



# **TOURNAMENT RULE DOCUMENT**

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## **1 FOREWORD**

The DOSH Darts Organization has been formed to offer each and every dart player, male or female the chance to compete and take part in DOSH organized darts events. Putting the dart player first, is our main goal and looking after these interests is of paramount importance.

The aim of DOSH, remains to seek recognition as a legitimate darts organization and regulatory authority for Darts in Western Australia, with responsibility for providing and administering certain rules and regulations that will improve the image and profile of Darts within the Professional and Amateur ranks.

The DOSH Rule Document is the cornerstone of this and sets the standards of behaviour for players in DOSH sanctioned events.

This review of the DOSH Rule Document brings the Code of Conduct and Playing Rules up to date and the Code and Rules contained herein are those which are now in force for all DOSH sanctioned events.

DOSH will continue to assess and review the Code and Rules and will produce amendments and updates to the Rule Document when appropriate.

David Platt.  
Chairman – DOSH.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Rules contained in this Rule Document have been drawn up to eliminate any uncertainty and shall apply to all members of DOSH and to all Players and other parties agreeing to abide by them.

## 3 DEFINITIONS

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

**“Bye”**

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

**“DOSH”**

Darts Of the Southern Hemisphere – Yanchep, Perth, WA 6035, Australia.

**“DOSH Rules”**

the rules and regulations drawn up by DOSH from time to time in accordance with the rules set out in this DOSH Official Document;

**“Darts Event”**

a darts match or tournament organised under the jurisdiction of or in accordance with the DOSH rules;

**“Double”**

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

**“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 or Promoter

**“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 DOSH;

**“Official(s)”**

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

**“Player”**

Any darts player whether or not a Member and whether or not registered as a darts player with DOSH and participating in any darts event or activity held under DOSH rules;

**“Players’ Association”**

Any official association representing the interests of playing members;

**“Playing Attire”**

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

**“Promoter”**

Any organisation or individual promoting or organising, in whole or in part, a Darts Event under DOSH 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 DOSH Darts Organisation as amended from time to time;

**“Scorer”**

See definition of Marker

**“Tournament Director”**

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

**“Tournament Venue”**

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

- 3.2 Words importing one gender shall be construed as importing any other gender.
- 3.3 Words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.

**CODE OF CONDUCT AND  
PLAYING RULES OF  
DOSH – DARTS OF the SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE**

**4 CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 4.1 No Player or Member shall act in a manner which may reasonably be considered to be prejudicial to the interests or standing of the DOSH darts organization, or which could reasonably be considered to injure or discredit DOSH or bring the game of darts into disrepute.
- 4.2 All Players and Members will steadfastly adhere to the DOSH Rules. Any breaches will invite disciplinary action in accordance with the DOSH Rules.
- 4.3 Any Player, Member or Guest who is asked by the Tournament Director to leave a venue at which a Darts Event is taking place under the DOSH Rules, or carry out any other instruction relating to the Darts Event, must do so immediately.
- 4.4 No Player, Member or Official will bet or make any form of wager in connection with any Darts Event in which he or she is directly involved as a Player, Member or Official. Any Player, Member or Official involved in placing bets on darts matches in relation to his or her own performance, or is involved directly or indirectly in betting in any way that may be reasonably considered dishonest, may be subject to a ban from all Matches and activities of DOSH.
- 4.5 Players may not, before or during a Darts Event, make an agreement to produce a particular score or to share prize money between those players irrespective of the result.
- 4.6 No Player or Member will abuse, ignore or refuse reasonable requests from a broadcaster, the Promoter or the media at any DOSH Darts Event.
- 4.7 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.
- 4.8 Every invited Guest 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.
- 4.9 Any prize monies won by a player in any DOSH leagues, must have played the certain amount of games required by that particular league to be eligible to collect the prize. Failure to do so will result in the prize going back into the league funds. Officials of DOSH can, if they see fit, distribute the prize monies to the next eligible candidate if they so feel fit to do so. Again, Officials decision is final.

## 5 GENERAL PLAYING RULES

### 5.1-5.9 Administration:

- 5.1 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).
- 5.2 The Promoter reserves the right to seed Players at any Darts Events in its absolute discretion.
- 5.3 All Players and Teams shall abide by and play within the DOSH Rules and any supplementary rules laid down, from time to time, in an entry form, programme or otherwise by DOSH or the Promoter.
- 5.4 All Players and Teams shall play under the supervision and direction of the appointed Promoters in all DOSH Darts Events.
- 5.5 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.
- 5.6 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.
- 5.7 The interpretation of these General Playing Rules in relation to a DOSH Darts Event shall be determined by the Promoter whose decision on interpretation shall be final and binding.
- 5.8 Information concerning any interpretation in accordance with Playing Rule 5.7 shall be forwarded to the Council of DOSH for consideration of any amendment of these General Playing Rules.
- 5.9 Any matter not expressly covered by these General Playing Rules shall be determined by the Council of DOSH whose decision regarding determination shall be final and binding.

### 5.10 Throw:

- 5.10.01 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).
- 5.10.02 All darts must be deliberately thrown in an over arm fashion, one at a time, by and from the Player's hand.
- 5.10.03 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.
- 5.10.04 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.
- 5.10.05 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.

## **5.11 Starting and Finishing:**

- 5.11.01 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.
- 5.11.02 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.
- 5.11.03 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.
- 5.11.04 A Game Shot called by a Referee is valid only if the thrown darts;
- (i) achieve the required finish **and**
  - (ii) 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.
- 5.11.05 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.
- 5.11.06 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.
- 5.11.07 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.
- 5.11.08 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”).
- 5.11.09 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.
- 5.11.10 The Referee will have the final say in all matters relating to starting and finishing.

## **5.12 Scoring:**

- 5.12.01 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.
- 5.12.02 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.
- 5.12.03 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.
- 5.12.04 A protest about the score attained or called, after the retrieval of the darts from the board, may not be upheld.



- 5.12.05 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.
- 5.12.06 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.
- 5.12.07 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.
- 5.12.08 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.
- 5.12.09 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.
- 5.12.10 The Referee shall act as an umpire in all matters pertaining to these General Playing Rules when conducting a DOSH Darts Event and shall, if it is necessary, consult with scorers and other officials before announcing any decisions during the course of match play.

### **5.13 Dartboards:**

- 5.13.01 All dartboards shall be of the "Bristle" type.
- 5.13.02 All dartboards shall be of the "1 - 20 Clock" pattern.
- 5.13.03 The inner narrow band shall score treble the segment number.
- 5.13.04 The outer narrow band shall score double the segment number.
- 5.13.05 The outer centre ring shall score 25.
- 5.13.06 The inner centre ring shall score 50 and shall be called the "Bull".
- 5.13.07 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.
- 5.13.08 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).
- 5.13.09 The dartboard shall be fixed such that the 20 segment is coloured black and is at the top of the dartboard.
- 5.13.10 Subject to these General Playing Rules 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 only be considered by the Referee or an Official provided the opposing Player or team captain concurs with the request. Such change shall only be made before the start of or after the completion of a leg.
- 5.13.11 The changing of a dartboard shall only be carried out by an Official.
- 5.13.12 Other dartboards may be used only with the prior approval of the DOSH.

## **5.14 Lighting:**

- 5.14.01 In Tournament play, all floor dartboards shall be adequately lit by a suitably positioned light fitting at each dartboard (namely, 100 watt minimum intensity).
- 5.14.02 Dartboards used in Stage Finals shall be adequately lit by suitably positioned light fittings (namely, 2 x 100 watt minimum intensity fittings).
- 5.14.03 All light fittings must be fitted with screens to, as far as possible, divert light from the Players' eyes when standing at the Oche.
- 5.14.04 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.

## **5.15 Oche and Playing Area:**

- 5.15.01 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.
- 5.15.02 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).
- 5.15.03 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).
- 5.15.04 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.
- 5.15.05 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.
- 5.15.06 Any Player in breach of Clause 5.15.04 or 5.15.05 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.
- 5.15.07 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/or DOSH 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 DOSH match official.
- 5.15.08 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.

- 5.15.09 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.
- 5.15.10 The Player with the Throw, after retrieving his darts, will be obliged to turn to his / her right and to walk back to the non playing position without stepping in to the marked exclusion zone.
- 5.15.11 The non-throwing Player must not enter the exclusion zone behind or at the side of the Oche until the throwing Player has completed his or her Throw.
- 5.15.12 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.

#### **5.16 Tournament and Championship Playing Rules:**

- 5.16.01 Unless stated otherwise, DOSH Darts Events shall be run on a knockout basis.
- 5.16.02 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).
- 5.16.03 The Promoter reserves the right to cancel or change any date, Tournament Venue and scheduled DOSH Darts Event without prior notice.
- 5.16.04 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.
- 5.16.05 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.
- 5.16.06 Any Player or team found guilty of deliberately losing a leg, set or match shall be disqualified from any further participation in that particular DOSH Darts Event and shall also be subject to any other penalty or sanction that DOSH may decide to impose.
- 5.16.07 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.
- 5.16.08 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.

- 5.16.09 Any Player or team not fulfilling the playing commitments of a DOSH 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.
- 5.16.10 If any additional expenses are incurred due to a default in relation to this Clause 5.16 by a Player or team then that Player or team (as the case may be) shall be liable for those additional expenses.

### **5.17 Entry:**

- 5.17.01 Admission fees into any DOSH Tournament Venue are non- refundable.
- 5.17.02 Entry fees into any DOSH Darts Event are non- refundable except in the absolute discretion of the Promoter.
- 5.17.03 All entries are to be made on official DOSH entry forms (when required) 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.
- 5.17.04 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.
- 5.17.05 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.
- 5.17.06 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.
- 5.17.07 No Player or team shall enter more than once in any respective Darts Event, unless the rules of that Darts Event allow.
- 5.17.08 No Player shall play in more than one team in any respective DOSH Darts Event.
- 5.17.09 All Players participating in a singles or pairs Darts Event must play under his or her own name.
- 5.17.10 The completion of an entry form by a Player or team for a DOSH 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.
- 5.17.11 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.

### **5.18 Registration and Call to Play:**

- 5.18.01 All Players shall register at each Darts Event at scheduled times which are predetermined by the Promoter.

- 5.18.02 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.
- 5.18.03 No Player shall be allowed to register more than once in relation to any respective Event in any one playing season.
- 5.18.04 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.
- 5.18.05 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.
- 5.18.06 The Promoter reserves the right to alter scheduled times and the playing format of a Darts Event whenever it is deemed necessary.

#### **5.19 Draw:**

- 5.19.01 The Promoter shall perform the draws for each event, if appropriate utilising an agreed formula with the relevant DOSH Players' Association. Once the draw has been made no changes will be made even if a Bye is created by non-attendance.
- 5.19.02 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.
- 5.19.03 The Promoter reserves the right to seed Players or teams in the draw for a DOSH Darts Event.
- 5.19.04 No substitutes shall be allowed in a DOSH Darts Event run for individual Players.
- 5.19.05 No substitutes shall be allowed after the first round of a DOSH 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.

#### **5.20 Order of Play:**

- 5.20.01 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. (A toss of the coin to determine who throws first for the bull.)
- 5.20.02 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.
- 5.20.03 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.
- 5.20.04 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.
- 5.20.05 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.

5.20.06 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.

5.20.07 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.

### **5.21 Match Assignment / Result / Record Card:**

5.21.01 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. Such a card shall be presented to the Referee by the Player. The Referee shall be responsible for ensuring that the Order of Play and order of throwing is strictly adhered to during that Match.

5.21.02 On conclusion of a Match the winning Player shall immediately advise the control desk, with or without a card, of the result.

5.21.03 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.

### **5.22 Practice:**

5.22.01 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.

5.22.02 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.

5.22.03 No practice, other than that allowed under 5.22.01 and 5.22.02, shall be allowed on Match boards after the Darts Event has officially started.

5.22.04 Practice Boards may be provided in or adjacent to the Tournament Room for the exclusive use of Players in that Darts Event only.

### **5.23 Tournament Play at a Darts Event:**

5.23.01 In tournament play all Players shall play under the supervision and direction of the appointed Promoters and Officials.

5.23.02 No person shall be allowed within the playing area other than a Referee, Marker, Scorer, Recorder or Player.

5.23.03 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.

5.23.04 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.

5.23.05 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.

- 5.23.06 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.
- 5.23.07 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 5.23.06.
- 5.23.08 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.
- 5.23.09 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.
- 5.23.10 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.
- 5.23.11 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.
- 5.23.12 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.
- 5.23.13 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 DOSH Organisation.

#### **5.24 Tie-Break:**

- 5.24.01 In some Darts Events the "tie-break" principle as set out in this rule 5.24 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.
- 5.24.02 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.
- 5.24.03 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.

- 5.24.04 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.
- 5.24.05 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.
- 5.24.06 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.
- 5.24.07 The Player who wins the last leg of the final set of a Match is the winner of that Match.

### **5.25 Playing Attire:**

- 5.25.01 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.
- 5.25.02 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.
- 5.25.03 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.
- 5.25.04 In all DOSH 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.
- 5.25.05 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 Committee of DOSH for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.

### **5.26 Smoking:**

- 5.26.01 No smoking shall be allowed by any Player or Official whilst engaged in a match played on stage which is being covered by television.
- 5.26.02 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.
- 5.26.03 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 DOSH for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.
- 5.26.04 Any Official found to be in breach of Clause 5.26.01 or 5.26.02 shall be reported to DOSH for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.



5.26.05 The Committee of DOSH, 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.

#### **5.27 Alcohol:**

5.27.01 No alcoholic drinks shall be consumed or introduced into public areas by any Player or Official whilst engaged in a Match played on stage which is being covered by television.

5.27.02 No alcoholic drinks shall be consumed or introduced into public areas by any Player or Official during televised introductions to Match play, during any televised interviews, either on or off the stage, and during presentation ceremonies made on the stage.

5.27.03 Any Player found to be in breach of Clause 5.27.01 or 5.27.02 may be liable to forfeit that respective Match and shall be reported to DOSH for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.

5.27.04 Any Official found to be in breach of Clause 5.27.01 or 5.27.02 may be reported to DOSH for disciplinary proceedings to be considered.

5.27.05 DOSH, or a Promoter, shall reserve the right to prohibit the consumption of alcoholic drinks 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.

#### **5.28 Amendments and Additions:**

DOSH 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 DOSH Organisation or its Committee.

#### **6.0 Misconduct Charges**

DOSH reserves the right to eliminate any person taking part in any DOSH darts event if they are deemed to be behaving in an improper manner, thus bringing the game into disrepute. Officials decision will be final.