

***GIBRALTAR DARTS
ASSOCIATION***

CONSTITUTION 2007

1. NAME OF ASSOCIATION

The name of the Association shall be the Gibraltar Darts Association.

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Association shall be:

- (a) To encourage and promote the sport of darts;
- (b) To promote the interests of all players of the sport of darts;
- (c) To establish and administer dart leagues and tournaments; and
- (d) To co-operate with any Government or other body or authority to further the interests of the sport of darts in Gibraltar.

3. AFFILIATION

The Association shall, on the adoption of these rules, take such action as the Committee deems necessary to become affiliated to such international dart bodies or Associations, which the Committee deems to be in the best interests of the sport of darts in Gibraltar and its members.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 The Association shall consist of such number of playing members over the age of ten years whose applications for membership are approved by the Committee.
- 4.2 Persons of either sex shall be eligible for membership to the Association.
- 4.3 The Committee may from time to time propose persons who over a period of time have actively assisted the furtherance of the sport of darts in Gibraltar and/or the aims and interests of the Association to become Honorary Members of the Association. Such a proposal by the Committee shall not come into effect until ratified by a majority as specified in Appendix 1 of members present and eligible to vote at a General Meeting

5. ADMISSION OF MEMBERS, TEAMS AND VENUES

- 5.1 Every candidate for membership shall apply by filling in the Membership form, which may be prescribed by the Committee from time to time. Every application of a child under sixteen years of age shall be accompanied by a letter from his or her parent or legal guardian confirming their approval and consent to the application submitted. The application form shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Association together with the prescribed subscription fee for the then current calendar year, as specified in Appendix 1.
- 5.2 Every application submitted to the Association shall be considered by the Committee. A candidate's application for membership shall be accepted unless two thirds of the Committee refuses his or her election as a member.

- 5.3 A candidate whose application for membership is refused by the Committee shall be entitled to the repayment of the subscription fee paid and shall not be considered again for election during a period of twelve calendar months following the date on which the Committee voted to refuse his or her application.
- 5.4 On the election of a new member, who does not form part of a team the Secretary shall notify the same to him or her in writing and enclose therewith a copy of the rules of the Association. New teams registering will be supplied with a copy of the Rules & Constitution for perusal by their members.
- 5.5 All members will be supplied with a copy of the "Members and Players Responsibility" leaflet, and they shall be responsible for reading and adhering to these responsibilities and Team Captains must adhere to those of the "Team Captain's & Venue Responsibility" leaflet.
- 5.6 All Teams (*clubs, pubs, venues*) registering with the GDA must adhere to the stipulations of the "Team Captain's & Venue Responsibility" leaflet.

6. RESIGNATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Any member may resign his or her membership by giving written notice to the Secretary to that effect. Every such notice shall be deemed to take effect as from the date specified therein and shall not release the member from payment of any subscription fees or other debts due to the Association for the period immediately preceding the effective date of resignation.

7. EFFECT OF CEASING TO BE A MEMBER

Any person on ceasing to be a member of the Association shall forfeit all rights and privileges of the Association and all and any claim upon the Association and its property or funds.

8. EXPULSION AND SUSPENSION OF MEMBERS

- 8.1 If at any time upon the recommendation of the Disciplinary Committee, those members of the Committee who did not sit on the Disciplinary Committee (*hereinafter referred to as "the Membership Committee"*) at the time of considering the complaint brought against the relevant member, are of the opinion that the activities of a member have brought the Association into disrepute or that the interests of the Association so require they may by letter invite any member to resign from the Association within such time as is specified in said letter or suspend their membership for a specified period. In default of resignation the Membership Committee shall consider the question of the expulsion of the member. The member whose expulsion is sought shall be given not less than seven days notice of the date and time of the meeting at which not less than four persons on the Membership Committee shall consider his or her expulsion and of the grounds on which his or her expulsion is sought. At such meeting the member shall be allowed to offer an explanation for his or her conduct in writing or verbally and present witnesses, and thereafter if not less than three members of the Membership Committee by secret ballot vote for his or her expulsion he or she shall thereupon cease to be a member.

- 8.2 Any member expelled shall not be entitled to the repayment of any part of the subscription fees paid for the then current calendar year and shall remain liable for the payment of any subscription fees or other debts due to the Association for the period immediately preceding the date of expulsion.
- 8.3 Any member expelled under Section 8 shall not be eligible for re-admission until specified by the Membership Committee. A suspension can carry a minimum of a week to a lifetime ban from darts.

9. RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

- 9.1 Only members over the age of eighteen years and Honorary Members who prior to election were members shall be entitled to hold office. Only members as specified in Appendix 1 may vote at any meeting of the Association provided that they have been members of the Association for not less than a full calendar year.
- 9.2 Unless otherwise specified in these rules or any bye-laws enacted in consequence thereof members shall be entitled to all the benefits and privileges of the Association.
- 9.3 Only members of five years standing or more and Honorary Members who prior to election were members shall, in the event of the dissolution of the Association, be entitled to receive any proprietary interest of the Association.
- 9.4 No member of the Association can be disciplined or expelled without first having been given the opportunity to provide an explanation in writing or be heard by the Membership Committee.
- 9.5 Members under the age of sixteen years shall be entitled to have their parents or legal guardian present whenever they appear before the Disciplinary Committee and/or the Membership Committee.
- 9.6 All members shall be entitled to be notified of any General Meeting of the Association and to be present at any such meeting unless they have been suspended from the Association.

10. FEES

- 10.1 No entrance fee shall be payable by persons applying to become members of the Association.
- 10.2 The subscription fee payable by individual members in any calendar year shall be as decided from time to time at the AGM, and listed in Appendix 1. If a member is also registered as being a player in a registered team the subscription fee paid by said member shall be in addition to any subscription fee payable by the team as a whole.
- 10.3 Members shall be entitled to form part of registered teams for the purposes of playing in leagues, knockout cup and/or tournaments. The subscription fee payable by any registered team in any calendar year shall be as decided from time to time at the AGM, and listed in Appendix 1. Registered teams shall be comprised of not less than seven members and not more than sixteen members.

- 10.4 Honorary members shall not be required to pay subscription fees.
- 10.5 The annual subscription fees payable by members and/or registered teams may from time to time be increased in accordance with a resolution passed by a majority of members as specified in Appendix 1 eligible to vote at a General Meeting of the Association.
- 10.6 All annual subscriptions (*except as provided by Rule 5.1*) shall be payable on the date specified by the Committee in each calendar year and if after a written reminder ("*the reminder notice*") has been given a subscription has not been paid on or before the first day of the month following the date specified in the reminder notice the defaulter shall thereupon cease to be a member of the Association. Said member may within a twelve-month period at the discretion of the Committee, be re-admitted for membership on payment of all arrears together with the then current subscription fee.

11. MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

- 11.1 The entire management of the Association (*except as otherwise provided by these Rules*) shall be debuted to a Committee consisting of ten members.
- 11.2 The Committee shall be comprised in order of seniority of the following posts:
- (a) President;
 - (b) Vice-President;
 - (c) Secretary;
 - (d) Treasurer; and
 - (e) No less than four and no more than six Committee members of which;
 - (i) There shall be one representative from each of the men's senior divisions;
 - (ii) One shall be a representative of the 2nd & lower division leagues. Only players registered for a 2nd division team or lower are eligible for election to this post;
 - (iii) One shall be a representative of the ladies league;
 - (iv) One shall be a representative of the youth league; and
- 11.3 Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 12 the four senior post holders of the Association shall hold their respective offices for a term of two years and thereafter shall be eligible for re-election. The remaining members of the Committee shall be elected to office for a period of twelve calendar months or until the next AGM, whichever is the earliest.
- 11.4 The Committee shall meet as frequently as is required or convenient and shall in any event meet once every calendar month. The Committee shall hold a captain's meeting not less than once every two months.

- 11.5 Meetings of the Committee shall be called by either the President, or in his or her absence from Gibraltar, the Vice-President or upon the request of not less than four members of the Committee.
- 11.6 In the event of a meeting of the Committee being called, the Secretary shall notify all members of the Committee who at the time are in Gibraltar, at least forty eight hours in advance, of the time, date and location of the meeting.
- 11.7 At any meeting of the Committee half the number of elected members plus one shall constitute a quorum provided always that not less than two of the four most senior post holders are present.
- 11.8 The Committee shall pass resolutions by majority voting of the persons present at the meeting and in the case of an equality of votes the person presiding the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.
- 11.9 At all meetings of the Committee the President. In his or her absence from Gibraltar, the next most senior post holder present shall preside.
- 11.10 No decision of the Committee shall be invalid by reason only of there being a vacancy among the numbers of the Committee.
- 11.11 Subject to these Rules the Committee may make bye-laws or otherwise regulate its own procedure.
- 11.12 The Committee shall publish prior to the commencement of the season the Regulations governing the running of the League, the League Cup, and Tournaments. These Regulations are to be decided at a Captains Meeting to be held prior to the season's commencement, and shall remain in force for the duration of the season.
- 11.13 In the event of a situation arising not catered for in this Constitution or the Regulations, the Committee shall make a ruling at its discretion using World Darts Federation (*WDF*) and British Darts Organisation (*BDO*) Rules as guidance.

12. ELECTION AND DISCIPLINE OF COMMITTEE

- 12.1 Except to the extent provided for in Rule 11.3 with regards to the length of term of the office of the four senior post holders, at the Annual General Meeting members of the Committee shall retire, but shall be eligible for re-election. Any two members may propose any other candidate or candidates by notice in writing to the Secretary at least ten days before the meeting. If any such notice be given all teams entitled to vote shall be apprised thereof seven days at least before the date of the meeting. Voting shall be by ballot and every team shall be entitled to vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies to be filled. The candidates up to the number of vacancies who shall receive most votes shall be declared elected, and in case of two or more candidates receiving an equal number of votes the chairman shall have a second or casting vote. The procedure for the election of the President and the Secretary shall also be in accordance with this sub-rule.

- 12.2 In the event of a vacancy on the Committee, the Committee shall have power to appoint any member of the Association to fill such vacancy, but the proceedings of the Committee shall not be invalidated in consequence of there being less than the prescribed number of members thereof.
- 12.3 In the event of the President resigning from the Committee or if two of the three most senior post holders of the Committee resign the Committee shall immediately thereafter convene an Extraordinary General Meeting in accordance with the relevant provisions of Rule 20.
- 12.4 All GDA Committee members must complete the full term otherwise a ban from darts of one year will be imposed and a further 5 year ban from being able to stand as a committee member will also take effect. If a committee member wishes to resign he/she will let the committee know in writing and the committee will dismiss him/her from her duties once all pending matters have been seen to by the member in question or if dismissed at the committee's discretion.

13. SUB-COMMITTEES

- 13.1 The Committee may from time to time appoint from amongst their number such sub-committees as they may deem necessary or expedient and may depute or refer to them such of the powers and duties of the Committee as the Committee may determine. Such sub-committees shall conduct their business in accordance with any direction given by the Committee.
- 13.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 13.1 the Committee shall upon commencing its term of office appoint the following sub-committees:
- (a) A General Purpose Committee;
 - (b) A Finance Committee; and
 - (c) A Disciplinary Committee.

14. DUTIES OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

- 14.1 The President and Vice-President shall ensure that the Committee works towards the best interests of the Association in accordance with its rules and bye-laws and shall represent the Association at all official functions.
- 14.2 The Secretary shall be responsible for the general administration of the Association, as approved by the Committee, and shall keep a written record of all meetings of the Committee and/or the Association and shall conduct the general correspondence of the Association. The Committee may from time to time request the Secretary to undertake further duties.
- 14.3 The Treasurer shall have charge of all the funds of the Association, which shall be deposited at a bank or building society approved by the Committee. The Treasurer shall not incur on behalf of the Association any expense other than that required for the normal running and administration of the Association and its activities without the previous authority of the Committee.

14.4 The Treasurer shall furthermore:

- (a) Keep a proper record of all monies received and expended by the Association;
- (b) Make all payments in respect of expenditures incurred by the Association and obtain proper receipts for all such expenditures;
- (c) Take all reasonable steps to recover monies due to the Association;
- (d) Submit his or her books and statements of account to the Committee and/or to any member of the Association who so requests in writing with seven days notice;
- (e) Keep a register of all the property of the Association; and
- (f) Sanction the payment of any equipment or property to be purchased or service to be incurred prior to the Committee approving such expenditure.

14.5 All Committee members shall be responsible for ensuring that during any dart match the rules and regulations governing the playing of such a match are strictly observed and adhered to by all players.

15. INDEMNITY

The members of the Association shall indemnify and keep the Committee indemnified against all risks, claims, and expenses arising out of the bona fide exercise of the Committee's powers.

16. TRUSTEES

The property of the Association shall be vested in four trustees who shall be appointed by the Committee and the property of the Association shall be vested in them to be dealt with by them as the Committee may from time to time direct by resolution (*of which an entry in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence*).

The trustees shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the property of the Association. The trustees shall hold office until death or resignation or until removal from office by the Committee. Where by reason of such death, resignation or removal it is necessary that a new trustee or trustees be appointed the Committee shall nominate the person or persons to be appointed the new trustee or trustees. For the purpose of giving effect to such nomination the Secretary is hereby nominated as the person to appoint new trustees of the Association and he or she shall by deed duly appoint the person or persons so nominated by the Committee.

17. ARREARS

Payment of all fees levied by and due to the Association shall be the absolute responsibility of the member who incurs said fees irrespective of whether or not any demand has been made by the Association and without prejudice to the right of the Association to commence legal proceedings for the recovery of all amounts outstanding.

18. EXPULSION AND DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS

- 18.1 Each Committee upon being elected to office shall immediately thereupon establish a sub-committee which shall be solely responsible for investigating all breaches of the Association's Rules or bye-laws, all complaints received against a member or members and any other matter which is or could be interpreted as being against the best interests of the Association or as bringing the Association into disrepute. This sub-committee shall be known as the Disciplinary Committee and shall be comprised of three members of the Committee of whom the President shall be one.
- 18.2 The Disciplinary Committee shall, when investigating a Complaint, inform the member whose activities are being investigated of the nature of the Complaint and afford him or her a reasonable opportunity to either hand in a written explanation, or to appear before it to explain matters or to bring witnesses on his or her behalf. If the member fails to provide an explanation either in writing or verbally the Disciplinary Committee shall nevertheless conclude its investigation and, subject to the provisions of sub-rule 18.4, decide what disciplinary action, if any, should be taken against the member or members concerned.
- 18.3 The Disciplinary Committee shall have the power to decide what procedure it will follow when investigating any Complaint and it shall have the power to summon any member before it for the purposes of gathering information relating to the Complaint made.
- 18.4 In the event that the Disciplinary Committee considers at any stage of its investigations that the seriousness of the complaint necessitates the resignation or expulsion of a member or the suspension of a member from taking part in any dart match or tournament for a period in excess of thirty days, the Disciplinary Committee at the conclusion of its investigations shall submit to the Membership Committee a written report detailing its findings and its recommendations as to what disciplinary action should be taken against the member or members concerned.
- 18.5 The Membership Committee on receiving a report and recommendation from the Disciplinary Committee shall consider the contents of the report and thereafter proceed as specified in Rule 8.1. The Membership Committee shall not be obliged to follow the recommendation made by the Disciplinary Committee.
- 18.6 Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 18.8 in the event of the Disciplinary Committee deciding that a complaint should be dealt with as provided for in Rule 18.4, the Disciplinary Committee shall have the power to suspend a member or members from taking part in any dart match or tournament for a period not exceeding thirty days pending the result of the deliberations of the Membership Committee as to what disciplinary action should be taken against said member or members.
- 18.7 The Membership Committee's power to discipline a member shall include:
- (a) Requesting a member to tender his or her resignation;
 - (b) Expelling a member;

- (c) Suspending a member from entering in or taking part in any dart match or competition during a specified period;
- (d) Fining a member an amount being as specified in Appendix 1;
- (e) Giving the member a written warning that further disciplinary action could render him or her liable to expulsion.

18.8 The Disciplinary Committee's power to discipline a member shall only include:

- (a) Suspending a member for a period not in excess of thirty days from the date of its decision from entering in or taking part in any dart match or tournament, including International Events;
- (b) The power specified in sub-rule 18.7 (e).
- (c) In the event that a player fails to score a game after being designated by a GDA Official to do so, the Disciplinary Committee shall levy a fine upon him / her as specified in Appendix 1. The player concerned is suspended from all GDA events until such fine is paid. Any player who incurs this sanction on more than 3 separate occasions shall have his or her membership terminated. This shall also apply to players failing to score at International Events.

18.9 In the event of the member being aggrieved with the decision of the Disciplinary Committee the member shall upon the payment to the Secretary of an Appeal Fee as specified in Appendix 1, be entitled to appeal to the Membership Committee against the disciplinary action taken by the Disciplinary Committee. If the member's appeal is successful he or she shall be entitled to repayment of the said Appeal Fee.

19. DAMAGES

Any member who causes any loss or damage to any property of the Association (*fair wear and tear excepted*) shall be liable for the cost of replacement or repairs to such property as well as to any disciplinary action which may be deemed necessary.

20. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

20.1 The Annual General Meeting of the association shall be held each year upon a date and at a time to be fixed by the Committee for the following purposes:

- (a) To receive from the Committee a report, balance sheet, and statement of accounts for the preceding financial year and an estimate of the receipts and expenditure for the current financial year.
- (b) To elect those members of the Committee whose term of office has expired and to appoint two auditors for the ensuing year.
- (c) To decide on any resolution which may be duly submitted to the meeting as hereinafter provided.

- 20.2 A copy of the report, audited balance sheet, statement of accounts and estimate shall be given to members at the Annual General Meeting.
- 20.3 Any member desirous of moving any resolution at the Annual General Meeting shall give notice thereof to the Secretary not less than fourteen days before the date of such meeting.
- 20.4 The Committee may at any time for any special purpose call an Extraordinary General Meeting and they shall do so forthwith upon the requisition in writing of any forty members stating the purposes for which the meeting is required.
- 20.5 Seven days before the Annual General Meeting or any Extraordinary General Meeting, a printed or written notice of such meeting and of the business to be transacted thereat shall be sent to every member and no business other than that of which notice has been so given shall be brought forward at such meeting.
- 20.6 At all General Meetings of the Association the President or Vice President, or in their absence a member selected by the meeting, shall take the chair. Every member present entitled to vote shall have one vote upon every motion, and in the case of equality of votes the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
- 20.7 The quorum at all General Meetings shall be as follows; for motions proposing any repeal or amendment of the rules, thirty members; for the repeal of any bye-laws, twenty members; for all other business, ten members.
- 20.8 Any member that is eligible to vote who arrives late to an AGM is not entitled to vote on any pending proposals.
- 20.9 Matters concerning competitions will not be contested at an AGM instead these decisions will be resolved at Committee level with close consultation with team captains.

21. TROPHIES & AWARDS

- 21.1 All trophies belonging to or held by the Association shall be competed for annually according to the rules of competition specified from time to time by the Committee.
- 21.2 All trophies shall be logged by the Treasurer in the register kept by the Association for this purpose together with all necessary details relating to the person(s) in whose custody or possession each said trophy is in during any particular calendar year. Trophies are to be returned by the holder upon request of the Treasurer.
- 21.3 The Treasurer shall at all times ensure that all trophies belonging to or held by the Association are insured.
- 21.4 All trophies shall remain property of the GDA at all times.

21.5 If no representative of a team or member who wins an award (*including monies*) does not turn up to the presentation awards ceremony, they forfeit the right to receive the trophy or awards unless something has been pre-arranged and agreed upon with the Treasurer. This will be the members / teams responsibility to contact the Treasurer.

21.6 Awards will be given on the condition that; for each player to be recognised with an award that they must appear on the scoresheet for one third of all games in a calendar year of a season.

22. BYE-LAWS

The Committee may from time to time enact or amend such bye-laws as they shall think expedient for the better management of or in the interests of the Association provided always that any bye-law enacted is not inconsistent with these Rules.

23. AUDIT

23.1 The financial year of the Association shall end on the last day of the month prior to the AGM in each year, to which day the accounts of the Association shall be balanced.

23.2 At every Annual General Meeting two members of the Association not being trustees or members of the Committee, shall be elected to serve as auditors for the ensuing year. A vacancy occurring in the office of auditor during the year shall be filled by the Committee.

24. FUNDS

24.1 No money or property of the Association or any gain arising from the carrying on of the Association shall be applied otherwise than for the benefit of the Association as a whole, for the repayment of its debts or the fulfillment of its contractual obligations and expenses.

24.2 No member shall except for professional services rendered to the Association at the request of the Committee receive any profit or emoluments from the funds or transactions of the Association.

25. AMENDMENT OF RULES, etc.

25.1 These Rules may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at any Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting PROVIDED that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless it be carried by a majority as specified in Appendix 1 of the members voting thereon.

25.2 The Committee shall from time to time make, repeal and amend all such bye-laws and regulations (*not inconsistent with these Rules*) they shall think expedient for the internal management and well being of the Association. All such bye-laws and regulations shall be binding upon the members until repealed by the Committee or set aside by a resolution of a General Meeting of the Association.

26. BORROWING

If at any time the Association in General Meeting shall pass a resolution authorizing the Committee to borrow money, the Committee shall thereupon be empowered to borrow for the purposes of the Association such amount of money either at one time or from time to time and at such rate of interest and in such form and manner and upon such security as shall be specified in such resolution, and thereupon the trustees shall at the direction of the Committee make all such dispositions of the Association's property or any part thereof and enter into such agreements in relation thereto as the Committee may deem proper for giving security for such loans and interest. All members of the Association, whether voting on such resolution or not, and all persons becoming members of the Association after the passing of such resolution shall be deemed to have assented to the same as if they had voted in favour of such resolution.

27. DISSOLUTION

If at any General Meeting a resolution for the dissolution of the Association shall be passed by a majority of the members present, and such resolution shall at a special General Meeting held not less than one month thereafter at which not less than one-half of the members shall be present be confirmed by a resolution passed by a majority of two-thirds of the members voting thereon, the Committee shall thereupon or at such future date as shall be specified in such resolution proceed to realise the property of the Association and after the discharge of all liabilities shall divide the same equally among all the persons who have been members for not less than ten consecutive years and upon the completion of such division the Association shall be dissolved.

28. INTERPRETATION OF RULES, etc.

The Committee shall be solely responsible for the interpretation of these Rules and of any bye-laws or regulations made hereunder and the decision of the Committee on any question of interpretation or upon any matter affecting the Association and not provided for by these Rules shall be final and binding on all members.

Ratified this 7th day of September 2007

Justin Broton (*President*)

Darren Olivero (*Secretary*)

GDA CONSTITUTION 2007

APPENDIX 1

Para 4.3, Para 9.1, Para 10.5, Para 20.7, Para 25.1;

Only members over the age of 18 may vote at any Meeting of the Association

Para 5.1, Para 10.2;

£20 per male player, i.e. any member over 18 at the time of registration

£10 per male player classed as youth at beginning of season

£10 per female player

£50 Individual membership, i.e. not in a team

Para 10.3, Para 10.5;

£30 per team

Para 18.7(d);

Not less than £5 and not more than £200.

Para 18.8 (c);

£20 fine for failing to score a match without finding a substitute

Para 18.9;

£25 fee for lodging an appeal

Para 4.3, Para 10.5, Para 25.1;

Two thirds of members voting