



# **League Rules Of**

# **The Windsor & District Darts League**

2025-2026



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## 1. DEFINITIONS

### 1.1 In these Rules:

“WDDL” means The Windsor & District Darts League

“AGM” shall mean the annual general meeting held in accordance with the Articles of the Competition

“Committee” means those elected to manage the running of the Competition

“Club” means a Club for the time being in membership of the WDDL

“Competition” means the Windsor & District Darts League

“Competition Match” means any match played or to be played under the jurisdiction of the WDDL

### 1.2 All Clubs shall adhere to the Rules. Every Club shall be deemed, as a member of the WDDL to have accepted the Rules and to have agreed to abide by the decisions of the Committee in relation thereto.

### 1.3 The Competition will be known as “The Windsor & District Darts League” (or such other name as the Company may adopt). The Clubs participating in the Competition must be members of the Company in accordance with the Articles. A Club which ceases to exist or which ceases to be entitled to play in the Competition for any reason whatsoever shall thereupon automatically cease to be a member of the Company.

## 2. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

### 2.1 Each Club shall register its home venue.

### 2.2 Each venue shall be equipped with the adequate apparatus to cater for the number of teams entered.

### 2.3 Any dart boards shall be positioned in such a way that the centre of the bullseye is exactly 5ft 8 inches (1.73 meters) from the ground.

### 2.4 The minimum throwing distance shall be 7ft 9 ¾ inches (2.37 meters) from the face of the board when measured horizontally.

### 2.5 No Club shall move to another home venue without first obtaining written consent of the Committee; such consent not to be withheld unreasonably. In consideration whether to give such consent the Committee shall have regard to all the circumstances of the case and shall not grant consent unless it is reasonably satisfied that such consent:-

- would be consistent with the objectives of the WDDL;
- would not have an adverse affect on visiting Clubs;

### 2.6 The WDDL reserves the right to refuse entry to or terminate involvement in the Competition should it deem that a venue is not sufficient to be used.

### 2.7 The WDDL reserves the right to refuse entry to or terminate involvement in the Competition should it deem that competitors are not behaving in an acceptable manner, including, but not restricted to, racial, verbal, and physical abuse.



### **3. MEMBERSHIP**

- 3.1 Any Club applying for membership of the Company shall submit to the Company a fully completed Membership Application Form for the appropriate season and the non-refundable entry fee.
- 3.2 The entry for the respective seasons will be:-
- Summer League:- £35.00
  - Winter League:- £70.00
- 3.3 Closing dates for entries will be clearly identified on the appropriate entry forms.
- 3.4 Any team who resigns from the WDDL will have their results expunged if they have completed less than 75% of their fixtures. If they have completed over 75% of fixtures then any remaining fixtures will be formulated on the number of legs required for a win plus one to nil against the resigning team.

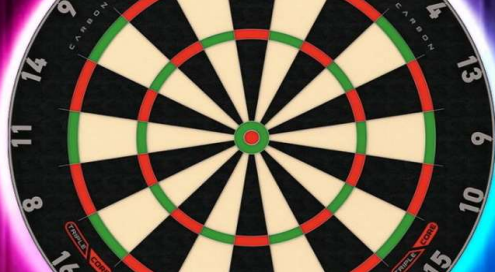
### **4. POWER OF THE COMMITTEE**

- 4.1 The Committee shall have power to deal with all matters of management of the WDDL covered by the Rules. The Committee shall conduct the business of the WDDL and shall meet as often as is necessary for this purpose. The Committee may appoint such Sub-Committees as it deems appropriate which shall be fully empowered to act on the Committee's behalf subject to ratification by the Committee. The Committee shall have power to deal only with matters within the WDDL.
- 4.2 Save where specifically provided otherwise in these Rules, the Committee shall have power to apply, act upon and enforce these Rules and shall have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the WDDL including any not provided for in these Rules.
- 4.3 All decisions of the Committee shall be binding. Decisions of the Committee must be notified, in writing, to all concerned within fourteen days of the making of such decision.
- 4.4 If the party charged disputes the charge then it shall submit its case in writing to be received by the League Secretary no more than 7 days after notification of the charge.
- 4.5 The Committee shall have the power to arrange representative matches at their discretion.

### **5. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS**

#### **5.1 SUMMER LEAGUE**

- 5.1.1 Players do not have to be signed prior to the start of the Summer League.
- 5.1.2 Players will be deemed to have played for a club in the Summer League once they have been placed on, and signed their name on, a results sheet.
- 5.1.3 A player may only move from one team to another once in any season and only after permission is sought from the Committee.
- 5.1.4 It is the responsibility of the signing club to ensure that the player is eligible to sign.



5.1.5 Players must play at least 2 group matches to be eligible for the knockout phase. Being an unused sub player does not count as having played in a match in accordance with rule 5.3.2.

## **5.2 WINTER LEAGUE**

5.2.1 A minimum of 8 have to be signed prior to the start of the Winter League. There is no limit on the number of players that a team may sign through the season.

5.2.2 A player will be deemed to have played for a club in the Winter League once they have been placed on and signed their name on a results sheet.

5.2.3 A player may only move from one team to another once in any season and only after permission is sort from the Committee.

5.2.4 It is the responsibility of the signing club to ensure that the player is eligible to sign.

5.2.5 Players may not be signed after 31<sup>ST</sup> January of the current season. The WDDL may allow players to be signed in exceptional circumstances.

## **5.3 SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS**

5.3.1 A Club, at its discretion, may use two substitute Players in the Winter League and three in the Summer League, after the completion of the doubles matches.

5.3.2 If a Player does not take part in the match for which he is a nominated substitute he shall be deemed as not having played for the Club in that match. The player will be deemed to have signed for that Club as per rule 5.2.2.

## **5.4 PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER**

5.4.1 Any Club found to have played an ineligible Player in a match may have any points gained from that match deducted from its record.

5.4.2 The Committee may also order that such match be replayed on such terms as are decided by the Committee which may also levy penalty points against the Club in default.

# **6. PLAYING OF MATCHES**

6.1 The Committee shall fix the date on which the Playing Season shall commence.

6.2 All matches shall be played under the Rules and Regulations of The Darts Regulatory Authority (DRA).

## **6.3 MATCH FORMAT - SUMMER LEAGUE**

6.3.1 All matches will consist of 3 best of 1 leg pairs matches and 6 best of 5 singles matches.

6.3.2 All pairs matches shall start from 701 and all singles legs from 501.

6.3.3 Away team to throw first in the 1<sup>st</sup> leg of the first game and then alternate throughout the match, i.e., away team throws first in the first match, home team throws first in the second match. If scores are tied, then bull up for the final leg.

6.3.4 All matches to start no later than 8:30pm.

## **6.4 MATCH FORMAT - WINTER LEAGUE**



- 6.4.1 All matches shall consist of 4 single leg pairs matches and 8 best of 3 singles matches.
- 6.4.2 All pairs matches shall start from 701 and all singles legs from 501.
- 6.4.3 Away team to throw first in the 1<sup>st</sup> leg of the first game and then alternate throughout the match, i.e., away team throws first in the first match, home team throws first in the second match. If scores are tied, then bull up for the final leg.
- 6.4.4 All matches to start no later than 8:30pm.

## **6.5 MATCH CANCELLATIONS - SUMMER LEAGUE**

- 6.5.1 Any match cancelled in the Summer League Group Stage will be awarded to the opposition as a 6-0 win.
- 6.5.2 If a game is cancelled, the non-cancelling team may submit a team sheet of up to 6 players that will count towards matches played by those players. Rule 7.1.2 still applies.

## **6.6 MATCH CANCELLATIONS - WINTER LEAGUE**

- 6.6.1 Any team wishing to cancel a match must do so no later than 24 hours before the proposed start time of the match. Failure to do so may result in the match being awarded to the opposition.
- 6.6.2 Notice of cancellation will be given to the opposition and in writing to the League Secretary no later than 24 hours before the proposed start time of the match. Failure to do so may result in the match being awarded to the opposition.
- 6.6.3 In the event of a match being awarded to the opposition the score will be formulated on the number of legs required for a win plus one to nil.
- 6.6.4 Any matches cancelled will be re-arranged by the League Secretary.

## **6.7 PENALTIES**

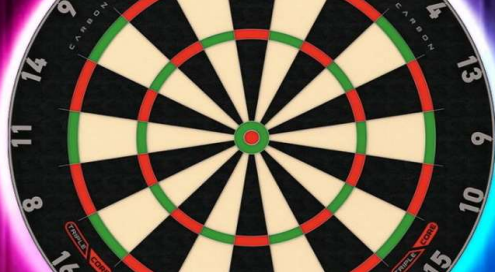
- 6.7.1 Penalty points will be levied against clubs in the following situations for both League and Cup matches
- Non-attendance at league meetings without apologies – 1 point
  - Late notification of result (home team only) – 1 point
  - Team sheet not received by 9:00pm Sunday – 1 point
  - Incomplete team sheet – 1 point per item, max 5 items

# **7. RESULT/REPORT FORMS**

## **7.1 SUMMER LEAGUE**

- 7.1.1 All home clubs must report the result by 9:00pm on the Sunday following the match.
- 7.1.2 All teams must send in a completed results sheet either by post or electronic format that should arrive no later than 9:00pm on the Sunday following the match. Any forms that are sent digitally should be of sufficient quality that they can easily be read. Any form that is not of sufficient quality shall be returned to club and considered as not received until such time that a legible version is sent. This applies to both League and Cup matches.





## **7.2 WINTER LEAGUE**

- 7.2.1 All home clubs must report the result by 9:00pm on the Sunday following the match.
- 7.2.2 All teams must send in a completed results sheet either by post or electronic format that should arrive no later than 9:00pm on the Sunday following the match. Any forms that are sent digitally should be of sufficient quality that they can easily be read. Any form that is not of sufficient quality shall be returned to club and considered as not received until such time that a legible version is sent. This applies to both League and Cup matches.

## **8. CHAMPIONS & RELEGATION**

### **8.1 SUMMER LEAGUE**

- 8.1.1 Points for matches played in all groups will be the total number of legs won in each individual game.
- 8.1.2 At the end of the Playing Season of each competition a table will be compiled showing the playing record of each Club in each group of the Competition. The playing record of each Club must include any points deduction made by the Committee and in any situation where points per game are calculated the calculation will be made after taking into account the deduction of any such points.
- 8.1.3 The position of each Club in the group so compiled shall be determined in order with the Club being awarded the highest number of points being first and the Club being awarded the second highest number of points being placed second and so on. In the event of two or more clubs being awarded the same number of points the highest placed Club shall be decided as follows:
- Leg difference – The legs scored against by each Club shall be deducted from the legs scored by that Club and the largest positive and smallest negative difference shall be placed the highest.
  - In the event of the leg difference being equal the highest placed Club shall be the Club which has scored the most legs;
  - In the event that two or more Clubs have the same leg difference and have scored the same number of legs then the highest placed Club shall be the Club which has won the most matches.
  - In the event of the two Clubs still being equal the Club which has the better playing record against the other Club in their head to head Competition matches during the Season will be the highest placed Club.
  - If the records of two or more Clubs are still equal and it is necessary for any reason to determine the position of each then the Clubs concerned shall play off a deciding match or matches on a neutral ground or grounds.
- 8.1.4 There is no promotion or relegation during the Summer League.
- 8.1.5 Qualification into the relevant knockout section of the competition shall be determined on a season by season basis.

**8.2 WINTER LEAGUE**

- 8.3 Points for matches played in all divisions will be the total number of legs won in each individual game.
- 8.4 At the end of the Playing Season of each competition a table will be compiled showing the playing record of each Club in each division of the Competition. The playing record of each Club must include any points deduction made by the Committee and in any situation where points per game are calculated the calculation will be made after taking into account the deduction of any such points.
- 8.5 The position of each Club in the table so compiled shall be determined in order with the Club being awarded the highest number of points being first and the Club being awarded the second highest number of points being placed second and so on. In the event of two or more clubs being awarded the same number of points the highest placed Club shall be decided as follows:
- Leg difference – The legs scored against by each Club shall be deducted from the legs scored by that Club and the largest positive and smallest negative difference shall be placed the highest.
  - In the event of the leg difference being equal the highest placed Club shall be the Club which has scored the most legs;
  - In the event that two or more Clubs have the same leg difference and have scored the same number of legs then the highest placed Club shall be the Club which has won the most matches.
  - In the event of the two Clubs still being equal the Club which has the better playing record against the other Club in their head to head Competition matches during the Season will be the highest placed Club.
  - If the records of two or more Clubs are still equal and it is necessary for any reason to determine the position of each then the Clubs concerned shall play off a deciding match or matches on a neutral ground or grounds.
- 8.6 Promotion will be awarded to those teams finishing in the top two positions of the divisions. The teams finishing in the bottom to places will be relegated to the division below.

**9. AWARDS & TROPHIES****9.1 SUMMER LEAGUE**

- 9.1.1 No trophies will be awarded for the divisional Winners or Runners Up in the Sumer League

**9.2 WINTER LEAGUE**

- 9.2.1 The WDDL shall present, where possible, to the Winners and Runners Up of all divisions in the Competition a single award which will remain the property of the winning team. There will be no individual awards given to players.





9.2.2 In addition, a Competition championship trophy will be presented as and when the Committee determine. The winning team shall hold the Trophy until March 31st of the following year when it shall be returned to the WDDL. Any club failing to comply with this rule shall be fined.

9.2.3 The trophies are the property of the WDDL and may never be won outright.

9.2.4 The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the trophies:

"I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, having been declared winners of the \_\_\_\_ Trophy and the same having been delivered to us by the said Competition, do hereby on behalf of the said Club, agree to return the same to the Competition Secretary, on or before 31st March next in good order and condition, in accordance with the Rules of the Competition and if the said Trophy is lost or damaged whilst under our care, we agree to refund to the Competition the amount of its current value or the cost of its thorough repair."

9.2.5 Any Club not returning the Competition trophy by the due date, returning them in poor condition or without being engraved will be fined.

## **10. ALTERATIONS TO RULES**

10.1 Alterations to Rules shall only be made at the AGM of the WDDL.

10.2 Proposals for alterations to Rules, together with the name of their proposers and seconders, shall be received by the WDDL not later than 31st March prior to the date fixed for the AGM of the WDDL in each year or not later than eight weeks before the holding of an extraordinary general meeting called for the purpose of amending the Rules.

## **11. HOSPITALITY CRITERIA**

11.1 It is expected that the home club will provide adequate after match food for both the home and away. This is expected for the Summer and Winter leagues for all competitions.

## **12. LEAGUE TROPHY (WINTER LEAGUE)**

12.1 The competition shall be competed for annually by all teams.

12.2 The entrance fee shall be inclusive with the annual subscription for each team.

12.3 The competition shall be on a single match basis and the draw shall be made by the Committee on pre-determined dates. Matches shall be played at the venue of the team first drawn.

12.4 All matches shall be played on such dates as are determined by the Committee. All matches will start no later than 8:30pm.

12.5 No player shall play for more than one Club in the League Trophy in any one season. A player, however, having played for a club in the League Trophy, may then play for a different club in the other competition(s), provided that in all other respects he is properly registered.



- 12.6 Each player must be a bona fide member of his club and duly registered in accordance with League Rule 5.
- 12.7 Any club playing ineligible players will forfeit the match concerned to their opponents and/or dealt with as the Committee may decide.
- 12.8 The winning team shall hold the Cup until March 31st of the following year when it shall be returned to the WDDL. Any club failing to comply with this rule shall be fined. The conditions of League Rule 9 shall apply to the custody of the Cup.
- 12.9 Except as specifically provided for in these rules, the rules of the WDDL shall apply to this competition, where appropriate.
- 12.10 Players must have played a minimum of 25% of the teams league matches to be eligible for the finals.

### **13. WELFARE CUP (WINTER LEAGUE)**

- 13.1 The competition shall be competed for annually by teams in divisions determined by the committee.
- 13.2 The entrance fee shall be inclusive with the annual subscription for each division determined by the committee.
- 13.3 The competition shall be on a single match basis and the draw shall be made by the Committee on pre-determined dates. Matches shall be played at the venue of the team first drawn.
- 13.4 All matches shall be played on such dates as are determined by the Committee. All matches will start no later than 8:30pm.
- 13.5 No player shall play for more than one Club in the Welfare Cup in any one season. A player, however, having played for a club in the Welfare Cup, may then play for a different club in the other competition(s), provided that in all other respects he is properly registered.
- 13.6 Each player must be a bona fide member of his club and duly registered in accordance with League Rule 5.
- 13.7 Any club playing ineligible players will forfeit the match concerned to their opponents and/or dealt with as the Committee may decide.
- 13.8 The winning team shall hold the Cup until March 31st of the following year when it shall be returned to the WDDL. Any club failing to comply with this rule shall be fined. The conditions of League Rule 9 shall apply to the custody of the Cup.
- 13.9 Except as specifically provided for in these rules, the rules of the WDDL shall apply to this competition, where appropriate.
- 13.10 Players must have played a minimum of 25% of the teams league matches to be eligible for the finals.

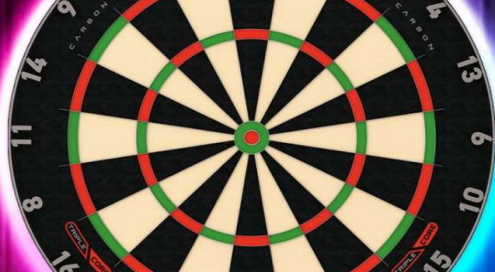


#### **14. RETRIEVER SHIELD (WINTER LEAGUE)**

- 14.1 The competition shall be competed for annually by teams in divisions determined by the committee.
- 14.2 The entrance fee shall be inclusive with the annual subscription for each division determined by the committee.
- 14.3 The competition shall be on a single match basis and the draw shall be made by the Committee on pre-determined dates. Matches shall be played at the venue of the team first drawn.
- 14.4 All matches shall be played on such dates as are determined by the Committee. All matches will start no later than 8:30pm.
- 14.5 No player shall play for more than one Club in the Retriever Shield in any one season. A player, however, having played for a club in the Retriever Shield, may then play for a different club in the other competition(s), provided that in all other respects he is properly registered.
- 14.6 Each player must be a bona fide member of his club and duly registered in accordance with League Rule 5.
- 14.7 Any club playing ineligible players will forfeit the match concerned to their opponents and/or dealt with as the Committee may decide.
- 14.8 The winning team shall hold the Cup until March 31st of the following year when it shall be returned to the WDDL. Any club failing to comply with this rule shall be fined. The conditions of League Rule 9 shall apply to the custody of the Cup.
- 14.9 Except as specifically provided for in these rules, the rules of the WDDL shall apply to this competition, where appropriate.
- 14.10 Players must have played a minimum of 25% of the teams league matches to be eligible for the finals.

#### **15. DIVISIONAL CUPS & PLATES (WINTER LEAGUE)**

- 15.1 The respective Divisional Cup competition shall be competed for annually by all teams in the respective divisions. The respective Divisional Plate competition shall be competed for annually by those teams eliminated in the opening round of the Division Cup or the respective divisions.
- 15.2 The entrance fee shall be inclusive with the annual subscription for all teams.
- 15.3 The competition shall be on a single match basis and the draw shall be made by the Committee on pre-determined dates. Matches shall be played at the venue of the team first drawn.
- 15.4 All matches shall be played on such dates as are determined by the Committee. All matches will start no later than 8:30pm.
- 15.5 No player shall play for more than one Club in the in either the Cup or Plate competitions in any one season. A player, however, having played for a club in the Cup or Plate competitions, may then play for a different club in the other competition(s), provided that in all other respects he is properly registered.



- 15.6 Each player must be a bona fide member of his club and duly registered in accordance with League Rule 5.
- 15.7 Any club playing ineligible players will forfeit the match concerned to their opponents and/or dealt with as the Committee may decide.
- 15.8 The winning team shall hold the Cup until March 31st of the following year when it shall be returned to the WDDL. Any club failing to comply with this rule shall be fined. The conditions of League Rule 9 shall apply to the custody of the Cup.
- 15.9 Except as specifically provided for in these rules, the rules of the WDDL shall apply to this competition, where appropriate.
- 15.10 Players must have played a minimum of 25% of the teams league matches to be eligible for the finals.

## **16. SINGLES, PAIRS, FOURS & TRIPLE CROWN (WINTER LEAGUE)**

### **16.1 Singles**

16.1.1 The individual clubs are responsible for identifying players from their team to play in the Singles finals. The committee will set the maximum number of players per team to be put forward based on the number of teams in a division. There is a week in the season set aside to allow any kind of in-house competition to identify those players if you wish.

16.1.2 On finals night the format will be as follows:-

- 1<sup>st</sup> Round (up to 32 players) – best of 3 501
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Round (up to 16 players) – best of 3 501
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Round (up to 8 Players) – best of 5 501
- Semi-Final – best of 7 501
- Final – Best of 9 501

16.1.3 A coin toss shall determine who throws first the first leg. The first throw will then alternate for all subsequent legs until the match is concluded.

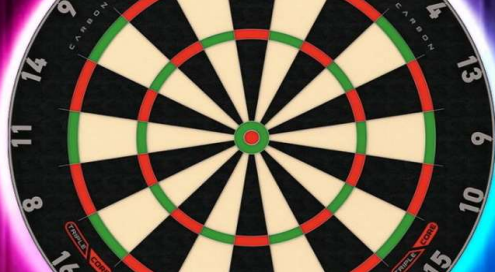
### **16.2 Pairs**

16.2.1 Each team are entitled to enter up to 7 teams into the Pairs qualifiers. The teams will be randomly split between the available venues to produce the 8 teams required for the finals night.

16.2.2 Where teams have more than one team in the league, players cannot be mixed up, i.e. if you play for the 'A' team in the league you cannot play for the 'B' team in the knockout tournaments.

16.2.3 The format for the qualifiers will be as follows, although is dependent on the number of teams per venue:-

- Preliminary Round (If needed) – Best of 3 701



- 1<sup>st</sup> Round (8 teams) – Best of 3 701
- Semi-Final – Best of 5 701
- Final – Best of 7 701

16.2.4 The number of teams qualifying from each venue will be dependent on the number of venues.

16.2.5 The format for the finals will be as follows:-

- 1<sup>st</sup> Round (8 teams) – Best of 3 701
- Semi-Final – Best of 5 701
- Final – Best of 7 701

16.2.6 A coin toss shall determine who throws first the first leg. The first throw will then alternate for all subsequent legs until the match is concluded.

## **17. COURAGE CUP & SHIELD (SUMMER LEAGUE)**

17.1 The format for the Courage Cup & Shield competitions will be decided on a season by season basis.