



W D F P L A Y I N G  
A N D  
T O U R N A M E N T R U L E S

Eleventh 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 ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES

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# WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES

## FOREWORD

All International darts tournaments that are organised under the exclusive jurisdiction of the World Darts Federation, or its appointed Organisers, shall be played under the WDF Playing and Tournament Rules.

The WDF Playing and Tournament Rules are divided into two separate sections;

**Playing Rules: 1.00 to 6.00 inclusive.**

**Tournament Rules: 7.00 to 23.00 inclusive.**

## DEFINITIONS

- WDF** - Shall mean the World Darts Federation, or the Executive of the World Darts Federation. The governing body for the Sport of Darts throughout the World.
- Tournaments** - shall mean WDF Cups, WDF Ranked events, and WDF Sanctioned events.
- Organisers** - shall mean the World Darts Federation, its Executive, or a darts body appointed by the World Darts Federation to carry out its functions in relation to a darts tournament.
- Player** - shall include the singular and plural, teams as well as individuals, males and females.
- Referee** - shall mean the person appointed to take charge of matchplay at a matchboard, or on stage. A Referee may also act as a Marker, or Caller for the match.
- Caller** - shall mean the person appointed to announce the scores as they are made during matchplay.
- Marker** - shall mean the person appointed to mark the scores made and the scores remaining on the scoreboard . Except for staged matchplay, the Marker may act as the Caller for the match.
- Scorer** - shall mean the person appointed to record the scores, the results, and other relevant matchplay details on the score cards.
- Match** - shall mean the total play between two players; sometimes referred to as a 'game'. A match may be divided into Sets.
- Leg** - shall mean the minimum element of a match in which there is a full round of play with a winner and a loser.  
A Leg shall constitute a match when the match is not divided into Legs or Sets.  
The number of Legs in a Set or Match must be odd.
- Set** - shall mean that part of a match that consists of an odd number of Legs.  
The number of Sets in a match must be odd.  
The winner of a Set is the player winning the majority of Legs in that Set.  
The winner of the match is the player winning the majority of the Sets in that match.

# **WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES**

## **PLAYING RULES**

### **1.00 THROW**

- 1.01 Players shall provide their own darts, which shall not exceed an overall length of 30.5 cm., nor weigh more than 50 grams. Each dart shall consist of a metallic needle shaped point which shall be fixed to a barrel.  
At the rear of the barrel there shall be attached a flighted stem, which may consist of up to five separate pieces.  
(EG: a flight, a flight securing device(s), a flight protector, and a stem.)
- 1.02 All darts shall be thrown deliberately, one at a time, by and from the hand.  
All darts must be thrown with the needlepoint aimed towards the face of the dartboard.  
If a dart is not thrown in this manner then the 'throw' will be declared a 'foul throw' and will not count in that respective leg, set, or match.
- 1.03 A throw shall consist of a maximum of 'three' darts.
- 1.04 If a player, during a throw, touches any dart that is in the dartboard, then that throw shall be deemed to have been completed.
- 1.05 Any dart bouncing off or falling out of the dartboard shall not be thrown again.
- 1.06 Any dart falling out of the dartboard before the throw has been completed and the darts retrieved shall not count.
- 1.07 A player deliberately abusing the dartboard when retrieving darts at the end of a throw will be given a verbal warning by the match referee. Another warning will be given if a second incident occurs in the same match. If a third incident occurs in the same match then the player in question will forfeit that respective leg, or set, match.

### **2.00 STARTING AND FINISHING**

- 2.01 Each match or Leg shall be played with a straight start. IE: to begin scoring the player need only land a dart in the dartboard inside the outer Doubles wire of the dartboard.
- 2.02 Each match or Leg shall be played with a double finish. IE: to finish, and win, the player must land a dart in the double (Double Ring or Bull) of the number equal to one half of the remaining score.
- 2.03 The Bull shall count as '50' and if the score of '50' is required to complete a Leg or match, the Bull shall count as double '25'.
- 2.04 The Bust Rule shall apply. IE: if a player in a throw scores more points than remain in the Leg or match, or the same points as remain without finishing on a double, or leaves a score of one, then that throw shall not count and the score shall remain as it was prior to that throw.
- 2.05 A 'Game Shot' called by a Caller is valid only if the darts thrown achieve the required finish and remain in the dartboard until retrieved after the 'Game Shot' has been called.
- 2.06 If a 'Game Shot' called by a Caller is invalid, then the player shall have the right to continue that throw. IE: If all three darts have not already been thrown.

# WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES

## STARTING AND FINISHING continued ....

2.07 If as a result of an error in Clause 2.05 the player has retrieved any of the darts and not all three darts have been thrown, then the Referee shall replace the retrieved dart or darts in as near as is practicable the same position and permit the player to complete the throw.

2.08 The first player who finishes by obtaining the required double out shall be declared the winner of that Leg or match, whichever is applicable.

A dart thrown by a player after finishing shall not count.

2.09 In a match, or Set divided into Legs, the match or Set shall be played 'best of three' (five, seven, etc.,) Legs. EG: the first player that wins a majority of the given number of Legs shall be the winner of the match or Set and the remaining Legs, if any, shall not be played.

2.10 In a match divided into Sets, the match shall be played 'best of three' (five, seven, etc.,) Sets; EG: the first player who wins a majority of the given number of Sets shall be the winner of the match and the remaining Sets, if any, shall not be played.

## 3.00 SCORING

3.01 The rules of the event shall provide for matches or Legs of a fixed odd number, such as 501, 701, or 1001. All scores made shall be subtracted from the given total or the score remaining from the previous throw.

3.02 A dart shall only score if the point remains in or touches the face of the dartboard, within the outer double wire, until after the throw has been completed, and the score has been called and recorded on the scoreboard.

3.03 The score is counted from the side of the segment wire in which the point of the dart enters or touches the face of the dartboard.

3.04 Darts shall be retrieved from the dartboard by the thrower, excepting only in those circumstances when a physical disability, or physical injury requires a player to have assistance, but only after the score has been announced by the Referee, and recorded by the Marker.

3.05 A protest about the score attained, or called, after the retrieval of the darts shall not be upheld.

3.06 Errors in arithmetic shall stand as written on the scoreboard unless corrected prior to the next throw of the player whose score is in error.

3.07 The actual score required by a player must be shown on the scoreboard, clearly visible, at eye level, in front of the players and the Referee.

3.08 No indication of the required 'double out' shall be given by the Referee, Caller, Marker, or Scorer. EG: '32' not 'double 16'.

3.09 The Referee shall act as an umpire in all matters pertaining to the Playing Rules when conducting a darts match and shall, if necessary, consult with Scorers and other Officials before announcing any decisions during the course of matchplay.

# WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES

## 4.00 DARTBOARDS – WDF approved specification

4.01 Organisers of tournaments played under these Rules must ensure that the dartboards to be played on have been approved for use by the WDF, and by meeting the specification below shall;

- (a) be of the 'bristle' type.
  - (b) be of the '1 - 20' clock pattern.
  - (c) have an inner centre ring, 'Bull', that shall score '50' points.
  - (d) have an outer centre ring that shall score '25' points.
  - (e) have an inner narrow band, 'Treble Ring', which shall score treble the segment number.
  - (f) have an outer narrow band, 'Double Ring', which shall score double the segment number.
  - (g) have segmental material comprising;
    - Wire types can be round, triangular or diamond-shaped in section maximum 1.85mm or 1.27mm minimum. (+/- .2mm)
    - Inner and outer bull rings, if not made of wire, to have a wall thickness not greater than 1.6mm { +/- 0.2 mm} and to have sharpened edges.
    - Strip materials should not be greater than 1.85 mm in wall thickness and have a sharpened edge to form an apex.
    - All segmental materials shall either be affixed to the face of the board in such a manner that they lie flat on the face of the dartboard or alternatively strip materials be embedded into the surface of the board.
  - (h) have the following dimensions;
    - Double and Treble dimensions to be:
    - for conventional wire boards, measured inside to inside = 8.0mm +/- 0.2mm
    - for boards manufactured with strip material measured apex to apex = 9.6mm +/- 0.2mm

'Bull' inside diameter	=	12.7 mm.	+/- 0.2 mm.
'25' ring inside diameter	=	31.8mm	+/- 0.3 mm.
Outside edge of 'Double' wire to Centre Bull	=	170.0 mm.	+/- 0.2 mm.
Outside edge of 'Treble' wire to Centre Bull	=	107.0 mm.	+/- 0.2 mm.
Outside edge of 'Double' wire to outside edge of 'Double' wire	=	340.0 mm.	+/- 0.5 mm.
Overall dartboard diameter { +/- 3.0 mm. }	=	451.0 mm.	+/- 3.0 mm.
- (i) All dartboards to be manufactured from African Sisal

# **WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES**

## **4.00 DARTBOARDS – WDF approved specification continued ....**

- 4.02 The dartboard shall be fixed such that the '20' segment is the darker of the two segment colours and is at the top centre of the dartboard.
- 4.03 The dartboard shall be fixed in such a manner that the vertical height from the floor, at the same level as the Oche, to a horizontal line through the centre of the 'Bull' shall measure 1.73 metres.
- 4.04 A player or team Official shall have the right to request that the dartboard be changed or turned before or during the course of a match, always providing that the opposing player or team Official concurs with the request.

Such change or move shall only be made before a match, or between Legs of a match and shall only be made by a WDF appointed Official.

## **5.00 LIGHTING**

- 5.01 In tournament play each 'floor' dartboard shall be adequately lit by a suitably positioned light fitting of 100 Watts minimum intensity.
- 5.02 Dartboards used in stage finals shall be adequately lit by at least two suitably positioned light fittings of 100 Watts minimum intensity.
- 5.03 All light fittings shall be fitted with screens to divert all light away from the player's eyes when standing at the Oche.
- 5.04 In staged finals the general level of illumination may be augmented by the use of flood or spot lights, but care should be taken to prevent the introduction of shadows on the dartboard.

## **6.00 OCHES**

- 6.01 A raised Oche, 38 mm. high and 610 mm. long, shall be placed in position at the minimum throwing distance and shall measure from the back of the Oche, 2.37 metres along a horizontal line to a plumb line at the face of the dartboard.
- 6.02 The diagonal distance from the centre of the Bull to the back of the Oche at floor level shall measure 2.93 metres.
- 6.03 During match play no player shall tread on any part of the raised Oche, nor shall the player deliver any dart with his or her feet in any position other than behind the raised Oche.
- 6.04 A player throwing a dart from a position on either side of the raised Oche shall keep his or her feet behind an imaginary straight line extending on either side of the raised Oche.
- 6.05 Any player in breach of Clause 6.03 or 6.04 shall first be warned by the Referee in the presence of the player's Captain or team Official.

Any dart subsequently delivered in breach of these Clauses shall not score and shall be declared invalid by the Referee.

# WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES

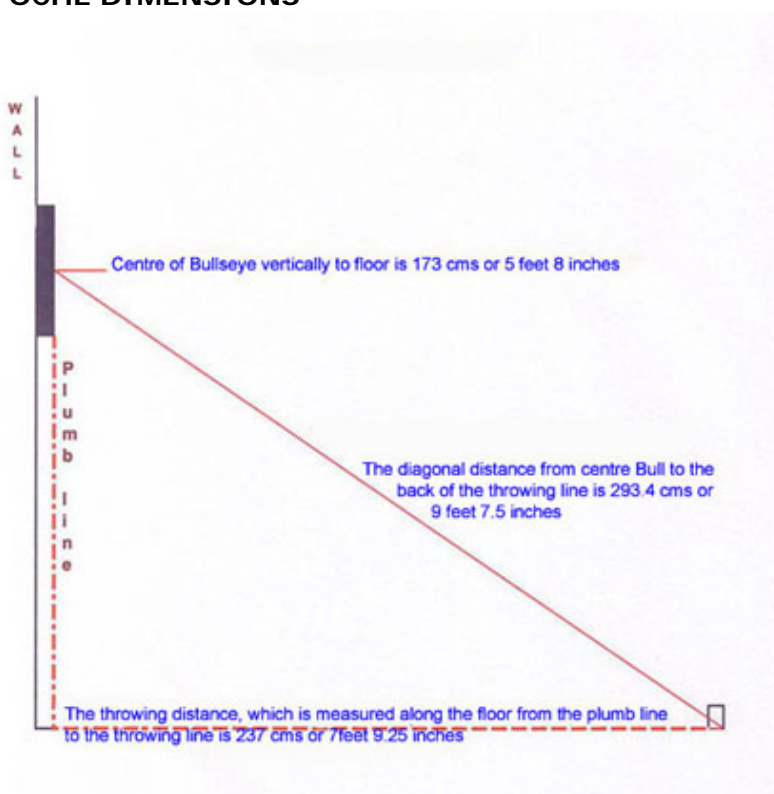
## 6.00 OCHES Continued ....

6.06 A player or team Official shall have the right to request that the Oche dimensions be checked and adjusted before and during the course of a match, always providing that the opposing player or team Official concurs with the request.

Such check and adjustment shall only be made before a match, or between the Legs of a match, and shall only be made by a WDF appointed Official.

6.07 All Member Darts Bodies are authorised to amend the dimensions of the dartboard height, and Oche length, to suit the particular requirements of contestants in special events for disabled persons.

## OCHE DIMENSIONS



# WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES

## 7.00 GENERAL TOURNAMENT RULES

- 7.01 Each WDF Tournament shall have a set of Playing Rules pertaining to that tournament. These Playing Rules shall be adopted by the WDF, or for WDF Cups, by the official WDF Area Council comprising those Member Darts Bodies within that geographical area.
- 7.02 The Playing Rules of the particular WDF tournament shall provide for the Playing Format of the tournament. { IE: whether a 'knock-out' format or a 'round-robin' format. }
- 7.03 The Playing Rules of the particular WDF tournament shall also provide for the events to be played in that tournament.

The events included may be any, or all of the following ;

**Singles** - which may be men's, or women's singles.

**Pairs** - which may be men's, or women's, or mixed.

**Team** - which may be 'three' or more persons per team, the team may be open, or limited, or mixed, as to the gender of the team members.

**Youth** - which may be singles, pairs, or teams, which shall be limited to persons under a specific age.

## 8.00 REGULATION

- 8.01 The interpretation of the WDF Playing Rules in relation to a darts tournament shall be determined by the WDF appointed Organisers, whose decision shall be final and binding. Information concerning such an interpretation shall be forwarded to the WDF Executive.
- 8.02 Any matter not expressly covered by the WDF Playing Rules shall be determined by the WDF Executive, whose decision shall be final and binding.
- 8.03 The WDF or its appointed Organisers shall reserve the right to cancel or change all dates, venues, and scheduled darts events without prior notice.
- 8.04 All tournament players shall play within the WDF Playing Rules, and the Playing Rules of the tournament and, where necessary, any supplementary Rules established by the appointed Organisers and laid down in the tournament programme.
- 8.05 All players shall play under the supervision and direction of the WDF appointed Organisers and Officials.
- 8.06 Any player failing to comply with any of the WDF Playing Rules during a tournament shall be liable to disqualification from that tournament.
- 8.07 All trophies awarded to a player may be retained, except for perpetual types of trophies which shall be returned to the WDF on request.
- 8.08 If a player is not present at the official presentation ceremony without the Organiser's permission, that player shall forfeit the right to receive any awards in that tournament.
- 8.09 Any player who fails to complete all scheduled matches, unless excused by the Organisers for illness, injury, or other sufficient reason, shall forfeit the right to receive any awards in that tournament.
- 8.10 If any expenses are incurred due to a default by a player then that player shall be liable for those expenses.

## **WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES**

### **9.00 ENTRY**

- 9.01 The Organisers shall prepare official entry forms for the tournament and shall send the forms to the eligible WDF Member Darts Bodies. The entry forms shall provide for the listing of players in each of the events in the tournament.
- 9.02 In the team and pairs events the Member Darts Bodies shall designate the 'Order of Throw' of the players, which order shall not be changed in the tournament.
- 9.03 The WDF, or its appointed Organisers, shall reserve the right to refuse, or cancel, any entrant, 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. (WDF Bye-Law No: 7.08)
- 9.04 A WDF Member Darts Body, or its appointed Organisers, shall reserve the right to refuse, or cancel, any entrant, 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. (WDF Bye-Law No: 7.09)
- 9.05 The Organisers reserve the right to exclude a Member Darts Body from a WDF tournament if its lists of players is not received by the advised deadline. Such deadline shall not be more than 45 days before the start of the tournament.
- 9.06 Team members from one, up to a whole team, may be changed prior to the tournament and up to the time when a player, or team, is required to throw the first darts in any respective event in the tournament.
- 9.07 In the team and pairs events, if a player is unable, for good cause shown, to continue play, then a substitution is allowable, but only by an individual who has not already played in the tournament. Such substitution shall only be made between matches.
- 9.08 A substitute player shall take the place and 'Order of Throw' of the absent player in the team and pairs events.
- 9.09 No player shall be entered more than once in any event of the tournament.
- 9.10 No player shall play for more than one country in a tournament.

### **10.00 REGISTRATION**

- 10.01 All tournament players shall be registered, either by the players themselves or by their team Official, for each event at the scheduled time.
- 10.02 Any player failing to be registered by the notified time shall be eliminated from that event in the tournament.
- 10.03 Any player that is not in attendance when called upon to play at the nominated time shall forfeit that match.
- 10.04 Only '5' minutes shall be allowed from the time of the call on the public address system for the player to reach the Control Desk or the assigned matchboard, whichever requirement is called for.
- 10.05 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.

# **WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES**

## **11.00 DRAW**

- 11.01 There shall be only one draw for opponents which shall be conducted prior to the tournament.
- 11.02 In a 'knock-out' format the Organisers shall arrange preliminary matches so as to eliminate all 'byes' from the first round proper of an event.
- 11.03 Draw Charts shall be displayed at the Control Desk, in the tournament programme, and at a convenient place in the venue.
- 11.04 Times on a draw chart are for guidance only and the Organisers reserve the right to change the schedule if necessary.
- 11.05 No substitutes shall be allowed in an individual darts event.
- 11.06 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 at the discretion of the Organisers.

## **12.00 ORDER OF PLAY**

- 12.01 The Playing Rules of the tournament shall provide for a draw or toss of a coin or for a throw for the Bull to determine the order of play in each match.
- 12.02 The winner of the draw, toss, or Bull throw shall throw first in the match.
- If the match is divided into Legs, the winner of the draw, toss, or Bull throw shall throw first in the odd numbered Legs, and the loser shall throw first in the even numbered Legs.
- If the match is divided into Sets, then the winner of the draw, toss, or Bull throw shall throw first in the odd numbered Legs of the odd numbered Sets, and the first in the even numbered Legs in the even numbered Sets, with the loser throwing first in the other Legs.
- In the instance of a match which is divided into Legs, being equal before the start of the deciding Leg, then the throwing order for the deciding Leg shall be decided by throwing for the Bull. The procedure at this point shall be as set down in Clause 12.05.
- In the instance of a match which is divided into Sets, being equal before the start of the deciding Set, then the throwing order for the deciding Set shall be decided by throwing for the Bull. The procedure at this point shall be as laid down in Clause 12.05.
- In those tournaments where a 'Tie-Breaker' Rule is applicable then the preceding two paragraphs shall not supersede that Rule.
- 12.03 The Playing Rules of the tournament may provide for a throw for the Bull in the instance of a 'Tie-Breaker' Leg. EG: when the match has progressed to the final possible Leg of the match, or the final possible Leg of the final possible Set of the match and the opposing players are tied in Legs and or Sets.
- The winner of the throw for the Bull shall throw first in the Leg in question.
- 12.04 If a throw for the Bull determines the order in the match, then the order of throw for the Bull shall be determined by the toss of a coin.
- In the throw for the Bull to determine the order of a throw in a 'Tie-Breaker' Leg, the player who threw first in the match shall throw first for the Bull.

## **WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES**

### **12.00 ORDER OF PLAY Continued ....**

12.05 In throws for the Bull each player, in Singles events, or one of the team members shall throw one dart for the Bull. The dart must remain in the dartboard in order to count and re-throws shall be made until a dart remains in the dartboard.

Re-throws shall be called for if the Referee cannot determine which dart is nearer the Bull, or if both darts are in the Bull, or if both darts are in the '25' ring. A re-throw shall be in the reverse order of the previous throw.

The player who throws nearer the centre of the dartboard shall throw first in the match or Leg.

12.06 The players names shall be entered on the scoreboard in the same order {left and right sides} as they are listed on the score card.

12.07 In Pairs and Team events, where the players throw in rotation, the 'Order of Throw' shall be displayed on the scoreboard before the match commences.

### **13.00 SCORE CARDS**

13.01 A score card for each match shall be made out at the Control Desk with the name of the event, the round of play, and the names of the players. If the order of play is determined at the Control Desk, the order of play shall be entered on the score card.

In team and pairs events, the order of throw of the team members shall be entered on the score card.

The score card shall be picked up from the Control Desk by the player, or team Official and presented to the Referee at the assigned matchboard.

13.02 If a throw for the Bull determines the order of play, or if the Rules provide for a Bull throw in a deciding Leg, or if the draw or toss for the order of play is made at the matchboard, the Referee shall enter on the score card the order of play for the respective Legs..

13.03 Referees shall be responsible for ensuring that the order of play is strictly adhered to during the match.

In team and pairs events Referees shall be responsible for ensuring that the order of throw of team and pairs members is strictly adhered to during the match.

13.04 On conclusion of the match the Referee shall ensure that all required information of the match, including the name of the winning player, has been entered on the score card and shall attest to this by his or her signature.

The winning player, or team Official shall return the score card immediately to the Control Desk.

13.05 The results of the matches shall be entered on the Draw Charts by the Control Desk Officials.

13.06 All players' scores shall be recorded on the score cards so that averages and the best results may be computed.

13.07 Within 24 hours of finishing a tournament, the Organisers shall submit, a completed Tournament Report form to the WDF webmaster for updating the WDF World Ranking System Tables.

# **WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES**

## **14.00 PRACTICE**

- 14.01 Each player is entitled to '6' six practice darts at the assigned matchboard prior to the start of a match.
- 14.02 No other practice darts may be thrown during a match without the permission of the match Referee.
- 14.03 No practice shall be allowed on unassigned matchboards after the tournament has started.
- 14.04 Practice dartboards shall be provided for the exclusive use of the tournament players ONLY.
- 14.05 In exceptional circumstances an organiser/match official may invite players to increase the number of practice darts from 6 to 9 to allow them to adjust to changes in oche conditions/dimensions, stage lighting, etc., prior to resuming matchplay.

## **15.00 TOURNAMENT PLAY**

- 15.01 In tournament play all players shall play under the supervision and direction of the Organisers and tournament Officials.
- 15.02 No person shall be allowed within the playing area other than the Referee, Caller, Marker(s), Scorer(s) electronic indicator operators, and the assigned players.
- 15.03 Only Referees, Markers, and electronic indicator operators shall be allowed to be situated in front of a player when playing.
- 15.04 Officials situated in front of a player shall restrict their movements to a minimum during each throw and shall not smoke or drink during a match.
- 15.05 A player's opponent(s) shall stand at least 60 cm. to the rear of the player at the Oche.
- 15.06 In stage finals the players shall be under the supervision of the stage Officials and between throws shall be located in such a position as to afford an unrestricted view of the proceedings for players, Officials, spectators, and if applicable, the television cameras.
- 15.07 A player at the Oche is entitled to consult with the Referee on the amount scored or required at any time during a throw.
- 15.08 Any enquiries on scores recorded or subtractions made shall not be entered into after the conclusion of the Leg or match.
- 15.09 Any protest concerning the score must be made to the Referee before the protesting player's next throw.  
  
Any protest concerning the decision of the Caller or Marker, the alleged misconduct of a player, or other matter must be made immediately to the Referee or tournament Officials.  
  
A judgement shall be given on the spot before the Leg or match is allowed to continue. Any late protests shall not be honoured.
- 15.10 If a player's equipment becomes damaged or lost during the course of a throw the player shall be allowed up to '3' three minutes to repair or replace the equipment.
- 15.11 If, during the course of a match, a player has an urgent reason for leaving the playing area, the Referee may, in his or her sole discretion, allow the player to depart the playing area for up to '5' five minutes.

## **WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES**

### **16.00 CONDUCT**

16.01 During a match players shall conduct themselves in a manner of respect for the other player(s) and shall refrain from annoying the other players or using offensive language or making offensive gestures and shall refrain from any unsportsmanlike conduct.  
{EG: such as deliberately losing a Leg or match, deliberately delaying matchplay, or interfering with the throw of another player.}

16.02 Any player found by the Organisers to be in breach of Clause 16.01 shall be deemed to have brought the Sport of Darts into disrepute and shall be disqualified from any further participation in the tournament

However, if the player, or the Officials of the said player's team challenge the disqualification, or forfeiture, the matter shall be appealed immediately to the WDF Executive, whose decision shall be final and binding.

16.03 The decision of the WDF Executive called for in Clause 16.02 shall be made by a majority of the members of the WDF Executive present at the tournament.

If no members of the WDF Executive are present at the tournament, the appeal shall be put to a board made up of one Official from each participating country and the decision of the Organisers may be overruled by a majority of the country Officials.

### **17.00 PLAYING ATTIRE**

17.01 All players representing their country in a WDF tournament shall wear their country's approved playing attire at the opening ceremony, during the tournament itself {at least until eliminated from all events}, and at the closing and awards ceremony.

17.02 Team players must be uniformly attired; IE: all team shirts, blouses, dresses, and skirts or trousers shall be in uniform colours and styles for that team.  
Players must wear all black footwear which does not go above the ankle and does not contain any coloured branding or patterns.

17.03 Whatever the team uniform, no player shall wear any clothing that bears any advertising material, slogans, or logos relating to a marketable product or concern without the prior permission of the Organisers.

17.04 International Member Country Organisers are recommended to have 'unmarked' Playing Attire available which shall be used on those occasions when advertising rights are likely to be infringed.

17.05 In all WDF darts events the Playing Attire of any participating player shall be subject to WDF approval.

Any unacceptable Playing Attire must be changed before that player can participate in any introductions, matchplay on stage, interviews, and presentations.

17.06 Any player refusing to meet with WDF approval shall be liable to forfeit that respective match, and shall be reported to the appropriate darts body for Disciplinary Proceedings to be considered.

17.07 Players are not permitted to wear any article of clothing over their approved Playing Attire during matchplay.

17.08 Players are permitted to wear sweatbands on their wrists.

## **WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES**

### **PLAYING ATTIRE continued .....**

- 17.09 No headgear shall be worn without the prior permission of the Organisers.  
EG: exceptions could be allowed for medical or religious reasons.
- 17.10 In Open darts events Clauses 17.01 to 17.09 shall not be enforced until players are required to participate in any introductions, presentations, and matchplay on stage.
- 17.11 No earphones/headsets shall be worn during matchplay at any time without the prior permission of the organisers.  
EG: exceptions could be allowed for the need to use a hearing aid.

### **18.00 ADVERTISING**

- 18.01 The Organisers reserve the rights to the use of all advertising materials, slogans, or logos in connection with the promotion and organisation of a WDF tournament.
- 18.02 The Organisers reserve the right to protect their sponsors' interests with regard to any advertising material, slogans, or logos used by players, teams, or other sponsors.
- 18.03 Players and spectators in a WDF tournament shall not be allowed to wear any clothing that bears any advertising material, slogans, or logos relating to any marketable product, or concern without the prior permission of the Organisers.
- 18.04 International Member Country Organisers are recommended to have 'unmarked' Playing Attire available which shall be used on those occasions when advertising rights are likely to be infringed.
- 18.05 Players in a WDF tournament shall not be allowed to use any playing equipment that bears any advertising material, slogans, or logos relating to any marketable product, or concern without the prior permission of the Organisers.
- 18.06 Before a televised match, the Organisers are empowered to request a player to withdraw or remove any advertising material, slogans, or logos. Any player who refuses to comply with such a request shall forfeit that match.
- 18.07 In those instances when a player introduces onto stage any advertising materials, slogans, or logos, which contravenes any Clause in WDF Playing Rule No 18.00, or any Television Advertising Rules currently in force at the time of the darts event, then that player, or team shall forfeit that match.

### **19.00 SMOKING AND DRINKING**

- 19.01 All players and Officials shall refrain from smoking and consuming alcoholic beverages while they are participating in any matchplay and during introductions, interviews, and presentations.
- 19.02 Any player found to be in breach of Clause 19.01 shall be liable to the forfeiture of the match during which the offence took place and shall be reported to the appropriate darts body for Disciplinary Proceedings to be considered.

### **20.00 ANTI-DOPING RULES**

- 20.01 In darts events under WDF jurisdiction all players and officials are subject to the terms and conditions of the WDF Anti-Doping Rules. Random drug testing could occur in any event as required by WADA.

# **WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES**

## **21.00 DEFINITION ON PLAYER'S ELIGIBILITY – WDF BYE-LAW No: 7.05**

### WDF World Cup and Area Cups

- 21.01 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;
- 21.02 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.
- 21.03 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.
- 21.04 A WDF Member Darts Body may impose additional eligibility requirements for its players.
- 21.05 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.
- 21.06 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.
- 21.07 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 recognised by the World Darts Federation.
- IE: Events such as, but not limited to, the 6 Nations Cup, Baltic Cup, Celtic Cup, Mediterranean Cup, Nordic Cup, and the Spring Cup.
- NOTE 1: This rule shall not apply to youth players.
- NOTE 2: Additional clarification is available in the WDF Bye-Laws document
- 21.08 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 Cup or Area Cup.
- 21.09 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.

## **22.00 EXCLUSION**

- 22.01 The World Darts Federation reserves the right to exclude any player, or official, or Member Darts Body from any or all WDF official tournaments if that player, or official, or Member Darts Body is found to be in breach of any provision of the WDF Playing Rules, the tournament Playing Rules, the WDF Constitution, or the WDF Bye-Laws.

## **23.00 AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS**

- 23.01 The WDF Executive reserves the right to amend, add to, or delete, any of the WDF Playing Rules at any time to meet any purposes deemed to be necessary by the WDF Executive.

# WORLD DARTS FEDERATION ~ PLAYING AND TOURNAMENT RULES

## 24.00 COPYRIGHT

24.01 The entire contents of the WDF Playing Rules are the copyright of the World Darts Federation and may not be reprinted, copied, duplicated, or otherwise reproduced, wholly, or in part, without the written consent of the copyright owner.

## 25.00 REVISION NOTES

The eleventh revision of the WDF Playing and Tournament Rules includes the addition of the word '**metallic**' in Playing Rule No 1.01 – the definition of a dart.

Playing Rules 17.00 and 18.00 have been amended to include interpretations that were made during the 2011 WDF World Cup.

It also includes a revised version of the definition of 'Eligibility' in Rule No 21.00 as approved in the WDF General Meeting held in Castle Bar, Rep. Ireland on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2011.