BLACKWATER & DISTRICT DARTS LEAGUE

RULES

1. (Amended 18th Sept 17) The League is known as "The Blackwater & District Darts League" or "BDDL", and for the purposes of these Rules the "League". Membership is open to all Teams within a nine-mile radius of Blackwater.

2. 2A (Amended 23rd Sept 19) Voting at the AGM to be one vote for each team registered in the previous Winter and/or closing Summer League. Venues with two teams therefore have two votes. New Teams wishing to join the opening Winter League may participate in the discussions and scope a proposal but will be excluded from any vote.
   2B (Amended 23rd Sept 19) Failure to attend the AGM may result in exclusion from that year's league or a possible fine
   2C (Amended 23rd Sept 19) There will be a Registration Fee for each team entered. Any fee will be fixed at the AGM annually but will not be less than £45.00 (previously £30.00) for the Winter League and not less than £35.00 (previously £30.00) for the Summer League

3. Player registration forms must be completed in ink and signed by each player being registered. Players registered with one team cannot under any circumstance play for another team registered to the league. Those with more than one team entered CANNOT interchange players. Infringement of this rule makes offending teams liable to expulsion or as otherwise decided by the league.

4. (Amended 18th Sept 17) All Player Registration Forms must be returned to the League Results Secretary no later than 14 days after the league has started (with Week3 Game Sheet). Any Team failing to return this form will be deducted up to 10 points at the discretion of the League. Each Team will keep a second copy of their Player Registration Form and make it available at the request of the opposing match Team captain. A new player may be registered and played on the night of any game at the discretion of the opposing match Team captain. The registration of the player must be completed at the bottom of that night's Game Sheet.
   a. The League Results Secretary recommends an acceptance to play a newly signed player on the night of registration.
   b. Any disputed new player registered as above may play the following and consequent weeks as normal.
   c. One point per game will be deducted for each non-registered player that is played by any team.
   d. Registration of players will cease 4 games (Week16) before the end of the season, or with any variations advised by the League Results Secretary

5. (Amended 23rd Sept 19) Under normal circumstances along with the Registration Fees (Rule 2C), Teams will be required to contribute £2.00 per league match to League funds (League Match Fees, Winter League only). Fees will be payable at each Captain's meeting if included in the Fixtures or on request of the Results Secretary. Seasonally or in extraordinary circumstances the Leagues Committee will review the collection of the Fees.
   a. Any adjustments to or suspension of the Fees, will be at the discretion of the Leagues Committee.
   b. Any adjustments to or suspension of the Fees, will be resolved at the AGM or at latest the Winter Season Captain's Meeting if scheduled in the Fixtures.
   c. Under normal circumstances suspension of Fees will be for one season only.
   d. Non-attendance by the Team Captain or a Team representative at any scheduled Captain's Meeting's, without a prior and agreed apology will incur a fine of £1.00 for each registered player.

6. If adjustment is required, the Leagues Results Secretary / Committee, whose decision is full and final, will make the allocation of the teams to divisions. Under normal circumstances promotion and relegation will be on a two up two down basis.

7. The winners will hold the master trophies in a safe place for a period of 12 months. These trophies belong to the League and cannot be won outright. All trophies must be returned to the league on demand, duly cleaned and in good condition. Any costs incurred through loss or damage will be borne by the team responsible.

8. (Amended 18th Sept 2023; Amended 18th Sept 17) Matches will normally be played on a Monday of each week but may be rearranged by agreement provided at least three days' notice is given. Failure to give the above notice, the opposition need not comply and can request the original fixture to stand. Any disagreement arising from this must be referred to the League for a decision, which will be full and final.
    a. Any Team cancelling or postponing a match, where less than 3 days' notice is given, will at discretion of the League Results Secretary.
        i. Have 5 points deducted
        ii. Awarded their opponents an average of the Team's game points, rounded up / down to the nearest point, and calculated at the end of the season. A win point will also be awarded.
        iii. (Amended 18 Sept 2023) Be fined £15.00 to cover food if they are an away Team
        iv. In the Winter season only the Gallon point will not be awarded
    b. All postponed games must be played: -
        i. If not re-arranged on the normal Monday night, on any other nights of the week and within 14 days of the original playing date.
        ii. If re-arranged on a normal Monday night, the first available "outstanding match" night or the first available "free" Monday night.
    c. Due to various constraints such as the availability of the number of playing weeks in a Summer or Winter seasons, the League will advise that no cancellations or postponements are permitted. Under these circumstances Teams will have to: -
        i. Play the Game with four or more players. See Rule 9
        ii. Rearrange the Game on another night of the week following the postponed game
        iii. Forfeit the Game and awarded their opponents an average of the Team's game points, rounded up / down to the nearest point, and calculated at the end of the season. A win point will also be awarded
    d. Teams, with 9 or more registered players, cancelling or postponing a match without a valid reason as determined by the League, and without a rearrangement, will forfeit the game and evoke Rule 8a above.
    e. The League will look disapprovingly at any "tactical" cancellations found and evoke Rule 8a above.
    f. Point adjustments will take place at the End of the Season

9. Matches to commence at 20:00hrs, but definitely no later than 20:30hrs. Teams absent without good reason or incomplete at the time will forfeit the match or games as the case may be. Teams turning up for a match with three or less players will automatically loose the match. Their opponents will be awarded average points at the end of the season. Teams turning up with more than three players WILL PLAY THE MATCH forfeiting the relevant points.

10. At least 10 minutes use of the matchboard must be offered to the visiting team. This will be no later than 20:20hrs. This will be naturally decreased if visiting teams arrive later than the above time.

11. The throw to be a standard 7ft 91/4ins. Board height to be 5ft 8ins from the floor. Teams will ensure that the Oche and board used for the all matches and competitions are in first class order. All teams are responsible for their own boards/boards condition.

12. (Amended 18th Sept 17) The two captains will hold a draw to decide the playing order for both the singles and the pairs. Names will be placed on the Game Sheet and chalkboard in the order drawn. Pairs to be drawn after the Singles have been completed. Once the draw has been made names must not be changed. Players who do not take part in the singles may play in the pairs. Players can only play once in the Gallon (Winter only), once in the Singles and once in the Pairs.

13. (Amended 18th Sept 17) Players (CLEARLY) printed full names and SIGNATURE will be placed in the spaces provided on the Game Sheet and must match the Player Registration Form (random check of the names and signatures will occur thought out the seasons). The winning Team is responsible for submitting the completed Game Sheet to the League Result Secretary. To be received no later than 18:00hrs on the Friday of each game week (4 days). Results received later Saturday AM following the game will incur the loss off the winning team's points for that match. This Rule is strictly enforced at the discretion of the League Results Secretary. No excuses will be accepted. The Home Team will provide a blank Game Sheet as issued by the BDDL at the commencement of the season.

14. A **"GALLON"** is played in the Winter League only. This will be played as the first game of the match. One point will be awarded to the winners. A trophy will be presented to the team winning the most gallons (per division). In the event of a tie; teams concerned will play a decider, one game of 1001 up.

15. The First thrower will be decided by one dart each, nearest the bull (home player to throw first). Two bulls or 25's, throw again. In the event of a third leg being required the Away player to set the bull marker.

16. (Amended 27th Sept 2010) The match will consist of 10 games, Singles and Pairs are best of 3 legs, the Gallon of 1 leg 1001 (Winter only). The playing order in Winter will be Gallon, Singles and Pairs; Summer Singles and Pairs. Points will be awarded according to the number of games won, e.g. a win of three singles and two pairs will earn 5 points. A bonus of one point will be awarded to the winning team; the Results Secretary will do this automatically

    a. All Division's format Winter: -
        i. 1 Gallon 1001
        ii. 6 Singles of 501
        iii. 3 Pairs of 601
    b. All Division's format Summer: -
        i. 6 Singles of 501
        ii. 3 Pairs of 601

17. In the event of disagreement, result to be returned to the league in the normal way and annotated "under protest". Both captains should then submit a written report of the difference to be with the league secretary within four days of the match. The Leagues decision will be full and final.

18. (Amended 19th Sept 11) In the event of a tie between teams at the end of the season the team who has won the most matches will count. In the event of a tie still existing then: -

    a. All Division's format Winter: -
        i. The most Gallons will count then
        ii. The team with the most points from the fixtures played between the tied teams will count
    b. All Division's format Summer: -
        i. The team with the most points from the fixtures played between the tied teams will count

    In the event of a tie still existing; the teams will play a deciding match of which the League will arrange the date and neutral venue.

19. ***COMPETITION ENTRY***: - (Amended 14th Sept 26) (Amended 16th Sept 24) (Amended 23rd Sept 19) An entry fee of £35.00 *(formally £25.00)* will entitle a team to enter all registered players in all the League competitions. These will be ***Open Singles***, ***Ladies Singles, Pairs***, ***Mixed Pairs***, ***Fours***, (***Landlord/Landlady & Guest (withdrawn 2018)), and Captain plus Two.*** All Teams will automatically be entered in The ***Gerry Pike Team K.O. Cup*** of which is free to enter. Teams can withdraw from the competition on request to the Results Secretary. Teams must fill in the competition entry form and these should be handed in with the entry fee at the Captain's Meeting if scheduled in the Fixtures or at the request of the Results Secretary. Full Competition Rules will be attached to all draw sheets.

20. All incidents of unsportsmanlike conduct should be notified to the League Results Secretary in writing immediately. The adjudicator's committee will investigate cases. Findings and judgments are binding

21. (Amended 18th Sept 17) Inclusion: ***County Player: -*** Under normal circumstances a cessation of Rules 22 and 23 will be occur.

    a. Each Season confirmation of the cessation of Rules 22 and 23 will be given at the AGM & Winter Registration and / or the Summer Registration.
    b. In the interest of fair play throughout any impending season (Winter or Summer) the option to evoke Rules 22 and 23 will be at the discretion of the BDDL.

22. (Amended 18th Sept 23; Amended 18th Sept 17) Definition: -

    County Player: - For the purposes of the BDDL is.

    a. (Amended 18th Sept 23) Any player that has played for a County or above (ie PDC etc) and / or Country within 18 months of the Committee receiving their registration to play for a team in the BDDL
    b. (Amended 18th Sept 23) Any PDC Registered Player or equivalent.
    c. This does not apply if a player gains' "County" status part way through a season.
    d. The "County" status must be shown on the Player Registration Form.

23. (Amended 18th Sept 17) Limitation: ***County Player***: - Any Team may sign as many County Players as they like however when Rule 21 and 22 are evoked: -

    a. No more than four may be played in any part of a League match i.e. four in the Singles, four in the Doubles and four in the Gallon (Winter Only).
    b. No more than four may be played in any Round of the Gerry Pike Team KO Cup
    c. A Male or Female "County" Player counts as 1 Player.

24. (Added 14th Sept 26) Trophies: - Only Winners Trophies will be presented for the Summer & Winter Leagues. Runners-Up Trophies for the League Divisional Competitions will be suspended at the discretion of the Results Secretary and confirmed at the AGM each season.