDF Executive shall direct that application to the existing Member Darts Body of that respective country, with the intention of seeking an amalgamation of the two Darts Bodies in question.
- (b) Should the 'independent' Darts Body object to this procedure, then they shall have the right to request the WDF Executive to enquire into their objection providing that all the costs incurred are borne by the 'independent' Darts Body that has raised the objection.

## 3.00 **Annual Subscriptions Schedule**

- 3.01 The Annual Subscription payable to the World Darts Federation by a Member Darts Body is determined by the number of Playing Members registered with that Darts Body as shown below.

<b>Number of Registered Playing Members</b>	<b>Annual Subscriptions { American Dollars }</b>
<b>Up to - 250</b>	<b>350.00 US\$ per annum.</b>
<b>251 - 5,000</b>	<b>550.00 US\$ per annum.</b>
<b>5,001 - 10,000</b>	<b>700.00 US\$ per annum.</b>
<b>10,001 - upwards</b>	<b>900.00 US\$ per annum.</b>

A minimum annual subscription of 550 US\$ is required before a Member Darts Body can apply to promote a WDF Ranked darts event.

- 3.02 This schedule is subject to an '**annual review**' by the WDF Executive which will make recommendations concerning the level of the Annual Subscriptions for consideration at each WDF General Meeting, or Conference.

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## 3.00 Annual Subscriptions Schedule continued ....

3.03 Invoices for the payment of all Financial commitments to the WDF will be issued in December of each year, with a reminder that they are payable by the 15<sup>th</sup> January in the following year.

3.04 Financial commitments to the WDF include the following;

Annual Subscription Fee – payable on or before 15<sup>th</sup> January in each financial year.

Tournament Sanctioning Fee – payable on or before 15<sup>th</sup> January in each financial year.

Tournament Player Levy – payable within '14' days of completion of a Sanctioned event

Late payment fine 100 US\$ – payable immediately after 1<sup>st</sup> March of that financial year.

And any other fee payable to the WDF incurred during any one financial year.

3.05 Any Member failing to meet any of the financial commitments listed in 3.04 shall be declared as **NOT** financial by the WDF Financial Director and shall automatically be subject to the following restrictions;

A darts body that is NOT 'financial' **loses** the right to submit a Remit to a WDF meeting

A darts body that is NOT 'financial' **loses** the right to vote in any WDF meeting.

A darts body that is NOT 'financial' **loses** the right to bid to host a WDF Cup.

A darts body that is NOT 'financial' **loses** the right to enter a team into a WDF Cup in that respective financial year.

A darts body that is NOT 'financial' **loses** the right to submit any event for inclusion in the WDF World Ranking systems

These restrictions will remain in place until such time as all financial commitments to the WDF have been paid in full and the WDF Financial Director has revoked the declaration.

3.06 The number of registered Playing Members of a WDF Member Darts Bodies must be declared on the Dues Renewal form required to be submitted with a copy of the Wire Transfer of Dues.

**Note: a specimen Dues Renewal Form is available for download in the Member's Area of the WDF website.**

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## 4.00 Meeting Procedures

During the course of WDF General Meetings, and Conferences, the WDF President, or appointed Chairman, shall direct the business of such Meetings through the agreed Meeting and Voting Procedures as laid down herein;

- 4.01 The President will take precedence in all matters and, within the framework of the WDF Constitution and the scope of standard procedure, his decision shall be final, unless challenged by not less than '**3**' Representatives, in which case a vote shall be taken.
- 4.02 A Representative desiring to address the Meeting shall indicate by rising to his feet, or raising his hand, that he wishes to speak. On being given permission to speak he shall then give his name and the country that he represents.
- 4.03 Any speaker shall confine his speech, or question, to the business in hand at that time, and he will be asked to resume his seat if he can not show that the subject matter of his speech, or question, is relevant, or if he is ruled '**Out of Order**'.
- 4.04 No Representative is permitted to interrupt the speech of another except on a '**Point of Order**', in which case he should call '**Point of Order**', and await the President's permission to make his point.

Any Representative may speak on any such '**Point of Order**' raised, provided that his remarks are solely relevant to the '**Point of Order**' and also provided that his remarks are not in repetition of any previous speakers.

- 4.05 With the exception of the Proposer of a substantive motion, no Representative may speak twice on any matter except by way of an explanation, or in answer to a question.
- 4.06. The Mover of a substantive motion has the right of reply.

The Mover of an amendment does not have the right of reply.

The right of reply does not entitle a Representative to introduce any new matter into the subject of discussion. Once the Mover has commenced his right of reply, no other Representative may speak on the motion.

- 4.07. All motions require a Secunder, with the exception of formal motions, such as: '**that this meeting is now adjourned**', etc.. The Secunder of a motion must be a Representative of a Member Darts Body other than the Mover.
- 4.08. Amendments are permitted immediately after the motion has been formally proposed and seconded. Such proposed amendments and additions to any WDF legislation shall be presented in such a manner that it is readily understood when compared with the existing WDF legislation.

EG: Item No; Paragraph No; Page No; with a quotation of the wording that is involved.

- 4.09. An amendment must be relevant to the motion and also consistent with the context of the motion. Any amendment which is in direct negative to the general terms of the motion shall not be accepted.

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## 4.00 Meeting Procedures continued .....

- 4.10. Notice of further amendments may be given and accepted. These shall be dealt with in the reverse order in which they arose in the motion, until only one amendment remains in opposition to the original proposal.

The eventual successful proposal, or amendment, shall then be adopted as part of the '**modus operandi**' of the WDF.

In the event that such successful proposal, or amendment, is being determined for the purpose of amending Rules, Bye-Laws, or a part of the Constitution, then that successful proposal, or amendment must be put to the vote against the existing Rule, Bye-Laws, or the respective part of the WDF Constitution

- 4.11 No further discussion is permitted on the motion after a motion has been put to the vote.
- 4.12 After a motion has been decided, either for or against, no other motion of the same substance may be proposed at the same Meeting.
- 4.13 Motions and amendments may be withdrawn, but only with the full consent of the Meeting, and with no dissension. This must be done before the motion, or an amendment is put to the vote.
- 4.14 When WDF Member Darts Bodies submit written reports to a WDF General Meeting or Conference it will be necessary for Members to hand a sufficient number of copies of written reports to the Secretary-General for insertion into the documentation wallet which is normally issued at the start of a WDF Meeting, or Conference.
- 4.15 Disputes between WDF Member Darts Bodies can be heard in WDF General Meetings or Conferences, however, Representatives must be aware that WDF Rules and Bye-Laws only apply to events within the jurisdiction of the WDF.

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## 5.00 Voting Procedures

- 5.01 Each WDF Member Darts Body shall have **ONE** vote, subject to being in good **'financial'** standing with the WDF. { Clause 3.05 of WDF Bye-Law No 3.00}
- 5.02 On most matters during the course of a meeting any voting will be taken on a show of hands, with the exception of the election of the Executive Officers which shall be made by Ballot.
- 5.03 Any Representative entitled to vote may call for a secret ballot on any motion being discussed in that meeting. Scrutineers shall be appointed before any votes are cast, they shall count all votes and agree on the numbers of votes cast.

Should they fail to agree on the numbers of votes cast, then a fresh vote shall be taken. In such a secret ballot, any Representative may ask for the voting figures to be declared and the Scrutineers must provide them. In no case, in a secret ballot, shall any information be given to indicate as to which way any Representative has voted.

- 5.04 Any Representative entitled to vote may move that a motion be put to the vote.
- 5.05 Votes may only be cast by Member Darts Bodies eligible to vote.

Prospective WDF Member Darts Bodies should be prepared to pay WDF Fees upon acceptance into Membership in order to secure their rights to vote on WDF business taking place after their acceptance in a General Meeting , or Conference.

- 5.06 In the instance of a **'tied'** vote, the Chairman shall exercise a **'casting'** vote.
- 5.07 On a question of alteration, amendment, or addition to the Constitution; the election of a Members Darts Body; the election of a life member, or Honorary Official; a two thirds majority of the votes cast is required.

A simple majority of the votes cast by the eligible voters present at a WDF General Meeting, or Conference shall be required on all other questions.

- 5.08 Any Representative entitled to vote may abstain from voting.
- 5.09 Any Representative may request that his vote, for or against any motion, or his abstention, shall not be recorded unless specifically requested.
- 5.10 Voting by proxy shall not be allowed.

## 6.00 WDF Area Councils

- 6.01 WDF Area Councils that have been established to date are;  
Americas Darts Council, Asia/Pacific Darts Council, and Europe Darts Council.
- 6.02 A darts body that has been accepted as a member of the World Darts Federation is automatically a member of the WDF Area Council within which it is geographically situated, and is eligible to participate in WDF World and Area Cups subject to being in financial compliance with the WDF at the appropriate time.
- 6.03 It is not necessary for a WDF member to pay a secondary membership fee to a WDF Area Council.

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## 7.00 Tournaments

This section of the Bye-Laws briefly describes and attempts to clarify the current WDF position in regard to WDF Cups and Sanctioned Tournaments. Specific attention is herein paid to areas of import such as applications to stage WDF Cups, Player's Eligibility, Caveats in regard to player participation in 'outside' tournaments and WDF or Member Darts Bodies' right to restrict entry.

Member Darts Bodies and players are hereby strongly encouraged to familiarise themselves with the Rules documents intended to cover each WDF Cup and Sanctioned Tournaments for a more detailed description of playing and tournament rules.

7.01 Title: The term 'Masters' shall be reserved for 'Individual' events, and the term 'Cup' used for Team events thereby identifying the type of event within the title of the Tournament.

### 7.02 Application to stage WDF Sanctioned Tournaments

An application to stage the WDF World Cup must be made in writing by an accredited Member Darts Body at least (2) two years prior to the date of the event.

The WDF approval of an application may not be for a date in advance of (4) four years from the date of the application.

(See Tournament Application Form available on the WDF website)

Consideration shall be given to the possible clash of dates with the World Masters Championships, staged by the British Darts Organisation, which could involve players from the majority of the WDF Member Darts Bodies.

Note: The same procedure shall apply to the Americas Cup, Asia/Pacific Cup, and the Europe Cup which are to be held during the alternate years to those allocated for the WDF World Cup.

### 7.03 Trophy Insurance

A Member Darts Body winning a WDF Cup, and gaining the right to hold a Trophy, shall pay for the Insurance of the respective Trophy during the two year period it is held by that Member Darts Body.

7.04 Non-Member Participation: The WDF Executive shall continue the practice of inviting non-members into WDF Sanctioned Tournaments, such as the World Masters, the Europe Cup, the Asia/Pacific Cup and the Americas Cup with the specific intention of introducing those participants as 'potential' Member Darts Bodies of the WDF.

### 7.05 **Definition on Player's Eligibility**

#### WDF World Cup and Area Cups

In addition to complying with the terms of Clause 2.01 to establish themselves as playing members' all participants must also meet the following conditions;

1. To play for a WDF Member Darts Body in an official WDF Cup, a person must have resided within the national entity represented by that WDF Member Darts Body for at least three (3) years immediately prior to the date of the Cup in question.
2. In the case where two or more WDF Member Darts Bodies are situated within one national entity, the above requirement shall be interpreted as residence in the national entity.

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## 7.05 Definition on Player's Eligibility continued .....

3. A WDF Member Darts Body may impose additional eligibility requirements for its players.
4. A person, eligible to play for a WDF Member Darts Body, who moves from the country represented by that WDF Member Darts Body, shall remain eligible to play for that WDF Member Darts Body until such time as he or she meets the Eligibility requirements of another WDF Member Darts Body.
5. Any person who has played for a Member Darts Body in an official WDF Cup shall not play for another Member Darts Body in an official WDF Cup earlier than the third calendar year after the last year in which he or she played for the former Member Darts Body.
6. In the course of the twelve months prior to the scheduled date of a WDF World Cup or Area Cup a WDF Playing Member must have played at least 65% of their International Singles Events in tournaments which are recognised in the WDF World Ranking Systems as well as International singles events promoted/organized between Member Darts Bodies and also recognised by the World Darts Federation.

IE: Events such as, but not limited to, the 6 Nations Cup, Baltic Cup, Celtic Cup, Nordic Cup, Mediterranean Cup, and the Spring Cup.

NOTE: This rule shall not apply to Youth players.

### CLARIFICATION:

*An international Event is an event which is open to WDF Playing Members from more than one country. An international event may be promoted or organised by a WDF Member Darts Body or an organisation which is not affiliated to the WDF.*

*Soft Tip darts events are not included, as they are considered to be a game, not a recognised sport.*

*It is not a requirement that a player must play in International events in order to be eligible to play in a WDF World Cup or WDF Area Cup.*

*Players who do participate in international events must meet the following requirement to be eligible to play in a WDF Cup.*

*During the twelve months prior to the scheduled date of a WDF Cup the WDF requires that a player must have played in at least twice as many international single events which are **sanctioned by the WDF** (e.g. events recognised in the WDF Ranking System and International singles events between Member Darts Bodies which are recognised by the World Darts Federation [i.e. events such as, but not limited to, the 6 Nations Cup, Baltic Cup, Celtic Cup, Mediterranean Cup, Nordic Cup, the Spring Cup etc.]) when compared with international events organised, sanctioned or promoted by darts bodies which are not affiliated to the WDF.*

7. It is the responsibility of the officials of a player's respective WDF Member Darts Body to check and properly verify the eligibility of a player to represent that darts body in a WDF World Cup or Area Cup.
8. In the instance of a dispute arising in regard to Clause 7.05, the context shall be put to the WDF Executive for a ruling which shall be final and binding.

7.06 WDF World Ranking Systems: The WDF Executive is authorised to investigate and maintain a World Ranking Systems for Men, Women and Youth players.

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7.07 Invitations to Playing Members: It is current practice for Member Darts Bodies to extend invitations to play, or enter darts events through the recognised National Darts Body for each country.

If this practice is not adopted by an 'outside darts body' and the event in question has not met with the approval of the other Member Darts Body in that country, because it is conflict with their own, or WDF policy, then all playing members should be advised of the facts relating to that event and the possible consequences of their participation.

Note: Players in such situations are advised that it would be in their best interest to correspond with the WDF Executive to obtain the current WDF position in regard to the situation in question.

7.08 WDF Right to refuse entry: The World Darts Federation, or its appointed Organisers, shall reserve the right to refuse, or cancel, the entry of any player, at any stage prior to, during, or after a darts event which is within their jurisdiction, and their decision shall be final and binding in all matches relating to that darts event.

7.09 WDF Member Right to refuse entry: A WDF Member Darts Body, or its appointed Organisers, shall reserve the right to refuse, or cancel, the entry of any player, at any stage prior to, during, or after a darts event which is within their jurisdiction, and their decision shall be final and binding in all matches relating to that darts event.

7.10 Playing Attire: Playing Members and WDF Member Darts Bodies should pay particular attention to Playing Attire requirements, if any, as stated in sanctioned tournament rules documentation.

## 8.00 Revision Notes.

The twenty-sixth revised edition of the WDF Bye-Laws includes amendments to the wording of the following Bye-Laws:

WDF Bye-Law No 2.00 – defining Playing Members

WDF Bye-Law No 3.00 – listing the revised Subscription Schedule.

WDF Bye-Law No 7.00 - defining Players Eligibility.

The amendments to the WDF Bye-Laws arose from the adoption of the Executive Recommendations heard in the WDF General Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2011 in Castle Bar, County Mayo, Republic of Ireland..