

TRAFALGAR DART LEAGUE – 2022/2023 RULES

1. The name of the League shall be the “Trafalgar Dart League”.
2. The League shall be run by a Committee, which shall consist of all Team Secretaries participating in the League.
3. An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held prior to the start of each season at which League participants in accordance with league Rules on Voting (see Rule 9), shall elect Officers from league Secretaries consisting of:
 - I Committee Secretary
 - II Committee Treasurer
 - III Committee Chairman
 - IV Results Recorder
 - V Auditor

These Officers of the League shall be responsible to the Committee for the Organisation of the League, including administration and collection of funds.

4. All funds collected on behalf of the League shall cover the following League expenses:-
 - I Cost of trophies presented by the League.
 - II Costs of Finals & Presentation Night – hiring venue, food and entertainment.
 - III Cost of stationery & postage covering League business.
5. The Committee Treasurer shall open a Building Society Bank Account in the League name. All League subscriptions, fees and fines, designated League funds, shall be paid into this account. All withdrawals shall require two signatures from the Treasurer, Secretary and Chairman who shall be nominated as League Representatives.

All interest received through the account shall be used in the furtherance of League business. The Auditor(s) shall review the League's procedures and finances and produce a report. The Auditor's Report must be presented to the League Secretary at least two weeks before the AGM so that it may be circulated to the League Committee (all secretaries). In the event of a deficiency in the League funds, other than through misuse. **ALL League Teams/Members** shall be equally responsible for raising the necessary funds.

6. Any proposal to amend League Rules at the AGM must be with the League Secretary at least 30 days before the scheduled date of the AGM. Such proposals shall form part of the AGM Agenda and will require a Proposer together with a Secunder with the Team name being appended thereto.
7. Each Team shall pay a Subscription Fee of either £60 or £80 each Season. The subscription fee of £60 shall cover League Registration and Entry Fee for the Team Challenge Cup Competition. The subscription fee of £80 shall cover League Registration, Entry Fee for the Team Challenge Cup, Jubilee, Pairs and Singles Competitions. The Subscription shall be paid prior to the League start. Teams failing to pay by the second League Fixture shall cease to be League Members. If a team uses a 3rd party to pay the Subscription, it is the Teams responsibility to ensure the 3rd party has paid by the second League fixture. Rule 15 shall apply to the results of games played in such cases. Teams leaving the League for any reasons shall forfeit their Subscriptions.
8. Each Team shall pay a “good will” fee of £15 each Season. This fee shall be RETURNABLE at the end of the Season Providing the team complete all their fixtures. Teams failing to complete their fixtures shall forfeit this fee, which will then pass into League finances. The fee shall be paid prior to the League start. Teams failing to pay by the second League fixture shall cease to be League members. Rule 15 shall apply to results of fixtures played in such cases. This fee is not financial cover for properly incurred League fines. Where Teams that are entitled to the return of the “good

will" fee leave the League. If this is not asked for when leaving, it will then pass into the League finances.

9. To ensure that the League is run on Democratic principles, each participating Team shall have only one vote at any League Meetings and at the League AGM. New teams qualify upon acceptance into the League.
10. All players must be registered before taking part in any fixture. Teams are permitted to register new players throughout the season. Notice of new registration must be given to the league recorder and/or league secretary by email or telephone prior to the player being allowed to play. No player may be transferred after 31st January.
11. Any complaints concerning the behaviour of participating teams or individuals therein shall be referred to the League Secretary **in writing**. The League Secretary, upon receipt of such complaint, shall call a Special General Meeting within 21 days, to review the complaint. This meeting shall have the power to fine or expel from the League the "guilty party".

All Team Secretaries plus the Complainant(s) and Defendant(s) shall be invited to attend this Special Meeting, which shall discuss no other transactions. The decision made by the Meeting shall be final. The Complainant(s) and Defendant(s) together with any witnesses they may provide shall have **no** vote in the final decision.

12. **TEAMS NOT REPRESENTED AT THE LEAGUE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SHALL BE FINED £20.00.**

13. Teams postponing a fixture shall be fined £7.50. If the cancellation is less than 48 hours before a fixture is scheduled to start then the fine shall be £10 plus any expenses that may be incurred by the other Team. Postponed matches must be played on the next available 'Free week' shown in the league fixture list, or another date only if agreed by both Team Secretaries. Dialogue on a date for the rearranged fixture shall be initiated by the team secretary postponing the match, at the time of postponement. Arrangements for postponed fixtures must be notified to the Results Recorder by the postponing secretary within 10 days of the postponement. Teams postponing re-arranged matches shall be fined £10 for each postponement in addition to the original fine(s). Teams should not postpone more than **THREE** matches. Any particular Team within one season having postponed three League matches will, upon the third cancellation, be called before the League Committee.

At this meeting, the team in question will explain to the Committee their reasons for cancelling all three matches. If in the opinion of the Committee, this explanation is not satisfactory, then a punitive action by the Committee may be taken.

14. The fixture list will end with a final "play-day" date. The Team responsible for postponement of any match not played by this date shall be fined £10 on top of all other authorised fines.
15. Any Teams withdrawing from the League during the Season, or failing to complete all their fixtures shall have its results deleted from the Season's records and is automatically disqualified from any team competitions. If the Team has players left in any Competitions, then these players are automatically disqualified. Upon representation to the League Officials, consideration shall be given to the refund of the Competition's Entry Fee for the disqualified persons only. Four players joining as a New Team, from a Team that has been withdrawn from the League, shall be re-instated as a name change only. For the purposes of Rule 22, withdrawing teams shall be treated as having been relegated.
16. All matches and competitions shall start at 6.30pm, unless mutually agreed beforehand. As soon as both teams have 6 players the match will begin. If by 7.00pm the team does have 5 players, then the match will begin. The Home Team shall confirm that fixture and venue to the visitors at least 48 hours before the schedule start. All matches are to be played. **NO** team shall be given a walkover in the League.
17. A League Fixture shall consist of:-
 - A) i) One team game of 801 up, straight start, double finish, to count as one point.

- ii) Two Trio games, Jubilee, of 601 straight start, double finish, each game counts as one point.
 - iii) Three Pairs games, each pair best of three legs, 301 up, double start, double finish, each game counts as one point.
 - iv) Six Single games, each game one leg, 501 up, straight start, double finish, each game counts as one point.
 - v) One Trio game, Jubilee, of 601 straight start, double finish, to count as one point.
- B) The Players named at the beginning of the Pairs, Singles and Jubilee cannot be substituted or Order of Play switched/changed once the draw has taken place. The order of throw, Team game home team shall start. Jubilee Order of Throw: Away, Home. Pairs 1st Pair: Away, Home, Away: 2nd Pair: Home, Away, Home: 3rd Pair: Away, Home, Away. Singles Order of Throw: Home, Away, Home, Away, Home, Away, Jubilee Home to throw first.
- C) Teams that finish with an equal number of points in any League discipline will have the placing decided by the results in that discipline against the team finishing equal with them based on the matches played between them in the season. Should this be equal then they play off as agreed between Team Captains/Secretaries – BEFORE Finals Night. If Team Captains/Secretaries cannot agree, then the League Secretary shall allocate a time and place for such a play off. Any Team ignoring such a Ruling shall forfeit all drawn disciplines and their conduct reported to the full League Committee of all Team Secretaries, under Rule 11.
- D) The Team winning the highest number of matches in the League shall be declared Champions of that Division. In the event of two or more teams tying for first or second place in the matches win discipline, then the highest number of games won shall decide which team is declared overall League Champions. Should teams still tie, then the teams shall play off in accordance with Rule 17c.

18. The League shall supply from League Funds the following Trophies:-

- a. Eight trophies/medals to the Teams that come first in each League game covering the disciplines of Teams, Pairs, Singles and Jubilee in all League Divisions.
- b. Eight trophies to the Teams that become League Champions and Runner-up in each Division.
- c. One trophy to each person who hits the highest finish in League and Competition games, including Finals Night.
- d. One trophy each to the winner and runner-up in the Singles Competition. One trophy each to the winner and runner-up in the Plate Singles Competition
- e. Two trophies to the winners and runners-up in the Pairs Competition. Two trophies to the winners and runners-up in the Plate Pairs Competition
- f. One trophy each to the winner and runner-up in the House Champion Singles Competition.
- g. Eight trophies to the winners and runners-up in Team Challenge Cup Competition.
- h. One trophy to the winner and runner-up in the Officials/Secretaries Cup Competition.
- i. Three trophies each to the winners and runners-up in the Jubilee (Triples) Competition.
- j. Perpetual trophies shall be awarded to the winners of all disciplines specified at “a” to “i” above. These shall be returned to the League following completion of the following League Season.
- k. One trophy to each person who scores 180 with three darts in one visit to the Board. Applicable to all League and Competition games including Finals Night. Any 180’s scored on Finals Night will be carried forward to the next season.
- l. One trophy to each person who completes a Singles game in the least number of darts. Applicable to all League and Competition games, including Finals Night.
- m. Wooden Spoons shall be awarded to the Team that comes bottom in the low(est) League Division in the Team, Pairs, Singles, Jubilee and Matches won disciplines.

- n. The engraving of all trophies presented by the League shall be paid for from League Funds.
- o. Teams or individuals requiring further trophies shall be responsible for paying the actual cost of the additional numbers required and shall include payment with their order.

It is the team secretary's responsibility to ensure the safeguard of all perpetual trophies awarded to any members of his/her team, both team related and individual trophies. These shall be kept for one year and returned at the latest on Finals Night the following year unless an exception to this is agreed by the League Secretary in advance of Finals Night. Failure to do so will result in a trophy being declared as "missing". Any secretaries responsible for "missing" trophies will need to explain at the AGM why they were not returned on Finals Night. If the trophy has still not been returned by the AGM, they will also need to explain how/when they intend to return it. The League Committee will declare a date by which the trophy must be returned. Failure to do so will mean the Secretary of the team concerned will pay the League the cost of the trophy. Failure to make payment by the deadline given will result in legal action via the Small Claims Court.

In the case of individual trophies that may pass between teams during any year e.g. highest finish/least number of darts, it is the relevant team secretaries' responsibility to liaise with each other to ensure it is passed to any other relevant team secretary so that winners have possession for an equal amount of time as is practically possible. It is suggested that when a team secretary passes a trophy to another, they E-Mail the League Secretary to record it is no longer in their possession. Any disputes on the transfer of trophies should be addressed to the League Secretary.

19. The League shall also hold the following knockout competitions:-

a. **Singles Competition**

Format: 501 up, straight start, double finish, best of 3 legs at first round stage, best of 5 legs at second round stage.

b. **Pair Competition**

Format: 301 up, double start, double finish, best of 3 legs at first round stage, best of 5 legs at second round stage.

In the Singles and Pairs competition there will be a separate Plate completion, which will have trophies as normal. The players eligible for this competition will be those who participated in the first round of the Singles and Pairs, but failed to reach the last 4 at their respective venues in the first round. These Singles and Pairs will be entered into a Plate competition, which will be played on the same date as the second round of the Singles and Pairs KO completion.

c. **Jubilee (Triples) Competition**

Format: 601 up, straight start, double finish, best of 3 legs.

All entries for Singles & Pairs competitions shall be with the League Secretary four weeks before the first round of each competition, together with the Entry Fee of £2.00p per player (£4.00p per Pair) entry fees are only required where the team doesn't pay the £80 subscription fee. Every entrant shall pay an entry fee regardless of whether they take part or not.

The League Secretary shall nominate playing venues from Teams participating in the League, for the Singles & Pairs Competitions and players will be drawn to each venue. The Home Team Secretary shall act as venue adjudicator and carry out the Draw for playing order.

For Singles Competitions, players nominated to a specific venue shall play at that venue and at no other venue.

For Pairs Competitions, players nominated to a specific venue shall play at that venue, with partners as entered. The Secretary may allow a substitute if one player cannot make the venue, if two partners from different Pairs cannot make their respective venues, then they will play together and the venue will be drawn by lot. A withdrawn player will not be allowed to play with another player or at any other venue.

The Secretary will nominate a venue for the Jubilee Competition and any number of Trio's may be entered from each team. The players will be entered on the night, the draw will take

place and the two winning Jubilee Trio's will go forward to Finals Night. Trios will pay £6.00p entry fee on the night, entry fees are only required where the team doesn't pay the £80 subscription fee.

Team (House) Champion Singles Competition

Each participating Team shall nominate one player to represent that Team in this Competition. Qualifying Rounds to be played at venues nominated by the League Secretary who shall also allocate players to each venue.

Format: 501 up, best of 3 legs, straight start, double finish.

The previous year's Champion shall automatically qualify for the following year's Competition. An adjudicator shall be appointed by the League Committee at each venue who shall be responsible for carrying out the draw of play.

d. **Team Challenge Cup Competition**

Format: 801 up, straight star, double finish, best of 5 legs.

The Secretary will nominate a venue and each team may enter one team. The draw will take place and the two winning Teams will go forward to Finals Night. For each match a team shall consist of 6 players. The six players named at the beginning of a match can be substituted and re-substituted between legs. Should a team start a match with less than six players and further players arrive while the match is in progress, they may join in subsequent legs and matches, but not the leg currently in progress. A minimum of five players per Team are required. Play to start at 6.30pm.

e. **Officials/Secretaries Cup**

The only eligible players for this Competition shall be the Team Secretaries plus the defending Champion. The League Officials (e.g. Treasurer) shall be invited to take part in this competition.

Format: 501 up, straight start, double finish, best of 3 legs.

Qualifying rounds shall be played at venues to be nominated by the League Committee. Adjudicators shall be appointed by the League Committee who shall be responsible for the making of the draw of the order of play and running the venue.

f. Any person or team responsible for the Knockout Competition fixtures not being played on the appointed date shall be eliminated from the Competition and their opponents given a walkover.

g. All finals of each Knockout Competition shall take place on the date appointed by the League Committee as Finals Night. The League Secretary shall have no discretionary powers to agree the playing of any such final on any other night. The Finals Night shall commence play at 18.30 hours (6.30pm) sharp. It is the responsibility of the Team Secretaries to ensure that participants are notified of the starting time of play. Anyone not ready to play their Final when their name is called, assuming the opposition is present, shall forfeit that final. All finals of each Knockout Competition shall be the best of FIVE legs.

20. In all fixtures "bulls-eye" shall count as double 25 for starting and finishing purposes.

21. In the event of a team turning up for a match with only 5 players, they shall miss a throw in the team game. In the Pairs games, the odd player shall play the opposing teams third pair, missing one throw. In the Singles games, one leg shall be forfeit. If only 4 players arrive, the fixture shall be null and void, with the defaulting team being liable for a fine in accordance with League Rules. If both teams only have 5 players, an extra leg may be played to make up 6 singles – those players being chosen by ballot.

22. Promotion and Relegation shall be 2 up, 2 down basis. This may be varied in the event that the divisions become unbalanced (for example due to withdrawals, resignation, teams failing to complete their fixtures, new teams joining). Additional promotion places shall be determined in order of finishing in the lower division. Additional relegation places shall be determined by play off(s) between team(s) in the lower division normally entitled to promotion and team(s) in the higher division who would not otherwise have been relegated. If there are more than 14 teams in the league it will be formed of two divisions.

23. In all League Fixtures the Home Team declares their team first and the Jubilee, Pairs and Singles order of play shall be determined by ballot.
24. All matches shall be played on a Standard Elm or Bristle Clock Board. The Board shall be suspended with its centre **5ft 8ins** from the ground. The throw to be **7ft 9¼ins** from the face of the board. The Home Team is responsible for confirming fixture, venue and date.
25. (i) The Winning Team Secretary shall be responsible for notifying the Recorder of the result either by 'phone' or email by Friday 7.00pm of that week.
(ii) The result sheet must reach the Recorder by second post the following Monday at the latest or legible photo should be sent by the following Monday.
26. Teams should ensure fines are paid within one month of their occurrence. Failure to pay legitimate fines within this time period will result in a penalty fine of £2.50 per week until the original fine, plus any additional expenses incurred by the League, are received by the Treasurer. Penalty fines may be waived at the discretion of the Treasurer.
27. Following publication of the 'play-by-date', 2 weeks is given to allow any play-offs to be completed. Play-off teams must be notified by either Secretary or Recorder. Teams who do not make themselves available for play-offs shall forfeit any drawn games.