



DARTS REGULATION AUTHORITY RULE BOOK

THE DARTS REGULATION AUTHORITY

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**All correspondence should be marked for the attention of The
Darts Regulation Authority and directed to the above address.**

**The Darts Regulation Authority is a company limited by
guarantee, registered in England, number 4509423.**

FOREWORD

The Darts Regulation Authority (DRA) is a not-for-profit Company, limited by guarantee. One of its primary roles is to ensure good governance within the sport of darts. The DRA Board comprises five members; Val Pallister, Tim Ollerenshaw, Mike Titmus, Ritchie Gardner and Nigel Mawer. They do not sit on the Board as a representative of any other body within darts. They are independent individuals who provide a cross-section of views and experience from different backgrounds.

The aim of the DRA remains to seek recognition as the regulatory authority for Darts worldwide with responsibility for providing and administering rules and regulations that will improve the image and profile of Darts within the Professional and Amateur ranks. The DRA Rule book is the cornerstone of this and sets the standards of behaviour for players in DRA sanctioned events.

This 2015 review of the DRA Rule Book brings the Code of Conduct and Playing Rules up to date and reflects changes in the sport since their first publication in 2002. This edition supersedes any previous version. The Code and Rules contained herein are those which are now in force for all DRA sanctioned events.

The DRA will continue to assess and review the Code and Rules and will produce amendments and updates to the Rule Book when appropriate. The DRA website (www.thedra.co.uk) contains the current DRA Official Rule Book and will be used to publish any information relating to subsequent amendments.

Nigel Mawer
Chair of the Darts Regulation Authority

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1 JURISDICTION

- 1.1** The Rules have been drawn up in accordance with Regulation 13 of the Articles of Association of the DRA (a copy of which is reprinted at Appendix 2 to these rules) and shall apply to all members of the DRA and to all Players and other parties agreeing to abide by them (such as non PDPA members, Players' Managers and Agents).

2 DEFINITIONS

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

"Agent" means any person, acting in any way and at any time in the capacity of agent, representative or adviser to a Player, either directly or indirectly, in any aspect of the negotiation, arrangement or execution of any kind of commercial arrangement including any sponsorship arrangement and is licenced by the DRA to carry out that activity;

"Anti-Doping policy"

the rules of the DRA are the UK Anti-Doping rules;

"Appeals Committee"

The Chairman of the Appeals Committee shall be appointed by the DRA Board and will be responsible for the provision of Appeal Board Members as and when required and to deal with all aspects of any appeals;

"Bet"

a wager or other form of financial speculation;

"Bye"

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

"Connected"

An individual is connected to a player if he or she is either a family member, an Agent, a manager, another player managed by the same manager as the player, a business partner or an associate of the player;

"DRA"

the Darts Regulation Authority, c/o Moore Tibbits Solicitors 34 High Street, Warwick, Warwickshire, CV34 4BE a Company Limited by Guarantee, number 4509423;

"DRA Board"

the Board of the DRA as instructed and defined in the Articles of Association of the DRA;

"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 DRA rules;

"Disciplinary Committee"

Appointed by the DRA Board to deal with all misconduct issues;

"Double"

a double-score section of the board including the centre Bull;

“For reward”

a person acts “for reward” if he arranges or agrees that he or someone else will receive any direct or indirect financial or other benefit for that act (other than official prize money and/or contracted performance-related payments under endorsement or sponsorship contracts), and “reward” shall be construed accordingly;

“Game Shot”

a throw, which must land on a Double, which reduces a Player’s aggregate score for that leg to zero, thus winning the leg;

“Guest”

any person who has been invited to the event by a Player, member or Promoter;

“Manager”

A person who controls the professional and business activities of a Player;

“Marker”

the person appointed by the Promoter to mark scores on official score sheets or an official score board during any Match; also referred to as Scorer;

“Match”

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

“Match Board”

the dart board on which a Match is played;

“Member(s)”

any member or members of the DRA;

“Misconduct” has the meaning set out in Section 7;

“Official(s)”

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

“PDC”

Means the Professional Darts Corporation;

“PDPA”

means 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;

“Player”

also means all competitors in DRA sanctioned events who are not members of the PDPA but have agreed by entering the event to be bound by DRA rules to play in any such events. This will apply from the date of entry to the event to a period of seven days after the event has concluded.

“Players’ Association”

any official association representing the interests of playing members;

“Playing Attire”

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

“Professional”

A person engaged in the sport for reward through prize money or sponsorship rather than as a pastime;

“Promoter”

any organisation or individual promoting or organising, in whole or in part, a Darts Event under DRA Rules;

“Recorder”

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

“Referee”

the Official appointed to take charge of match play 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;

“SDC”

means the Scandinavian Darts Organisation;

“Scorer”

see definition of Marker

“Suspension”/“Suspended” means that the person Suspended shall not be permitted to attend or participate in any way in DRA sanctioned activities or events recognised by the DRA and operated under DRA Rules, including but not limited to by way of playing, officiating, management, organisation, administration or promotion;

“Tournament”

any professional darts tournament sanctioned by the DRA or being conducted under DRA Rules;

“Tournament Director”

the person appointed by the Promoter to oversee the running of a Darts Event;

“Tournament Official”

any or each official appointed by the PDC, SDC or a promoter to officiate at a Tournament;

“Tournament Venue”

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

2.2 Words importing one gender shall be construed as importing any other gender.

2.3 Words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.

3 CODE OF CONDUCT

3.1 No player or other person bound by these rules shall make or cause to be made any statement or commit or cause to be committed any act which in the reasonable view of the DRA is likely to bring into disrepute the sport of Darts.

3.2 No Player or other person bound by these rules 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.

- 3.3** Players shall, at all times (i.e. whether at a Tournament or not), behave in a proper and correct manner consistent with their status as professional sportsmen.
- 3.4** Players shall not do anything which is likely to intimidate, offend, insult, humiliate or discriminate against any other person on the grounds of disability, religion, race, colour or national or ethnic origin, sex or sexual orientation.
- 3.5** Each Player shall participate in all Darts Matches, Tournaments and Tour events in a fair and sporting manner and shall co-operate with the DRA, PDC, SDC, PDPA and any other affiliate organisation to promote and develop the sport of Darts.
- 3.6** Players will comply with and act in accordance with all reasonable instruction of the Tournament Director or any other Tournament Official.
- 3.7** Players must comply with the entry terms and conditions of each Tournament in which they have entered.
- 3.8** Each player shall perform and compete to the best of his ability in each Match and/or Tournament in which he competes and will complete all matches. A player who concedes a match when it can still be won will be in breach of this rule.
- 3.9** No Player, Member or Official will bet or make any form of wager in connection with any Darts Event (see the betting rules at Appendix A).
- 3.10** Players may not, before or during a Darts Event, make an agreement to produce a particular score or situation within a match or to share prize money between those players irrespective of the result.
- 3.11** No Player or Member will abuse, ignore or refuse reasonable requests from a broadcaster, the Promoter or the media at any Darts Event.
- 3.12** All Players, Members and Guests will desist from any behaviour which may reasonably be construed as gamesmanship before, during or after any Match at any Darts Event.
- 3.13** Every invited Guest at a Tournament or Event is the responsibility of the respective Member or Player who may be held accountable for the Guest's behaviour regardless of whether the Member or Player is with the Guest at the time of any inappropriate behaviour by the Guest.
- 3.14** Any Player, Member or Guest who is asked by the Tournament Director or other promoters representative to leave a venue at which a Darts Event is taking place under the DRA Rules, or carry out any other instruction relating to the Darts Event, must do so immediately.
- 3.15** A player shall continue to be bound by and required to comply with the Rules unless and until the player retires/withdraws (as applicable) from participation in Darts and the DRA shall continue to have jurisdiction over him after such retirement/withdrawal to the extent necessary to deal with matters taking place prior to such retirement/withdrawal. *This section does not apply to non PDPA Members who enter a DRA sanctioned event. In such cases they will be bound by the rules from the point of entering the event until a period seven days after the conclusion of the event.*

- 3.16** All Players and Members will steadfastly adhere to the DRA Rules. Any breaches will invite disciplinary action in accordance with the DRA Rules.
- 3.17** The DRA may from time to time supplement, amend or vary these Rules. Such changes shall be deemed to be effective and binding on each player as from the date of publication of the changes.

4 PLAYERS RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1** Players will only use Managers and Agents registered with the DRA.
- 4.2** In the event that a Player is approached or solicited in any way (whether directly or indirectly) to influence the outcome or conduct of any Darts match whether or not in return for payment or any other form of remuneration or benefit (an "Approach"), that player (the "Reporting Player") shall report such an Approach to the DRA or the Tournament Director or the PDPA as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event not later than 24 hours after any such Approach being made. Further, the Reporting player shall provide the DRA or the Tournament Director or the PDPA with all information in his knowledge relating to the approach and shall co-operate in any subsequent investigation and/or other action(s) arising out of such a report.
- 4.3** Any Player becoming aware of an Approach (as defined in clause 4.1 above) being made to another individual shall report such Approach to the DRA or the Tournament Director or the PDPA as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event within 24 hours of becoming aware of such Approach.
- 4.4** Any Player who is aware of any other breach of the Rules with the exception of those breaches specifically provided for in clause 4.1 shall notify the DRA or the Tournament Director or the PDPA of such breach or breaches, as soon as reasonably practicable of becoming aware of that breach or breaches.
- 4.5** Each Player shall co-operate with the DRA in any investigation carried out by or on behalf of the DRA under the provisions of these Rules including (but not limited to):
- 4.5.1** providing a written statement setting out in detail all of the facts and circumstances with respect to any alleged breach;
 - 4.5.2** providing the DRA with copies of or access to all records relating to the alleged breach (including telephone records, internet service records, details of betting accounts, social network accounts and other records stored on computer hard drives or otherwise).
- 4.6** Any attempt by a Player or any agreement with any other person to act in breach of any provision contained in these Rules shall be treated for the purposes of these Rules as if a breach of the relevant provisions had been committed by the player himself.

5 GENERAL PLAYING RULES

5.1 Administration

- 5.1.1** Players shall provide their own darts which shall not exceed an overall maximum length of 30.5 cms (12ins) 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 a maximum of three separate pieces (namely any combination of; a flight, a flight securing device and a stem).

- 5.1.2** The Promoter reserves the right to seed Players at any Darts Events in its absolute discretion
 - 5.1.3** 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 Promoter.
 - 5.1.4** All Players and Teams shall play under the supervision and direction of the appointed Promoters in all Darts Events.
 - 5.1.5** Any trophy awarded to a Player by the Promoter shall be retained by the relevant Player, unless it is of a challenge or perpetual type, in which case it shall be returned to the Promoter on request.
 - 5.1.6** Any Player failing to comply with any of these General Playing Rules during or after a Darts Event shall be liable to disqualification from that Event at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
 - 5.1.7** The interpretation of these General Playing Rules in relation to a Darts Event shall be determined by the Promoter whose decision on interpretation shall be final and binding.
 - 5.1.8** Information concerning any interpretation in accordance with Playing Rule 5.7 shall be forwarded to the Board of the DRA for consideration of any amendment of these General Playing Rules.
 - 5.1.9** Any matter not expressly covered by these General Playing Rules shall be determined by the Board of the DRA whose decision regarding determination shall be final and binding.
- 5.2 Throw**
- 5.2.1** 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 (for instance from a wheelchair or similar form of support).
 - 5.2.2** All darts must be deliberately thrown in an over arm fashion, one at a time, by and from the Player's hand.
 - 5.2.3** 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.
 - 5.2.4** If the throwing Player physically touches any dart which is in the dartboard during a Throw, then that Throw shall be deemed to have been completed.
 - 5.2.5** 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.
- 5.3 Starting and Finishing**
- 5.3.1** Any matter not expressly covered by these General Playing Rules shall be determined by the Board of the DRA whose decision regarding determination shall be final and binding.
 - 5.3.2** In every Darts Event, 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.
 - 5.3.3** 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.

- 5.3.4 The "Bust" Rule shall apply, namely 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 had prior to the Opponent's last throw.
- 5.3.5 A Game Shot called by a Referee is valid only if the thrown darts;
 - 5.3.5.1 achieve the required finish **and**
 - 5.3.5.2 remain in the dartboard until retrieved by the Player whose Throw it was at the time of calling the Game Shot. A leg is not completed until all darts are retrieved from the dartboard by the Player who has thrown.
- 5.3.6 If a Game Shot called by a Referee is declared invalid then the throwing Player shall have the right to continue the Throw which is in progress in an attempt to achieve the required finish.
- 5.3.7 If, as a result of any error declared under Clause 5.11.05 the throwing Player has retrieved a dart, or darts, then the Referee shall replace the dart, or darts, in or as near as is practicable to the same position or positions and then invite the throwing Player to complete that Throw.
- 5.3.8 Any dart or 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.
- 5.3.9 No indication of the required double to make the Game Shot shall be given by the Marker or the Referee (namely, for instance, "32 required" is permitted but not "Double 16 required").
- 5.3.10 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.
- 5.3.11 The Referee will have the final say in all matters relating to starting and finishing.

5.4 Scoring

- 5.4.1 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.
- 5.4.2 A scoring dart is counted by reference to the segment into which the point of the dart enters and remains in or touching the face of the dartboard.
- 5.4.3 Darts shall be retrieved from the dartboard by the throwing Player but only **after** the score has been called by the Referee or recorded by the Marker.
- 5.4.4 A protest about the score attained or called, after the retrieval of the darts from the board, may not be upheld.
- 5.4.5 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.
- 5.4.6 All requests by a Player to check his or her own score recorded, or subtraction made, must be made before that Player's next Throw, and in any event such requests can only relate to that Player's last completed Throw.
- 5.4.7 All requests by an Opponent to check the score recorded, or subtraction made, of another Player must be made before the Opponent's second Throw following the Throw in relation to which the alleged error occurred.
- 5.4.8 Errors in arithmetic shall stand as displayed on the scoreboard unless corrected prior to the next Throw of the Player whose score is in error, or prior to the second Throw of the Opponent following the Throw in relation to which the alleged error occurred.
- 5.4.9 The actual score required by a Player must be shown on the score board, clearly visible at eye level in front of the Players and the Referee.

- 5.4.10** The Referee shall act as an umpire in all matters pertaining to these General Playing Rules when conducting a Darts Event and shall, if it is necessary, consult with scorers and other officials before announcing any decisions during the course of match play.

5.5 . Dartboards

- 5.5.1** The actual score required by a Player must be shown on the score board, clearly visible at eye level in front of the Players and the Referee.
- 5.5.2** All dartboards shall be of the "Bristle" type.
- 5.5.3** All dartboards shall be of the "1 - 20 Clock" pattern.
- 5.5.4** The inner narrow band shall score treble the segment number.
- 5.5.5** The outer narrow band shall score double the segment number.
- 5.5.6** The outer centre ring shall score 25.
- 5.5.7** The inner centre ring shall score 50 and shall be called the "Bull".
- 5.5.8** 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.
- 5.5.9** 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).
- 5.5.10** The dartboard shall be fixed such that the 20 segment is coloured black and is at the top of the dartboard.
- 5.5.11** Subject to these General Playing Rules the Tournament Director, whether requested or not, can decide that a dartboard should be changed at any time. In addition to this a Player or team captain shall have the right to request that a dartboard be changed during the course of a match. Such a request will be considered by the Referee or an Official and, if deemed appropriate, the board changed. Should the opposing Player or team captain object to the board being changed, the decision will be referred to the Tournament Director whose decision will be final and binding. Any change of the dartboard shall only be made before the start of or after the completion of a leg or at the next suitable break in play".
- 5.5.12** The changing of a dartboard shall only be carried out by an Official.
- 5.5.13** Other dartboards may be used only with the prior approval of the DRA.

5.6 Lighting

- 5.6.1** In Tournament play, all floor dartboards shall be adequately lit by a suitably positioned light fitting at each dartboard (namely, 100 watt or equivalent minimum intensity).
- 5.6.2** Dartboards used in Stage Finals shall be adequately lit by suitably positioned light fittings (namely, 2 x 100 watt or equivalent minimum intensity fittings).
- 5.6.3** All light fittings must be fitted with screens to, as far as possible, divert light from the Players' eyes when standing at the Oche.
- 5.6.4** 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 match play.

5.7 Oche and Playing Area

- 5.7.1** 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.

- 5.7.2** 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).
- 5.7.3** 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).
- 5.7.4** During Match play, 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.
- 5.7.5** 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.
- 5.7.6** Any Player in breach of Clause 5.7.4 or 5.7.5 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.
- 5.7.7** Checking the Oche and Playing Area dimensions will be done prior to every stage and televised tournament by or on behalf of the Tournament Director and Players Association representative. No further adjustments will be allowed at any time during the stage or televised tournament. Adjustment to the Oche and playing area dimensions shall only be carried out by an appointed Match Official.
- 5.7.8** In other Darts Events a Player or Team captain shall have the right to request that the Oche and playing area dimensions be checked and adjusted, if necessary, only before the first leg commences. The Official overseeing the relevant Match shall, at his or her discretion, convey the request to the stage manager or floor controller so that a further check and adjustment, if necessary, can be carried out by the Official. Such check and any adjustment shall only be made in the absolute discretion of the Official and before the start of the first leg.
- 5.7.9** 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 30cms on either side of the Oche and at least 90cms behind the Oche.
- 5.7.10** The Player with the Throw, after retrieving his darts, will be obliged to turn to their right and to walk back to the non-playing position without stepping in to the marked exclusion zone.
- 5.7.11** The non-throwing Player must not enter the exclusion zone behind or at the side of the Oche until the throwing Player has completed their Throw.
- 5.7.12** In all televised events, the stage finals will be subject to the scrutiny of a Second Referee. The powers of the Second Referee will be as wide ranging as those of the Referee but will be confined to matters 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 Referee.

5.8 Tournament and Championship Playing Rules

- 5.8.1** Unless stated otherwise Darts Events shall be run on a knockout basis.
- 5.8.2** Special Events or Multiple-Team Play-Offs may involve a Round Robin process (namely, each Player or team plays every other Player or team in that Event).

- 5.8.3** The Promoter reserves the right to cancel or change any date, Tournament Venue and scheduled Darts Event without prior notice.
- 5.8.4** Decisions on all matters pertaining to the General Playing Rules in any Darts Event shall be made by the Promoter whose decision shall be final and binding.
- 5.8.5** All Players shall play within these General Playing Rules and, where necessary, any supplementary Rules laid down in formal written or electronic communications between the Promoter and the Player.
- 5.8.6** 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 or sanction that the DRA may decide to impose.
- 5.8.7** No Player nor any Team that has been knocked out of a Darts Event shall play again in that Darts Event either as a substitute Player or team or in his/their own right, except in those circumstances when a breach of the General Playing Rules has occurred which has materially affected the losing Player or Team, such breach not having been occasioned by the losing Player or Team. The Promoter may, in its own discretion, reinstate the Player or team in the Darts Event 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.
- 5.8.8** If a Player or Team representative is absent without the Promoter's or the Event sponsor's prior permission at any official presentation ceremony to receive trophies, prizes or prize monies, then that Player or team representative may forfeit the right to receive any such trophies, prizes or prize monies that may be due.
- 5.8.9** Any Player or Team not fulfilling the playing commitments of a Darts Event 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 Darts Event.
- 5.8.10** If any additional expenses are incurred due to a default in relation to this Clause 5.8 by a Player or Team then that Player or Team (as the case may be) shall be liable for those additional expenses.

5.9 Entry

- 5.9.1** Admission fees into any Tournament Venue are not refundable.
- 5.9.2** Entry fees into any Darts Event are not refundable except in the absolute discretion of the Promoter.
- 5.9.3** All entries are to be made on official entry forms which must be accurately completed and returned to the Promoter, together with the appropriate entry fees, before or on the specified closing time and date.
- 5.9.4** 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 Promoter in its absolute discretion. A Player whose entry form is inaccurate may be disqualified before, during or after the relevant Darts Event depending upon when the inaccuracy is discovered.
- 5.9.5** 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 or her from the Promoter.
- 5.9.6** Only the Player or Players named on an entry form as the competing individual or Team shall be eligible to play in the relevant Darts Event.

- 5.9.7** No Player or Team shall enter more than once in any respective Darts Event, unless the rules of that Darts Event allow.
- 5.9.8** No Player shall play in more than one Team in any respective Darts Event.
- 5.9.9** All Players participating in a singles or pairs Darts Event must play under his or her own name.
- 5.9.10** The completion of an entry form by a Player or Team for a Darts Event and the acceptance of that entry form by the Promoter shall be deemed as an acceptance by that Player or team of these General Playing Rules in relation to that Darts Event.
- 5.9.11** The Promoter reserves the right to refuse or cancel any entry at any stage prior to, during or after a Darts Event, providing a reason is given in writing to the Player concerned, and its decision shall be final and binding in all matches relating to that Darts Event.
- 5.9.12** Players who wish to withdraw from a Darts Event they have entered must do so in writing to the Promoter prior to the closing date if they wish to apply for a refund of their entry fee, which will only be considered with the support of a doctor's certificate (not self-certified) or in the event of a serious family issue with supporting evidence.
- 5.9.13** Players who enter a Darts Event but decide not to travel, or wish to otherwise withdraw, are required to inform the Promoter.
- 5.9.14** Players who enter and then subsequently withdraw from a PDC ProTour or Premier Event after the cut-off date will receive standardised fines from the DRA which will increase with each further contravention and may result in a suspension.
- 5.9.15** These fines will be as follows:
 - 5.9.15.1** First offence: £250
 - 5.9.15.2** Second offence: £500
 - 5.9.15.3** Third offence: £1000
 - 5.9.15.4** Fourth offence: DRA DC referral

5.10. Registration and Call to Play

- 5.10.1** All Players shall register at each Darts Event at scheduled times which are predetermined by the Promoter.
- 5.10.2** Any Player failing to register by the notified time will, save in exceptional circumstances to be decided by the Tournament Director, be eliminated from that Darts Event, in which instance no entry fee shall be refundable.
- 5.10.3** No Player shall be allowed to register more than once in relation to any respective Event in any one playing season.
- 5.10.4** Any Player or Team that is not in attendance when called upon to play at the nominated time will, save in exceptional circumstances to be decided by the Tournament Director, forfeit that leg, set or match, whichever, at the discretion of the Tournament Director, is applicable. In such instances no Entry Fee shall be refundable.
- 5.10.5** Players should be in attendance at their assigned Match board when their Match is due to be played and when they are due to mark a Match. Failure to do so may render the Player liable to disqualification or disciplinary action at the absolute discretion of the Tournament Director.
- 5.10.6** The Promoter reserves the right to alter scheduled times and the playing format of a Darts Event whenever it is deemed necessary.

5.11 Draw

- 5.11.1** The Promoter shall perform the draws for each event, if appropriate utilising an agreed formula with the relevant Players' Association. Once the draw has been made no changes will be made even if a Bye is created by non-attendance.
- 5.11.2** Draw charts must be displayed, where possible, at the control desk, in the event programme, at the Match board or at a convenient place in the Tournament Venue.
- 5.11.3** The Promoter reserves the right to seed Players or teams in the draw for a Darts Event.
- 5.11.4** No substitutes shall be allowed in a Darts Event run for individual Players.
- 5.11.5** No substitutes shall be allowed after the first round of a Team Darts Event unless the playing rules of the particular event allow for reserve members of a Team to be used, or in extenuating circumstances, allowed in the absolute discretion of the Promoters.

5.12 Order of Play

- 5.12.1** It is recommended that the Order of Play shall be determined by a throw at the Bull in a manner prescribed by or on behalf of the Tournament Director.
- 5.12.2** The winner of the 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.
- 5.12.3** 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.
- 5.12.4** 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.
- 5.12.5** 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. It is at the discretion of the Tournament Director to decide how the original dart is marked. A Promoter can at its own discretion direct that in a particular Darts Event only those darts that hit the bull or 25 will count in deciding the order of play.
- 5.12.6** 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.
- 5.12.7** 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 one dart is nearer the Bull.

5.13 Match Assignment / Result / Record Card

- 5.13.1** An assignment, result or record card may be made out at the control desk detailing the Order of Play and indicating the order of throwing. The Referee shall be responsible for ensuring that the Order of Play and order of throwing is strictly adhered to during that Match.
- 5.13.2** On conclusion of a Match the winning Player shall immediately advise the control desk, with or without a card, of the result.
- 5.13.3** 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 position during the Darts Event.

5.14 Practice

- 5.14.1** Each Player is entitled to a 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 Referee or appropriate Official. If no number is specified, this shall be deemed to be nine.

- 5.14.2** 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.
- 5.14.3** No practice, other than that allowed under 5.14.1 and 5.14.2, shall be allowed on Match boards after the Darts Event has officially started.
- 5.14.4** Practice Boards may be provided in or adjacent to the Tournament Room for the exclusive use of Players in that Darts Event only.

5.15 Tournament Play at a Darts Event

- 5.15.1** In Tournament play all Players shall play under the supervision and direction of the appointed Promoters and Officials.
- 5.15.2** No person shall be allowed within the playing area other than a Referee, Marker, Scorer, Recorder or Player. The playing area will be defined by the Tournament Director in each event.
- 5.15.3** Only a Referee, Marker and any dart board indicator operator shall be allowed to be situated in front of a Player actually at the Oche throwing darts.
- 5.15.4** 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.
- 5.15.5** In "Stage Finals" the Players shall engage in Match play 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 all Players, Officials, and spectators and, in some Darts Events, for television/video cameras or other means of visual recording.
- 5.15.6** During Match play all Players shall remain silent and only the Player at the Oche shall direct enquiries to the Referee. No prompting shall be allowed by any other Player, any spectator or any Official.
- 5.15.7** Any Player in breach of Clause 5.23.06 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
- 5.15.8** 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.
- 5.15.9** In Team events where 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.
- 5.15.10** 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.
- 5.15.11** If a Player's playing equipment becomes damaged or is lost during the course of a Throw then the Player shall be allowed an appropriate amount of time at the discretion of the Referee in which to repair or replace the playing equipment.
- 5.15.12** 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 Match play. The Referee has total discretion on what constitutes "exceptional circumstances" in this regard.

5.15.13 During Match play, 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.

5.16 Tie-Break

- 5.16.1** In some Darts Events the “tie-break” principle as set out in this rule 5.16 is brought into operation when the Match result has reached equality in sets for each Player or Team with the final set remaining to be played. The terms of the “tie-break” shall then apply to the last leg of the final set of that match.
- 5.16.2** Each Player shall throw for the Bull to determine which Player shall throw first in the last leg of the final set. The Player who threw second in any initial determination shall throw first for the Bull.
- 5.16.3** The outcome 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.
- 5.16.4** 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. It is at the discretion of the Tournament Director to decide how the original dart is marked. A Promoter can at its own discretion direct that in a particular tournament only those darts that hit the bull or 25 will count in deciding the order of play.
- 5.16.5** 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.
- 5.16.6** 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.
- 5.16.7** The Player who wins the last leg of the final set of a Match is the winner of that Match.

5.17 Playing Attire

- 5.17.1** 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 unless the Player provides written medical reasons from a qualified practitioner. This restriction shall also apply to any form of “track suit” attire. The final decision on attire will rest with the Tournament Director.
- 5.17.2** No headgear, other than on religious grounds, or medical grounds with written medical reasons from a qualified practitioner, shall be worn without the prior permission of the Promoter following a written application from the Player.
- 5.17.3** Players are not permitted to wear anything over their approved Playing Attire in any introductions, match play on stage, interviews and presentations, other than at the discretion of the Promoters.
- 5.17.4** In all Darts Events the Playing Attire of any participating Player shall be subject to the Promoter’s approval. Any unacceptable Playing Attire must be changed before that Player can participate in any introductions, Match play on stage, interviews and presentations.
- 5.17.5** Any Player refusing to meet with a Promoter’s requirements in respect of that Player’s Playing Attire shall be liable to forfeit that respective match and shall be reported to the Board of the DRA for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.

5.18 Smoking

- 5.18.1** No smoking shall be allowed by any Player or Official whilst engaged in a match played on stage which is being covered by television.
- 5.18.2** No smoking shall be allowed by any Player or Official whilst engaged in the televised introductions to match play, during any televised interviews either on or off the stage and during presentation ceremonies made on the stage.
- 5.18.3** Any Player found to be in breach of Clause 5.26.01 or 5.26.02 shall be liable to forfeit that respective match and shall be reported to the DRA for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.
- 5.18.4** Any Official found to be in breach of Clause 5.26.01 or 5.26.02 shall be reported to the DRA for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.
- 5.18.5** The Board of the DRA, or a Promoter, reserves the right to prohibit smoking in any other match under its jurisdiction if it is considered to be in the best interests of the promotion of the sport of Darts to do so.

5.19 Alcohol

- 5.19.1** No alcoholic drinks shall be consumed or introduced into public areas by any Player or Official whilst engaged in a Match which is being broadcast for viewing.
- 5.19.2** No alcoholic drinks shall be consumed or introduced into public areas by any Player or Official during broadcast introductions to Match play, during any interviews that may be broadcasted, either on or off the stage, and during presentation ceremonies made on the stage.
- 5.19.3** Any Player found to be in breach of Clause 5.19.1 or 5.19.2 may be liable to forfeit that respective Match and shall be reported to the DRA for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.
- 5.19.4** Any Official found to be in breach of Clause 5.19.1 or 5.19.2 may be reported to the DRA for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.
- 5.19.5** The DRA, or a Promoter, shall reserve the right to prohibit the consumption of alcoholic drinks in any Match or at any event under its jurisdiction if it is considered to be in the best interests of the promotion of the sport of Darts to do so.

5.20 Anti-Doping

- 5.20.1** The DRA adopts a full anti-doping regime with regard to the Sport of Darts. The anti-doping rules of the DRA are the UK Anti-Doping Rules published by the Drug-Free Sport Directorate of UK Sport (or its successor), as amended from time to time (see <http://www.ukad.org.uk/>). Such rules shall take effect and be construed as rules of the DRA
- 5.20.2** While it is an individual player's responsibility to ensure that he or she is able to compete within the framework of the rules and regulations relating to anti-doping, the DRA does adopt a supportive role in relation to assisting players to be able to compete fairly. The DRA has a designated person within its organisation who will be able to assist in relation to the impact of the Regulatory framework.

5.21 Amendments and Additions

- 5.21.1** The DRA reserves the right to add to or amend any or all of these General Playing Rules to meet any purpose deemed to be necessary at any time by the DRA or its Board.

5.22 General Playing Rules Copyright

5.22.1 The entire contents of these General 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.

5.22.2 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 “the DRA General 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 DRA Board, Moore Tibbits Solicitors 34 High Street, Warwick, Warwickshire, CV34 4BE, United Kingdom.

6 DISCIPLINARY POWERS OF THE DRA

6.11 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 Board of the DRA has the following powers to discipline Members or Players for any breach of the DRA Rules:

6.11.1 to charge a Member or a Player with a breach of the DRA Rules;

6.11.2 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;

6.11.3 to hear the charges or complaints and to determine whether a Member or a Player has breached the DRA Rules;

6.11.4 to immediately suspend a Player from DRA sanctioned events as in section 8 of these Rules prior to charge or a hearing.

6.11.5 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 DRA Board may think fit including without limitation the power to suspend the operation of any disciplinary measure;

6.11.6 to hear appeals from any decision on a charge or complaint or disciplinary action;

6.11.7 to refer charges, complaints or appeals for resolution by any means of alternative dispute resolution which complies with the rules of natural justice; and

6.11.8 to make regulations with respect to the procedures for exercising any of the powers of the DRA Board 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.

7 MISCONDUCT

7.1 The sanctions set out in Section 15, below, may be imposed on any Player or any person who was at the time of the relevant incident subject to or bound by these Rules who is found to have committed an act or acts of Misconduct as non-exclusively defined in 7.2 below.

- 7.2** For the purpose of these Disciplinary Rules the following shall amount to “Misconduct”:
- 7.1.1** a breach of the DRA’s Articles of Association;
 - 7.1.2** a breach of the DRA’s Rules and Regulations, including and in addition (without limitation):
 - 7.1.2.1** the Anti-Doping Policy.
 - 7.1.2.2** breach by a Player of obligation in respect of a contract arising from the Player's status as a professional sportsman.
 - 7.1.2.3** other act or default of a Player that in the reasonable opinion of the Disciplinary Committee or its Chairman is capable of bringing the Player and/or the game of Darts into disrepute.
 - 7.1.3** a failure:
 - 7.1.3.1** to provide full or true information or evidence to the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee, the Disciplinary Committee or Appeals Committee pursuant to these Rules; or
 - 7.1.3.2** to respect, recognise, abide by and/or comply with any decision made hereunder.
- 7.2** an act or omission on the part of an individual who later becomes a Player and such act or omission would have amounted to Misconduct if the individual had been a Player at the time.

8 SUSPENSION PRIOR TO AN INVESTIGATION OR HEARING

- 8.1** The Disciplinary Committee will normally consider a complaint made against a Player before it exercises the right to impose a suspension on the Player concerned, but where a complaint is deemed to be of a serious or potentially serious nature, the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee or in his absence the alternate Disciplinary Committee Chairperson, may immediately suspend a Player from DRA sanctioned events if he considers the alleged complaint to be so serious that immediate suspension is necessary prior to any Hearing date.
- 8.1** In such circumstances the Player will be informed in writing by the person making the decision to suspend the Player, of the determination and the reasons for it.
- 8.2** Any Player upon whom Suspension has been imposed in this manner may appeal by notice in writing to the DRA within 14 days of being informed of his Suspension, setting out the grounds of the appeal. The appeal will be considered on paper by the Chairman of the Appeals Committee. His decision shall be final and binding. The Chairman of the Appeals Committee may order the Player to pay an administrative fee in the event of an unsuccessful appeal.

9 THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- 9.1** A Disciplinary Committee shall be appointed by the DRA Board. It shall consist of a Chairman who may or may not be a member of the DRA Board and at least two other individuals who may or may not be members of the DRA Board.
- 9.2** The DRA Board shall also appoint an alternate Disciplinary Committee Chairperson to act when the Disciplinary Committee Chairperson is unable to act.
- 9.3** Where the Disciplinary Committee sits to hear a matter, the quorum shall be two.
- 9.4** In minor cases of misconduct or where the player fully admits the misconduct, the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee, or in his absence his nominee, who shall be a member of the DRA Board, shall consider the matter and shall exercise all the powers of the Disciplinary Committee save that he may not suspend a player from playing in a Tournament, nor impose a fine exceeding £500 plus costs.
- 9.5** There shall be an Appeals Committee to deal with appeals under sections 12 and 14 of these Rules. The Chairman of the Appeals Committee shall be appointed by the DRA Board and will be responsible for the provision of Appeal Committee Members as and when required and to deal with all aspects of any appeals against findings by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee or the Disciplinary Committee.

10 INITIAL PROCEDURE

- 10.1** Where the DRA receive a complaint in writing or is of the opinion that a Member or a Player or other person bound by the DRA Rules may have breached the DRA Rules, the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee shall consider the matter and may:
- 10.1.1** determine not to proceed with the matter;
 - 10.1.2** write to the person or persons concerned, seeking his views on the substance of the complaint or matter that has arisen;
 - 10.1.3** charge the Member or a Player with the breach and refer the matter for hearing by the Disciplinary Committee;
 - 10.1.4** deal with the complaint under the section 11.1
 - 10.1.5** refer the matter for hearing by the Disciplinary Committee; or
 - 10.1.6** refer the matter for alternative dispute resolution (see Rule 20 below).
- 10.2** Where a player or member is charged with an offence the notification will be considered served where an e-mail is sent to his or her registered e-mail address or where the player does not have access to e-mail by a letter to their registered address. The registered address is that registered by the Player or other person bound by the DRA Rules with the PDC, DRA, PDPA or appropriate affiliate organisation, or in the case of the Scandinavian Tour the SDC. It is the responsibility of the Player or other person bound by the DRA Rules to ensure that their contact details are up to date and accurately recorded with the DRA, PDC, PDPA, SDC or appropriate affiliate organisation.

- 10.3** The Player or other person will be notified of the complaint in writing and given 14 days in which to respond to it prior to any hearing or other resolution.
- 10.4** Every Player or other person to whom such enquiries are made is under a duty to give a full and truthful response within 14 days unless exceptional circumstances can be evidenced that prevent this. Failure to provide a full and truthful response may amount to Misconduct.
- 10.5** Before reaching a conclusion on how to proceed with the complaint, the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee shall be entitled to make all appropriate enquiries, and to seek such advice as he deems appropriate, and if he thinks fit, to seek external expert advice, including legal advice.
- 10.6** If the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee shall be of the opinion that no further action should be taken in relation to the matter. The player will be notified accordingly.

11 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

- 11.1** Where the Misconduct is of a minor nature or the Player or other person concerned fully admits the Misconduct in his response, the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee at his discretion may consider the matter on paper. He shall exercise all the powers of the Disciplinary Committee save that he may not suspend a player from playing in a tournament, nor impose a fine exceeding £500 plus costs.
- 11.2** Where the Misconduct has a standardised fine it will be levied immediately.
- 11.3** If the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee decides that there should be a disciplinary hearing he shall write to the Player or other person concerned notifying him that there will be a disciplinary hearing and specifying the charge(s).
- 11.4** At least 14 days prior to the hearing, the player will be notified in writing of:
- 11.4.1** The time, date and venue of the hearing; and
 - 11.4.2** the particulars of all charges and complaints to be heard and the grounds upon which they are based; and
 - 11.4.3** that the Member or Player may do one or more of the following:
 - 11.4.3.1** attend and speak at the hearing;
 - 11.4.3.2** submit to the Disciplinary Committee at or prior to the hearing written representations relating to the matter;
 - 11.4.3.3** procure representation at the hearing by any person.
- 11.5** In the event that a Player or other person concerned does not wish to attend or to have anyone attend on his behalf the Disciplinary Committee may hold the hearing by audio or video conference call.
- 11.6** In exercising its functions under these Disciplinary Rules, the Disciplinary Committee shall have broad discretion to regulate its own procedure. Without prejudice to the generality of this power, the Disciplinary Committee may do any of the following;

- 11.6.1** order the parties to attend a case management hearing in advance of the substantive hearing where matters of evidence and procedure may be decided;
- 11.6.2** extend or vary any time limit set out in these Disciplinary Rules;
- 11.6.3** adjourn the proceedings, whether prior to a scheduled hearing date or during the hearing, to allow time for the submission of further evidence or for any other reason
- 11.6.4** order a party to pay the costs of any case management or other interim or adjourned hearing;
- 11.6.5** ask questions directly of any party or witness
- 11.6.6** exclude evidence on grounds of inadmissibility, lack of relevance or failure to comply with directions;
- 11.6.7** make appropriate directions (whether in advance of the hearing or at the start or during the hearing) with respect to the conduct of proceedings;
- 11.6.8** require that any party or other person subject to the disciplinary jurisdiction of the DRA disclose documents or other material relevant to the case to another party or to the Disciplinary Committee.

12 DISCIPLINARY HEARING

- 12.1** The burden of proof in respect of any allegation shall be on the DRA and the standard of proof shall be on the balance of probabilities (that is, whether it is more likely than not that the Misconduct occurred).
- 12.2** Every person giving evidence before the Disciplinary Committee is under a duty to give full and truthful evidence.
- 12.3** The Disciplinary Committee shall not be obliged to follow the strict rules of evidence. It may admit such evidence as it thinks fit and accord such evidence such weight as it thinks appropriate in all the circumstances.
- 12.4** At any Disciplinary Hearing to deal with a charge or complaint, the Committee must:
 - 12.4.1** give the Member or Player or other person concerned their permitted representatives an opportunity to make oral representations;
 - 12.4.2** consider any written representations submitted to the Committee by the Member or the Player or other person concerned or on their behalf;
 - 12.4.3** make a determination whether the DRA Rules have been breached by the Member or the Player or other person concerned; and
 - 12.4.4** make a determination of the sanction or sanctions to be imposed on the Member or the Player or other person concerned.

- 12.5** Having reached its final decision, the Disciplinary Committee shall communicate that decision either at the time of the hearing or as soon as possible thereafter in writing to the person affected.
- 12.6** A decision of the Disciplinary Committee, subject to the right of appeal set out in section 14, shall be deemed to be a decision of the DRA and shall be final and binding on all and, without prejudice to any other provision of the Rules, any financial penalty or order as to costs shall be enforceable as a debt.

13 APPEALS IN CASES OF MINOR MISCONDUCT

- 13.1** Where a Misconduct issue has been dealt with by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee (under section 9.4), the person concerned may appeal in writing to the DRA within 14 days of being informed of the outcome of the case.
- 13.2** The appeal shall be considered by the Chairman of the Appeals Committee. The appeal will be conducted by way of review, taking account also of the players representations made for the purpose of the appeal in writing. Other than where the Chairman of the Appeals Committee deems that there are exceptional circumstances, the appeal will be conducted based on paper without a hearing. The decision of the Chairman of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding.
- 13.3** Pursuant to this Section, on an appeal, the Chairman of the Appeals Committee can impose a greater sanction than that originally imposed by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee.
- 13.4** The Appeals Committee may order the unsuccessful Party to pay costs.

14 APPEALS AGAINST FINDINGS FROM THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- 14.1** Any player found by the Disciplinary Committee to be guilty of Misconduct or to have committed a breach of these Rules shall have the right to appeal in accordance with this Section.
- 14.2** An appeal further to Section 14.1 shall be referred to the Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee for each individual case shall consist of the Chairman of the Appeals Committee alone or of one or two others co-opted to sit as members of the Appeals Committee.
- 14.3** A Player or other person concerned shall have 14 days to submit a Notice of Appeal from the date the relevant written decision is sent to the person affected. The written Notice of Appeal shall be sent, along with copies of all relevant documents, to the DRA so as to be received by it within the 14 days deadline. The Notice of Appeal shall set out the specific aspect(s) of the decision being challenged on appeal, clearly stating whether the appeal is against the finding of guilt or the sanctions imposed (or both) and the grounds upon which the appeal is made. The Notice of Appeal must be accompanied by a deposit in the amount of £800 (subject to review by the DRA from time to time), as an initial security for the costs of the appeal.
- 14.4** The DRA reserve the right to seek a further security for the costs of the appeal to be lodged in cases where the costs are expected to exceed £800.

- 14.5** Notice of Appeal submitted late or which otherwise fails to comply with 14.3 shall, in the absence of good cause shown, be rejected without the need for further consideration. In the event that a Party shall fail to comply with directions given by the Appeals Committee in the course of an appeal, the Appeals Committee may on the application of either party or of its own motion (with or without a hearing) order that the party in default take no further part in the proceedings or that the appeal be dismissed on such terms as to costs as may be reasonable.
- 14.6** As soon as possible following receipt of the Notice of Appeal, the Chairman of the Appeals Committee shall convene an Appeals Committee and shall advise the parties of its composition and in the case of a hearing, of the date, time and venue of it.
- 14.7** The Appeals Committee shall have broad discretion to regulate its own procedure.
- 14.8** The Appeals Committee will consider and review all of the documents and evidence submitted to the Disciplinary Committee in the proceedings and will consider the appeal on paper. The Appeals Committee shall have absolute discretion to admit or refuse any new evidence tendered by any party and also to adjourn the proceedings for the purpose of taking any new evidence if it comes to light.
- 14.9** If the Chairman of the Appeals Committee deems that there are exceptional circumstances he may convene a hearing. In the case of such a hearing the Appeals Committee may require the attendance of any witnesses heard by the Disciplinary Committee.
- 14.10** In a case where the appeal is solely against the sanction imposed, it will be considered by the Appeals Committee by way of review, taking account the representations of the person concerned in writing. Other than where the Appeals Committee deems that there are exceptional circumstances the appeal will be conducted on paper without a hearing.
- 14.11** Having considered all of the evidence tendered to it, and having allowed the parties to the appeal sufficient opportunity to make submissions on paper or in person at a hearing, the Appeals Committee will consider its decision.
- 14.12** A decision of the Appeals Committee is final.
- 14.13** The Appeals Committee may:
- 14.13.1** affirm the decision appealed against;
 - 14.13.2** set aside the decision appealed against and quash any finding made or sanction imposed;
 - 14.13.3** set aside only part of the decision appealed against;
 - 14.13.4** substitute for the findings of the Disciplinary Committee (as the case may be) its own decision on 'liability' (e.g., finding a player culpable of a lesser or greater offence) and/or substitute for the sanction imposed below its own sanction; and/or
 - 14.13.5** take any other step that it considers necessary to deal justly with the appeal.

- 14.14** Pursuant to this Section, following an appeal, the Appeals Committee can impose a greater sanction than that which was imposed by the Disciplinary Committee.
- 14.15** The Appeals Committee may order the affected party to pay all or part of the costs of the hearing.
- 14.16** In its decision, the Appeals Committee shall include a direction as to the treatment of the deposit made further to Section 14.3, above.

15 SANCTIONS

- 15.1** Where a Player or other person concerned is found guilty of Misconduct or otherwise in breach of the Rules, the Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Committee (as the case may be) may impose upon the that person one or more of the following sanctions:
- 15.1.1** temporary Suspension for a period fixed in time or by reference to particular events;
 - 15.1.2** permanent Suspension (with or without the possibility of reinstatement, which may be conditional);
 - 15.1.3** a fine;
 - 15.1.4** the withholding of all or a proportion or any prize money earned from a Darts Event;
 - 15.1.5** a reprimand or censure in respect of conduct;
 - 15.1.6** a suspended sanction (being a sanction which is only invoked in the event that the person concerned is found to have committed another act of Misconduct or breach of the Rules within a stated time of the date of the decision, whether or not the further offence took place before the decision);
 - 15.1.7** such other sanction(s) as the Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Committee (as the case may be) shall see fit in all of the circumstances of the case.
 - 15.1.8** In the case of Players who enter and then subsequently withdraw from a PDC ProTour or Premier Event after the cut-off date they shall receive standardised fines from the DRA which will increase with each offence and may result in a suspension on a fourth offence in a one year period:
 - i.** First offence: £250
 - ii.** Second offence: £500
 - iii.** Third offence: £1000
 - iv.** Fourth offence: DRA referral
- 15.2** In the absence of other agreement, a fine and any costs contribution imposed on a player or other person concerned pursuant to these Rules must be paid within 14 days of notification. If a Player fails to comply with the provisions of this Section the fine will be increased by 50% and the Player concerned will automatically be suspended.
- 15.3** Any financial penalty or order for costs may be enforced by the DRA against the relevant person as a debt.

- 15.4** Where the Disciplinary Committee imposes any period of suspension, that period shall run from the date of the written decision, even if a Notice of Appeal is submitted.
- 15.5** Where a Player is already subject to a Suspension imposed under section 8, the period shall run from the date of the Players' original suspension.
- 15.6** In appropriate cases, the Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Committee may recommend that a complete dossier of the evidence submitted in the course of the proceedings be prepared and sent to the relevant public authorities, with a view to an investigation being undertaken by such authorities to establish whether a criminal offence has been committed. ***In such an event, the Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Committee (as the case may be) may at its sole discretion determine that the disciplinary proceedings against the person concerned be stayed pending the outcome of criminal proceedings and/or the results of any investigation undertaken by such authorities.***

16 WAIVER OF MINOR PROCEDURAL IRREGULARITIES

- 16.1** Without prejudice to the right of the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeals Committee to regulate their own procedures, where at any time in the course of any disciplinary proceedings carried out under these Rules there has been a breach of procedure or failure to follow any direction given, this shall not invalidate the proceedings unless such breaches have been such as to seriously and irremediably prejudice the position of the person concerned.

17 COSTS

- 17.1** The Disciplinary Committee, and/or the Appeals Committee may order one or other party to bear all or some of the costs of the proceedings held before them, including the costs of convening and holding the proceedings and any other party's costs.
- 17.2** In the case of an appeal against a finding for a case dealt with under 11.1 where the misconduct is of a minor nature or where the Player or other person concerned fully admits the Misconduct in his response offence, the Appeals Committee may cause an administrative fee (being an assessment of the costs reasonably incurred or expended by the DRA in the administration of this process) to be paid by the person concerned in the event of an unsuccessful appeal.
- 17.3** No person who has a penalty of any kind imposed upon him by a determination of any DRA Committee shall have any claim against the DRA, any Committee, Members or any officer, employee, contractor or agent of the DRA even if the determination is subsequently found to be invalid or is overturned on appeal.

18 CONFIDENTIALITY

- 18.1** Save where the Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Committee (as applicable) orders otherwise, all disciplinary proceeding in accordance with these Rules shall take place in private and the public and the press shall have no right of access to the room where the hearing is taking place.
- 18.2** The Disciplinary Committee and the Appeals Committee shall not issue any press statement or conduct any press conferences. All media announcements in relation to any decision of the or the Appeals Committee shall be made or approved by the Chairman of

the Disciplinary Committee. There shall be no obligation on the DRA to make public the sanctions imposed or findings made in the course of any hearing.

19 GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION

- 19.1** These Rules and any dispute arising out of or in connection with them (including any dispute or claim relating to non-contractual obligations) shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law, without regard to its conflict of law rules.
- 19.2** Subject strictly to the internal dispute resolution mechanisms provided for in these Rules, the courts of England and Wales shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any matter arising in relation to these Rules (including any non-contractual disputes or claims).

20 ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 20.1** The Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee or Chairman of the Appeals 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.
- 20.2** An assessment of the costs of such referral will be made and the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee may direct that an amount equal to the assessment of the costs of the hearing or any part thereof is deposited with the DRA prior to the commencement of any such alternative dispute resolution.
- 20.3** The procedural and other rules applying in the forum to which the matter is referred will apply to the resolution of the matter.
- 20.4** 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 or other person concerned after a reasonable attempt has been made to resolve the matter, action may be continued against the person under the DRA Rules.
- 20.5** 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.

APPENDIX 1

DRA BETTING RULES

1. Introduction

- 1.1** These Rules shall not have retrospective effect.
- 1.2** Any proven breach by a Player of the provisions of below will result in a lengthy ban from involvement in the game Darts for that Player, save in circumstances where the relevant Player can show clear and exceptional mitigation.

2. Betting misconduct

- 2.1** It shall be a breach of these Rules for a Player to do any of the following:
- 2.1.1** Betting:

- 2.1.1.1 to place, accept, lay or otherwise make a Bet with any other person in relation to the result, score, progress, conduct or any other aspect of the Tour and/or any Tournament or Match in events sanctioned by the DRA;
- 2.1.1.2 to solicit, induce, entice, instruct, persuade, encourage, facilitate, authorise or permit any other person to enter into a Bet for the Players direct or indirect benefit in relation to the result, score, progress, conduct or any other aspect of the Tour and/or any Tournament or Match in events sanctioned by the DRA;
- 2.1.1.3 to ensure the occurrence of a particular incident in the Tour and/or any Tournament or Match, which occurrence is (to the Players knowledge) the subject of a Bet and for which he or any person Connected to them expects to receive or has received any reward;
- 2.1.1.4 to have the power, actual or apparent, to influence the running of any company or other undertaking that promotes, brokers, arranges or conducts any form of Betting activity in relation to the Tour and/or any Tournament or Match (a "Betting Organisation") and/or to be involved in any capacity (including as a director or shadow director) in the running of any Betting Organisation and/or to hold, deal in, or control any voting rights associated with the securities or shares of any Betting Organisation, save that a holding of less than 5% of the issued share capital of a Betting Organisation, for investment purposes only, shall be disregarded;

2.1.2 Corruption:

- 2.1.2.1 to fix or contrive, or to be a party to any effort to fix or contrive, the result, score, progress, conduct or any other aspect of the Tour and/or any Tournament or Match;
- 2.1.2.2 to seek or accept or offer or agree to accept any bribe or other reward to fix or to contrive in any way or otherwise to influence improperly the result, score, progress, conduct or any other aspect of the Tour and/or any Tournament or Match;
- 2.1.2.3 to fail, for reward, to perform to the best of his ability and in a fair and sporting manner in the Tour and/or any Tournament or Match in which he competes;
- 2.1.2.4 to solicit, induce, entice, persuade, encourage or facilitate any Player to breach any of the foregoing provisions of this paragraph 0.

2.1.3 Misuse of inside information:

- 2.1.3.1 to use for betting purposes, or to provide to any other person for such purposes, any information relating to the Tour and/or any Tournament or Match that the Player possesses by virtue of his

- position within the sport and that is not in the public domain or readily accessible by the public;
- 2.1.3.2 to provide information to any person for reward, before or during the Tour and/or any Tournament, regarding the competitors in a Tournament or Match, the conditions, tactical considerations or any other aspect of the Tournament or Match, unless such information is already in or will come into the public domain without delay or is readily accessible by the public;
- 2.1.3.3 to solicit, induce, entice, persuade, encourage or facilitate any Player to breach any of the foregoing provisions of this paragraph 0.
- 2.1.4 General:
 - 2.1.4.1 to engage in any other conduct (ie beyond that specified in paragraph 0 to 0) that is corrupt or fraudulent, or creates an actual or apparent conflict of interest for the Player, or otherwise risks impairing public confidence in the integrity and/or the honest and orderly conduct of the Tour and/or any Tournament or Match;
 - 2.1.4.2 to provide or receive any reward that could bring the Player or the sport of Darts into disrepute.
- 2.1.5 Attempt or complicity:
 - 2.1.5.1 to attempt to act, or to agree with any other person to act, or to intentionally give the impression to any other person that the Player is attempting or agreeing to act in breach of these Rules;
 - 2.1.5.2 to authorise, cause, assist, encourage, aid, abet, or cover up, or otherwise to be complicit in any acts or omissions of the type described in paragraphs 2.1 to 0, committed by a person connected with the Player;
- 2.2 Any attempt or agreement (or intentional appearance of the same) shall be treated for purposes of these Rules as if a breach of the relevant provision(s) had been committed, whether or not such attempt or agreement (or intentional appearance of the same) in fact resulted in such breach.
- 2.3 The following are not relevant to the determination of any breach under paragraph 2.1 (although they may be relevant to the issue of the sanction to be imposed, in the event that it is determined that a breach has occurred):
 - 2.3.1 the nature or outcome of any Bet in issue;
 - 2.3.2 the outcome of the Tournament and/or Match on which the Bet in issue was made;
 - 2.3.3 whether or not the Players efforts or performance (if any) in any Tournament and/or Match in issue were (or could be expected to have been) affected by the acts or omissions in question;

2.3.4 whether or not any of the results in any Tournament and/or Match in issue were (or could be expected to have been) affected by the act or omissions in question.

3. Provisos

3.1 It shall not be a breach of the provisions of clause 2.1 above for a Player to enter into any sponsorship or endorsement contract with a betting organisation.

3.2 It shall not be a breach of the provisions of clause 2.1.3 to provide information as opinion to a journalist or as a commentator for immediate publication or broadcast in the mainstream media.

APPENDIX 2

6.13 Regulation 13 of the DRA Articles of Association

RULES AS TO DISCIPLINE AND CONDUCT

6.13.1 Notwithstanding the provisions of Regulations 3.10 and 12 of the DRA Articles of Association the DRA Board shall have power by Ordinary Resolution from time to time and at any time:

6.13.1.1 to make and enforce rules and regulations with regard to the conduct of Players and/or Members and/or others bound by the Rules which could injure or discredit the Association or bring the game of Darts into disrepute;

6.13.1.2 to make and enforce rules and regulations regarding the participation of Players and/or Members and/or others bound by the Rules in, and the conduct of Darts Events;

6.13.1.3 to make and enforce Rules of the game of Darts; and

6.13.1.4 to discipline Members and/or Players and/or others bound by the Rules for breaches of any rules and regulations made in accordance with this Regulation 13 and to provide procedures, rules and regulations in relation to them.