



The Swindon and District Dart League

RULES AND REGULATIONS V11

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VERSION HISTORY

Version	Created/Updated by	Reviewed by	Comments
0.1	S Venn		Draft
0.2	S Venn		Final Draft
1.0	S Venn		Final
1.1	S Venn		Amendments
2.0	S Venn	AGM	
3.00	S Venn	AGM	Attendance at Presentation
4.00	S Venn	EGM	Trial amendment to cancellation ruling
5.00	S Venn	AGM	Amendments following AGM
6.00	S Venn	AGM	Amendments following AGM
7.00	S Venn	AGM	Amendments following AGM Mar 2018
8.00	S Venn		Comments following release of V7 – all legs rather than best of 3
V9.0	S Smith	Committee	Updates following AGM held 25 th March 2022 A Div to play 5 legs, change to how draw is made.
V10	S Smith	AGM	Update to wording for draw following AGM 5 th May 2023
V11	S Smith	AGM	Updates regarding registration fees from Winter 2024/25 following AGM 19 th April 2024

Introduction

These Rules and Regulations have been created for all members of 'The Swindon and District Dart League' and a copy of these rules should be available in every playing venue for reference on match nights.

'The Swindon and District Dart League' is an independent, not for profit organisation based in Swindon, Wiltshire.

Details of 'The Swindon and District Dart League' can be found at www.swindonddl.co.uk

The final interpretation of these rules remains the right of the SDDL Management Committee. Rules can only be amended at the AGM, or at an EGM.

Mission

- To promote darts to all within Swindon and District.
- To offer competitive opportunities to all members in darts.
- To ensure a duty of care to all members of the organisation.
- To provide all its services in a way that is fair to everyone.
- To ensure that all present and future members receive fair and equal treatment.
- To ensure that these aims and objectives are adhered to.

Data Management

Information Management

'The Swindon and District Dart League' will hold all personal data on its computer database and in paper format for its records. This information may be accessed, reviewed, and used by 'The Swindon and District Dart League' for administrative purposes.

Data Protection

'The Swindon and District Dart League' recognises that privacy is important and is committed to respecting individuals' privacy online and otherwise. We will apply appropriate protection and management of any personally identifiable information that is shared with us. Any personal information provided to 'The Swindon and District Dart League' will only be used for the purposes for which it has been supplied.

Data Retention

'The Swindon and District Dart League' will keep in secure storage all documentation relating to the member for such a period as is appropriate and no longer than is necessary in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. All data will be securely and safely destroyed once it is no longer required.

Membership

Member Teams are required to submit a registration form listing players prior to the start of each season. Teams may add new players to this list at any time during the season however the league secretary **must** be notified of all new players. Please see separate rule regarding 'Transfers' There shall be no minimum age for a player to register for a Team, but each Member Team is required to use discretion when registering players. Each Member Team will be responsible, should they have registered players under the age of 18, for the due care and attention of the player and for ensuring that the player is allowed to play in all venues within their league. There are no restrictions on super league, county or PDC players.

Member Responsibilities

Captains

All Member Teams are responsible for designating a team captain. Captains may delegate responsibilities to another player when necessary. In general captains shall:

- Be aware of the SDDL rules and any changes to those rules as published.
- Verify all information entered onto the registration sheets and result sheets during match play.
- Agree that the board and conditions of play are satisfactory and according to the rules (**NO protest appertaining to this rule will be entertained after the match has commenced**)
- Ensure all players are familiar with the rules of match play.
- Any League trophies awarded to member teams are deemed to be the **FULL FINANCIAL** responsibility of the Captain – if the Captain changes during the season the responsibility moves to the new Captain.

SDDL Shields/Trophies

Any Swindon & District Dart League shields/ trophies awarded during a season to members of the SDDL League are deemed to be the **FULL FINANCIAL** responsibility of the Player(s) presented with the award until such time as it is returned to and accepted by a member of the SDDL Committee.

Sportsmanship

On match night all Member Teams and Players are representatives of the sport, their team, their venue, and the league. 'The Swindon and District Dart League' will not be held responsible for or tolerate the misuse of the equipment used, player harassment or physical violence.

Personal Conduct

'The Swindon and District Dart League' does not condone inappropriate behaviour and will not tolerate:

- Heckling or antagonism of opposing players.
- Harassment regarding race, gender, or any discriminatory action.
- Cheating

Finance

League Fees

A signing on fee will be levied on all teams participating in 'The Swindon and District Dart League'.

The current fee is **£50 per member team** (increased for Winter 2024/35), which shall be paid prior to the start of the season. Any member team who has not paid in full may be withdrawn from the league.

All pay-outs will be confirmed to member teams as soon as practicable at the beginning of each season but will be based on the number of teams entered and will be on a money in/money out minus reasonable operating expenses. Full financial statements will be available at the AGM.

Penalties

Member teams will be penalised each time their results are not received by the League Secretary within seven days following a match. The penalty imposed will mean that the team responsible for submitting the result shall lose 18 – 0 in the Premier Division and A Division and 14-0 in Divisions B-F.

Venues

The following requirements should be adhered to by all venues: -

- A clearly defined 'oche' (raised if possible) shall be provided measuring 7ft 9¼in with the height of the board to be 5ft 8in.
- Suitable scoring facilities are provided which are clearly visible to both the home and away teams and which show **all the players scores and balance** either manual or computerised.
- A suitable 20-point clock-faced bristle dartboard, deemed to be of an acceptable quality by both Captains shall be provided.
- Adequate lighting shall be provided for the match area.
- The match board should generally be made available to away teams for practice.
- Catering shall be provided at the Landlords discretion.

All venues should be checked to ensure that players under the age of 18 can legally be allowed into them.

The safety and well-being of all players and spectators is imperative and it is the responsibility of each Member Team to ensure that the facilities that they offer are of a suitable standard.

Any complaints regarding the facilities of a Member Team should be directed in writing to the League Secretary. This will then go forward to the Management Committee whose decision shall be final.

The League

Presentation Night

The Management Committee will provide the league with a Presentation evening at the end of each season at a suitable league venue – this event will be the culmination of the season and will involve the league and individual awards and may include the finals of competitions and a fund-raising event.

Any team or individual who has won an award must attend the presentation evening to collect their trophy and/or prize money, failure to do so will mean any monies will be donated to an agreed charity.

Divisions

The Management Committee will decide on the number of divisions there will be according to the number of entries and the desired length of the season. The Committee also reserves the right to place newly registered teams in a division of the Committee's choosing based on the ability of the players registered.

The Management Committee will endeavour to run on a 'two up', 'two down' system at the end of each season. As far as promotion goes the League will be a rolling league regardless of whether it is the summer or winter league.

If in any division, at the end of a season, two or more teams are tied for promotion or relegation this will be decided by initially the number of games won; if this is not conclusive the number of legs won will be the deciding factor. *Please note that this may impact on teams in the runners up position and the final decision is at the committees' discretion.*

Fixtures

These will be decided upon by the Management Committee and notified to all Member Teams.

League matches are scheduled to take place on FRIDAY nights and should commence no later than 8.30pm.

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League matches are scheduled to take place on FRIDAY nights and should commence no later than 8.30pm.

There will be **no cancellations** allowed.

All Member Teams will adhere to the dates wherever possible. Games can only be brought forward and cannot be played after the original scheduled date. If amendments need to be made this must be agreed by both Member Teams. Once a revised date is agreed both teams must notify the League secretary. Any changes must be made with 2 clear days' notice unless there are extenuating circumstances. If agreement cannot be made by the Member Teams, the committee will be asked to intervene.

If a Member Team cannot fulfil their obligation, they will lose all points and the opposing team will be awarded 14 points (18 points for the Prem & A Div) plus the two bonus points for a win. 'Match Fixing' in any shape or form will not be tolerated and all teams found to be involved will have a result of Nil awarded for that match.

The last match of the season shall not be put back under any circumstances. All matches must be played by the last fixture date of the season. It is not permissible for a match to be played after this date.

Playing Format

The home captain must select their players for the 4-A-Side first and write them on the result sheet and then allow the away captain to name their 4 players. Once the 4-A-Side has been played the home captain then selects their first pair followed by the away cap. The second pairs are selected in the same way. This carries on for the duration of the match, allowing the away captain the chance to always select their preferred player(s) after the home side has entered their preference on the result sheet. The result sheet is marked to show who has the throw at the start of each game.

Captains may choose alternative methods to select their teams but if both captains cannot agree the default rule above **must** be adhered to.

The home Member Team will provide a chalker/marker for all games played at their home venue; it is up to the discretion of both teams as to whether the away Member Team provides a caller for each match.

The home team must allow the visitors an open board 15 minutes before match starting time of 8.30pm. If the visitors arrive after 8.15pm they forfeit the 15 minutes practice time. Same rule applies to the home team if they turn up late.

If the visiting team are at the venue by 8.15 p.m. and the home side fails to give them an open board, the 15 minutes will start from the time they do.

The overall winning Member Team will be awarded an additional 2 points for the win. Results must be submitted to the league secretary by 6pm on the Wednesday following the match or online www.swindonddl.co.uk . Penalties will be imposed for late results

Match Play

4-A-Side
701 3 Legs - all legs to be played, Straight In – Double Out
Pairs
501 3 Legs- all legs to be played, Straight In – Double Out
Singles
Premier Division: & A Division: 501 5 legs , all legs to be played -Straight In – Double Out
All other Divisions: 501, 3 legs- all legs to be played, Straight in – Double out

Any discrepancy in the scoring must be challenged before throwing any further darts. Mistakes cannot be challenged after further darts have been thrown.

Competitions

To be eligible to play in the Pairs or Singles players **must** be registered to a member team in the first half of the season.

Pairs Champion of Champions

The 'The Swindon and District Dart League' Pairs will be played during the winter season. To form a pair both players shall be registered to a Member Team and play for that team.

The playing format will be the **best of 5 legs**. This competition will be played in one venue agreed in advance by the committee. The final stages of 'The Swindon and District Dart League' Pairs will be played on Finals night which will be held on a Friday night at the end of the season in a suitable venue.

Singles Champion of Champions

'The Swindon and District Dart League Singles will be played during the winter season. To be eligible players shall be registered to a Member Team. The playing format will be the **best of 5 legs**. This competition will be played in one venue agreed in advance by the committee. The final stages of 'The Swindon and District Dart League' Singles will be played on Finals night which will be held on a Friday night at the end of the season in a suitable venue.

Player Shortages

The minimum number of players required to fulfil a match is **three**. In the event of a Member Team having less than the required number of players for a match they may play the 4-a-side and pairs missing the throw of the relevant player. For the singles the member team that is short will forfeit the points for that player 3-0.

If both teams are short there will be no points awarded to either side for the relevant number of games.

Player Transfers

Players are required to register with a Member Team each season; players may only represent the Member Team which holds their registration. A player has the right to request a transfer up to the turnaround point of the season: a player may only transfer once in a season.

If a player wishes to transfer from one Member Team to another a request for transfer must be sent to the League Secretary. Confirmation of the transfer **MUST** be received from the League Secretary prior to the player being eligible to play for the new Member Team.

If a Member Team fields an ineligible player the Member Team will have all results amended to a 21-0 (29-0 Prem & A Div) loss for all games that the ineligible player has played in.

Exceptions to the rule for transfers will be that if a team pulls out of the league after the turnaround point the players for that team will be eligible to join another member team. Only one player per team will be allowed and this will be in agreement with the Management Committee.

Member Team Withdrawals

In the event of a Member Team withdrawing from the League at any point in the season, all points accumulated by other Member Teams who have played the withdrawing member shall be deducted and become null and void.

This will not include players' high finishes or 180's.

Oche Dimensions

