**Harrogate & District Darts League**

Established 1953

**League Rules**

**(For Season 2023/24)**

Executive Committee

Honorary President

***Ian Gibson***

Honorary Vice-President:

 ***Martin Newton***

Chairperson:

***Rick Harper***

Results and Fixtures Secretary / Treasurer:

 ***Tony Sharratt***

League Secretary

***Chris Nelson***

Committee Members:

***None Currently***

**Harrogate & District Darts League Rules**

# 1. The League shall be known as “The Harrogate & District Darts League” (HDDL).

# MANAGEMENT

# 2. a) The League shall be organised by an executive committee consisting of President, Treasurer, General & Fixtures Secretary, Results Secretary & Chairman/Chairwomen and at least two voting members which will be posted on the league website.

# b) All the committee members must be registered members of the League.

# c) In the absence of the Chairman, the President or the Vice-President will take the chair.

**3.** a) The committee shall meet as required by League events.

b) The quorum shall be five members.

c) The committee shall have the power to co-opt.

d) When a meeting is required a member from each team/venue must attend.

e) Minutes should be taken at all committee meetings.

**4.** a) The League shall consist of at least two divisions. Any new team entrant whom the League deems to be of a sufficient high standard in quality of players shall be placed in the higher division.

b) The team gaining the highest number of points in each division shall be declared champions of their respective division.

c) The two teams scoring the least number of points in each division shall be relegated to the division below when necessary.

d) The two teams gaining the most points in the lower division(s) shall be promoted to the division above.

e) Should two teams tie for either promotion or relegation then there shall be a play-off to decide the outcome.

f) Teams receiving trophies must have no less than two thirds of their players attending Finals Night or they will forfeit their trophies, but not their League position.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**5**. The Annual General Meeting shall be held on a Wednesday night at a convenient time before the forthcoming Winter League season, at which time the accounts, duly audited will be presented.

**6**. All officers and members of the committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

**7.** Nominations, when required, for officials and committee must be sent to the League Secretary at least fourteen days before the meeting. Only if no nomination, or insufficient nominations are received before the AGM will they be accepted from the floor of the meeting.

**8.** a) The General & Fixtures Secretary, Treasurer, Results Secretary and Chairman/Chairwomen shall remain in office at the pleasure of member clubs for a period of three years but may be eligible for re-election in subsequent years.

b) The position of President & Vice-President is honorary and is appointed by the committee.

c) Committee members shall hold office for a period of one year, but they are eligible for re-election in subsequent years.

**9.** Officers shall be treated as ex-officio members with the power to vote, except for the Chairman/Chairwomen who shall have a casting vote only.

**10.** a) Each club must be represented at the AGM or they may not be allowed to take part in the League programme for the following season.

b) Each registered team attending the AGM will be entitled to one vote.

**SIGNING OF PLAYERS**

**11.** No player may register for the Harrogate & District Darts League when participating in any other organised League playing on the same night as the Harrogate & District Darts League.

**12.** A list showing players names and players signatures must be submitted to the League Secretary or the Results Secretary at the start of the League fixtures. The League will supply the correct registration form.

**13.** Any team submitting the list after the time will be fined at the committee’s discretion.

**14.** New players can besigned on at any time during the season providing that he/she has not signed on for any other team during the current season. However, that person cannot play until permission has been given by the League Secretary.

**15.** A player can register for one club only. Should a player sign for more than one club then he/she will not be eligible to play for any team until so directed by the committee. An offender may be suspended from playing for at least three months, at the committee’s discretion.

**16.** Landlords, Tenants, Stewards and Managers of the various public houses and social clubs are deemed to be bona-fide players of the League although they need not register with the League. If a club has two or more teams, the landlord may only play for one team only during the season.

**17.** Any team playing unregistered players will lose all points for that match.

**TRANSFERS**

**18.** A player may transfer during the season only up to the halfway point of that season, and only at the discretion of the committee. A transfer fee of £5.00 must accompany the request for transfer.

**FEES**

**19.** a) There will be an initial charge of £25.00 to register a team which will be deducted from the annual cost.

b) Based seven teams per division playing each other three times the current cost of the Winter season is set at £115.00. That is constituted by a £25.00 registration fee and a £5.00 fee per match. The total cost of the Winter season will fluctuate dependant on the number of teams/matches.

The total cost of the Summer season will be £50.00.

*The annual cost will be set by the Treasurer at the AGM.*

The balance of the Winter fee must be paid before the beginning of the forthcoming season.

**20.** All Individual, Pairs, Threes and Fours competition fees (£2.00 per player in each / Threes and Fours capped at £5.00/team) must be paid at the time of entry.

**GENERAL**

**21.** a) All boards shall be standard bristle treble board positioned 5ft 8ins from the floor to the centre of the bullseye. The throwing distance shall be 9ft 7.25ins diagonally from the centre of the bullseye to the oche. (7ft 9.25ins horizontally). The throwing distance should be marked with a raised oche of at least 2.5ins in height where practicable, the oche can be either permanent or removable

b) All League matches, Individuals and Pairs competitions will be played on Wednesday nights, unless extenuating circumstances make this unavoidable.

c) Re-arranged League fixtures are permitted provided that both teams agree and the League Secretary informed. Only if the postponement of a match is seen as a tactical move, will permission be denied.

d) Any fixture that is re-arranged, abandoned or postponed must be played within 5 weeks of the original date or before the last fixture of the current season is to be played due to an insufficient number of weeks remaining in the season. The League Secretary will inform both team captains of the final date. Every reasonable effort should be made by both teams to rearrange and play even if not on a Wednesday.

**22.** The committee or its representatives will check the playing area of all new teams before the start of the season.

**23.** a) Division 1, League matches shall consist of six individual sets and three pairs sets, individuals will be the best of 5 legs 501, pairs best of 3 legs 501. A minimum of six players can be used. Each shall be straight start, double finish, with bursting. The bull constitutes a double.

 b) All other divisions, League matches shall consist of six individual sets, each the best of three legs 501 up and three pairs games each of a single leg of 701 up. A minimum of six players can be used. Each shall be straight start, double finish, with bursting. The bull constitutes a double.

c) Captains shall name the players they wish to play in the individuals’ section of the match to create an equal draw. (No byes to be placed in the draw). The playing position of the players shall be determined by a draw, the Captains shall draw the playing position of the opposition.

Captains shall name the players they wish to play in the pairs section of the match to create an equal draw. (No byes to be placed in the draw).

The opposing Captains shall pick the opposing teams’ pairings

First two players drawn from each team shall play the first pairs match

Next two players drawn from each team shall play the second pairs match

Next two players drawn from each team shall play the third pairs match.

d) In each division the away team shall throw first in the first, third and fifth legs (where applicable) of all the single sets and pairs sets.

e) In each division the home team shall throw first in the second legs of the singles and pairs sets.

f) In all other divisions, the away team shall throw first in the first and third legs (if necessary) of all the single sets and first in all the pairs games.

g) In all other divisions, the home team shall throw first in the second legs of the singles sets only.

h) One point shall be awarded for each single set won and each pairs game won.

i) The home team shall provide a marker/caller. The marker/caller shall call out the scores required by both players when that player is deemed to be on or near a finish. If a player requires to know his/her own score then he/she is permitted to ask the marker, not the caller/caller. Instructions on how to attempt the required finish must not be given.

j) The player shall stand behind the ‘oche to throw. Any player in default shall be warned once and should he/she default again, the caller shall call ‘No Score’.

k) The Home team shall provide a caller whose decision, as referee, shall be final.

l) Each team shall provide a marker. The marker shall call out the scores required by his/her own player when that player is deemed to be on or near a finish. If a player requires to know his/her own score then he/she is permitted to ask the marker, not the caller. Instructions on how to attempt the required finish must not be given.

m) Once called to the ‘oche for their match, players will only have 9 darts (3 sets of darts) practice.

**24.** a) All League & Knockout matches will start at 8pm prompt.

b) The playing position of the players shall be determined by a draw; the Captains shall draw the playing position of the opposing team at 7:45pm.

c) Players not in attendance by 8.30pm will not be allowed to play in the match. If they have been named in the playing squad but have not been substituted by 8.30pm then that set is forfeited by the team with the missing player and a point is awarded to the other team.

d) If play is unable to start on time then the defaulting team shall forfeit the first point. Thereafter one point shall be forfeit for each fifteen-minute delay.

e). A minimum of 4 players must be in attendance for a fixture to be completed. Teams fielding a team with less than 4 players will a defaulting team and points awarded to the opposition in accordance with rule 24g

f) [i] The first time a team fails to field a side that team will be fined £25 and will not be allowed to continue in the League until the fine has been paid.

A fee of £20.00 will be paid to the opposing team if the defaulting team does not provide sufficient notice (minimum of 24hrs) that they will not be in attendance or hosting the planned match.

f) [ii] The second time a team fails to field a side they will be fined £50, then that team shall be expelled from the League for the remainder of the current season and will be classed as a Defaulting Team.

A fee of £20.00 will be paid to the opposing team if the defaulting team does not provide sufficient notice (minimum of 24hrs) that they will not be in attendance or hosting the planned match.

g) The opposition of a defaulting team will be awarded average points based on the seasons total divided by the number of games played at the season’s conclusion.

**KNOCKOUT CUP**

**25.** a) Games will be played as deemed by the committee.

b) The format will be seven sets of singles matches each the best of three legs, 501 up, as per League rules.

c) When the format is ‘sudden death’ the team drawn second in each fixture shall be the Away team and will throw first in the odd sets and he even legs of the even sets. The Home team shall throw first in the odd legs of the even sets and the even legs of the odd sets. When the format allows for home and away legs or ‘Round Robin’ fixtures then the Away team shall have the advantage of throw in the first and third legs, if necessary, of all sets.

d) There is no match fee for knockout cup matches.

e) Only players who have played at least one league match (singles or pairs) are eligible to play in knockout matches.

**OTHER COMPETITIONS**

**26.** a) Individuals, pairs, threes and fours competitions will be held throughout the season at the discretion of the committee.

b) Start and Scratch time for these competitions will be 8:00pm.

c) The first drawn player(s) will have the first throw at nearest the bull. The winner of the bull up will have the choice of throwing first or second in the odd numbered legs.

d) Players must be registered and signed to the league 7 days prior to and have played at least one league match (singles or pairs) are eligible to play in league competition matches.

e) All players taking part in league organised knockout competitions including, all individuals, pairs, 3's and 4's are required to call and/or mark games following the conclusion of their match as instructed by the league official.

If you are unable to mark or call it is your responsibility to arrange for someone to do it on your behalf. The league official running the competition must be informed of any changes.

Where this is not carried out the player or players (not your nominated replacement marker or caller, it is your responsibility to ensure that the marking/calling is carried out) will be banned from playing in all HDDL competitions for period of 12 months from the date of the competition where the offence occurred.

They will also be banned from playing in the upcoming finals night irrespective of qualification.

**27.** a) All rounds up to the finals of all individuals’ competitions will be the best of three legs of 501 and the pairs competition will be the best of three legs of 701. The finals will be contested over the best of five legs. Both are straight start double finish.

b) The Les Hanslow Individuals competition will be first drawn to have option of throwing first as this is an even darts competition.

**28.** Substitutes for competitions will be allowed before playing the first game, if the new player has not appeared in the original draw.

**29.** a) The threesomes, foursomes and other competitions will be run within the League at the committee’s discretion subject to entries and sponsorship when required.

b) Four players can register for the threesomes but only three to play in any one match. Matches will be best of 3 legs of 701 throughout.

c) Five players can register for the foursomes but only four to play in any one match.

Matches will be best of 3 legs of 1001 throughout.

d) Pairs, threes and fours squads must be made up from players of one registered League team only.

**30.** In all competitions where more than one dart board is being used the location of the final will be determined by a coin toss by the official and the two/teams players contesting the final.

**RESULTS**

**31.** a) Where a Wi-Fi connection is available all matches are stored automatically, but Save Match must be completed.

b) Where a Wi-Fi connection is lost it is the responsibility of the Home Team to ensure the match is saved once the connection is restored. Teams failing to save match results sheets by NOON on the Friday following each match as instructed will be fined £4.00, doubling for each consecutive offence. In addition, any team failing to save results by the Monday following the match render themselves liable to lose all points from that match.

**32.** It is the duty of the officials of the League at the Individuals, Pairs and other competitions to furnish results of the matches to both the Results and League secretary immediately after the matches and should not wait until the next League meeting.

**OBJECTIONS**

**33.** Any registered player or team wishing to object to a result, ruling or other matter connected with the League shall register his/her/their complaint in writing to the League secretary within three days for consideration by the committee. A fee of £5.00 must accompany the complaint otherwise it will not be discussed. The person(s) registering the complaint will be required to attend the following committee meeting. If the complaint is justified, then the fee will be refunded.

**CONDUCT**

**34.** a) Any person(s) causing a disturbance at any game shall be suspended from the League for a period of not less than three months.

b) Any person(s) causing a disturbance at a League Presentation Night shall be suspended from the League for a period of not less than five years.

**35.** If a player defaults during a match without reasonable cause they may be suspended from playing in the league at the committee’s discretion.

**SPECIAL POWERS**

**36.** The committee shall have the power to interpret these rules and determine any question not provided for in these rules as they see fit. This should be a full executive committee decision subject to appeal.

**ALTERATION TO RULES**

**37.** Notice of any proposed change to the rules shall be given in writing or by email to the League secretary one month before the Annual General Meeting. Member teams to be notified of these proposals at least fourteen days prior to the AGM. Any amendments or additions to these proposed changes will have to be proposed and seconded on the night and only included if agreed by the committee.

**38.** All teams and clubs signing for the League are bound by these rules and committee decisions.

***These rules replace any others previously issued.***