

Leicestershire Darts

The Leicestershire Darts Organisation Constitution

1.00 NAME

- 1.01 The darts body is to be known as the LEICESTERSHIRE DARTS ORGANISATION (LDO) and shall be a full member of the UNITED KINGDOM DARTS ASSOCIATION (UKDA) and the ENGLAND DARTS ORGANISATION (EDO).
- 1.02 The organisations shall hereinafter be represented in this document by their respective initials.

2.00 RULES

- 2.01 The LDO shall be governed by the contents of this constitution.
- 2.02 The Leicestershire Super League, which shall be an integral part of the LDO, shall comply with the contents of this constitution, plus any rules and regulations laid down in the Super League Playing Rules and Format.
- 2.03 The LDO shall comply with the rules and regulations of the UKDA and the EDO in so far as membership of those Organisations is concerned.
- 2.04 All darts events under the jurisdiction of the LDO shall be organised in accordance with the UKDA playing rules.

3.00 OBJECTIVES

- 3.01 The LDO shall control, organise, and promote all aspects of the sport of Darts within the geographical confines of the Leicestershire County boundary, unless allowed to play outside.
- 3.02 The LDO shall not control, organise, or promote any darts function outside the Leicestershire County boundary without the prior permission of the neighbouring County Darts Organisations so affected.
- 3.03 The LDO shall undertake to organise and control those sections of darts events relative to the LDO's participation in the activities of both the UKDA and the EDO.

4.00 MANAGEMENT

- 4.01 The LDO shall be managed by and EXECUTIVE COUNCIL which shall comprise of five EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, who shall share some of the functional responsibilities in the management of the Organisation and must be members of the LDO and UKDA.

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4.02 The five Executive Officers will be the CHAIRMAN, GENERAL SECRETARY, TREASURER, ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY, and the SUPER LEAGUE SECRETARY.

5.00 FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

5.01 The EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, once, elected, shall each be responsible for holding a functional office.

5.02 An individual EXECUTIVE OFFICER may be elected to be responsible for more than one functional office.

5.03 There are twelve functional offices to cover: CHAIRPERSON, GENERAL SECRETARY, TREASURER, ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY, SUPER LEAGUE SECRETARY, ASSISTANT CHAIRPERSON, MEN'S TEAM MANAGER, WOMEN'S TEAM MANAGER, STAGE MANAGER, PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, COMPETITIONS MANAGER, and TRANSPORT AND HOTEL MANAGER.

6.00 ELECTIONS

6.01 The PRESIDENT will be an honorary member of the Organisation and shall be elected to office by a full delegates meeting. The PRESIDENT will remain in office at the discretion of the delegates.

6.02 The EXECUTIVE OFFICERS shall each be elected to office at the Annual General Meeting.

6.03 An existing PRESIDENT, or an EXECUTIVE OFFICER, may stand for re-election without having to be nominated.

6.04 A nomination for the position of an EXECUTIVE OFFICER must be made by one Super League delegate and must be seconded by another Super League delegate.

6.05 A nominee must be present at the Annual General Meeting and must indicate his or her willingness to accept the nomination and stand for election.

6.06 A nominee must be an existing Super League team delegate member.

6.07 The LDO auditors shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

6.08 The EXECUTIVE COUNCIL shall be empowered to co-opt officers onto the executive council, but only in the event of mid-term vacancies occurring and only of such numbers as to maintain the number of officers that were elected at the Annual General Meeting.

A co-opted officer may stand for re-election at the next Annual General Meeting without having to be nominated.

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- 6.09 The EXECUTIVE COUNCIL shall be empowered to appoint members of the executive council together with super league delegates for the purpose of forming a sub-committee to organise specific darts functions on behalf of the LDO.
- 6.10 If the PRESIDENT, or any EXECUTIVE OFFICER or SUPER LEAGUE DELEGATE, is found guilty of 'misconduct' then the person shall be requested to resign from the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL or SUPER LEAGUE immediately.
- 6.11 Any person considered by the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL to be failing to carry out his or her elected responsibilities, may be asked to resign from office.

7.00 MEETINGS

- 7.01 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL meetings shall be held at intervals and at times as determined by the executive council.
- 7.02 The quorums for the executive council meetings shall be 4, and in those circumstances where any LDO business is conducted with less than full attendance, then that business shall be as valid as in a meeting with full attendance always providing that there are '4' or more persons present in that meeting.
- 7.03 The quorum for full delegates meetings shall be 9, and in those circumstances where any LDO business is conducted with less than full attendance, then that business shall be as valid as in a meeting with full attendance always providing that there are 9 or more persons present in that meeting.
- 7.04 FULL DELEGATES MEETINGS shall be held at the discretion of the executive council at times and in venues as they shall determine.
- 7.05 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS shall be held at the end of each season at a venue and a time as determined by the executive council.
- 7.06 An EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING shall be called by the executive council if the need arises to amend the LDO constitution, or to amend the super league rules, or to consider and decide upon any matter that is considered by the executive council to be too important to be left to the next appropriate meeting.
- 7.07 A DELEGATE is a person who is officially appointed by a super league team for the purpose of representing that darts team at any LDO meeting called by the executive council and must be elected by a full delegate meeting
- 7.08 A DELEGATE shall be given a minimum of 7 days' notice of any additional general meetings.

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8.00 MEETING AGENDAS

- 8.01 The compilation of meeting agendas shall be conducted by the nominated members of the executive council.
- 8.02 Items for consideration for inclusion on agendas must be in the hands of the nominated members not less than 14 days prior to the meeting in question, or stipulated date which has been notified in writing to all persons authorised to attend such meetings.
- 8.03 The executive council shall reserve the right to exclude any item from an agenda if it does not comply with any stipulated requirements, and if it is considered to be detrimental to the well-being of the LDO.

9.00 VOTING

- 9.01 In the instance of a tied vote, the chairperson or nominated person acting as the chairperson, shall have the right to a casting vote, notwithstanding that that person may have already cast a deliberative vote.
- 9.02 A DELEGATE shall have the right to ONE vote on any matters concerning the LDO business at any meeting that he or she is invited to attend.
- 9.03 Any Super League team owing monies to the LDO shall forfeit the right of the Super League delegate to vote in a meeting in which it is known that a debt is outstanding.
- 9.04 In order to secure that right to vote, the delegate or other Super League team member, shall ensure that all outstanding monies are paid to the LDO before attending a general delegates meeting and by the 30th June in each season, which date shall be prior to attending an Annual General Meeting.
- 9.05 The minute secretary shall record in the minutes of all LDO meetings the numbers of votes cast both 'for' and 'against' any proposals together with the number of abstentions.

A delegate or an executive member can request that the way in which he or she cast their vote be recorded along with all the details of the vote taken.

10.00 FINANCES

- 10.01 The EXECUTIVE COUNCIL shall be jointly responsible for maintaining the organisation's finances in good order. They will ensure that the treasurer shall produce balance sheets and statements at any meetings to verify any financial enquiries in that meeting, if required to do so.

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- 10.02 The EXECUTIVE COUNCIL shall ensure that the organisation's accounts and books are presented to the auditor in sufficient time and provide such information as may be required by the auditor, so that duly audited balance sheets and a financial report may be circulated to all persons authorised to receive them prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- 10.03 The signatories of any LDO accounts shall be TWO functional officers, namely GENERAL SECRETARY and TREASURER.
- 10.04 The treasurer, or other nominated executive officer, shall ensure that the LDO bank mandate is suitably amended, if necessary, immediately after the Annual General Meeting.
- 10.05 All cheques issued from LDO accounts must be signed by the TWO LDO signatories.
- 10.06 All monies shall be made payable to the 'LEICESTERSHIRE DARTS ORGANISATION'. They will be receipted and shall be banked into an account to a national bank.
- 10.07 THREE functional officers, namely chairperson, general secretary, and treasurer, shall be jointly empowered to transfer LDO funds from the first LDO account into another account or accounts for the purpose of securing suitable interest rates for the general benefit of the LDO.
- 10.08 Any outstanding monies must be paid up prior to the general delegates meeting. (See voting rights in clause 9.04).
- 10.09 Any additional outstanding monies incurred after the general delegates meeting must be paid up by the 30th June of each season. (See voting rights in clause 9.04).
- 10.10 The end of the financial year shall be the 30th June in each season for the purpose of finalising and presenting the LDO accounts to the auditors.
- 10.11 A copy of an audited set of LDO accounts, together with a copy of the annual financial report, must be distributed to all persons authorised to receive them prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- 10.12 THREE functional officers, namely chairperson, general secretary, and treasurer, shall be jointly empowered to make any financial arrangements deemed necessary by the executive council; to secure an overdraft facility, a loan, or to enter into a hire purchase agreement on behalf of the LDO.
- 10.13 Members of the executive council or delegates attending a UKDA full council meeting shall be entitled to reasonable 'out of pocket' expenses, subject to the submission of a claim covering the expenses incurred.

Any disputed claim shall be decided at the discretion of the executive council.

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- 10.14 The LDO shall be a non-profit making concern, any surplus made during a financial year being used to promote the sport of darts within the county of Leicestershire, with no dividend being paid to any members.
- 10.15 The decision to wind up the LDO shall be made by the collective body of executive officers and super league delegates remaining at the time and not by an individual.
- 10.16 In the instance of the LDO being wound up, the assets, funds, equipment, and any proceeds derived from such winding up shall be transferred to a charity, to be determined by the remaining membership of the LDO and not to any members of the LDO.

11.00 SPONSORSHIP

- 11.01 FOUR functional officers, namely chairperson, general secretary, treasurer, and public relations officer, shall be jointly empowered to enter into negotiations, and to formulate contractual agreements, with potential sponsors on behalf of the LDO.
- 11.02 In the instance of a member of the LDO being approached with an offer of sponsorship or financial support of any kind, then he or she shall report all the relevant details to the executive council, which shall after due consideration of those details authorise the FOUR principal officers to follow up on the offer with any negotiations as deemed necessary.

12.00 MEMBERSHIP

- 12.01 Membership of the LDO shall be through any darts team operating within the geographical confines of the Leicestershire County boundary.
- 12.02 A darts team wishing to become a full member shall pay an entrance fee, a guarantee fee, and shall pay registration fees for all players registered to play in the super league team, as laid down in the super league rules.

The payment of all the necessary fees shall entitle that darts team to appoint a delegate to represent that darts team at full delegates meetings and annual general meetings, and any other meeting that the delegate is invited to attend by the executive council.

- 12.03 Any super league team that is not represented in an LDO meeting shall be liable to pay a non-attendance fine as laid down in the super league rules.
- 12.04 A full member super league team may enter itself or any of its registered players into all darts events, or tournaments, that are organised by the LDO.
- 12.05 An application to become a super league team may be heard in a meeting held after the Annual General Meeting.

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12.06 Registered super league players whose registration fees have been duly paid, as laid down in the super league rules, shall be deemed to be the 'playing members' of the LDO.

12.07 The LDO executive council reserve the right to refuse to accept a player's super league registration if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the LDO so to do, without assigning a reason.

13.00 ELEGIBILITY OF OFFICIALS AND PLAYERS

13.01 No person who is, or becomes a member of, or plays for any outside darts body shall be eligible to play in any Leicestershire super league team, county team, or in any match, tournament or other event organised by the UKDA including any match, tournament or other event organised by the LDO on behalf of any other darts body.

13.02 For the purpose of this rule, an outside darts body is any darts body other than the LDO a member of the LDO or a darts league affiliated to a member of the LDO, or any team not selected by the LDO a member of the LDO, or a darts league affiliated to a member of the LDO which plays in any formal match, tournament, or event.

13.03 The executive council shall have the power to declare any match, tournament, or other event to be an 'open' event to which the 'eligibility rule' will not apply.

This power shall be exercisable notwithstanding that the match, tournament, or other event has already taken place.

Moreover, a person shall not become 'ineligible' under this rule as a result of playing in, or officiating in any event organised by:

1. World Darts Federation, or any of its members
2. United Kingdom Darts Association (UKDA), or any of its members
3. England Darts Organisation (EDO), or any of its members
4. Scottish Darts Association, or any of its members
5. Irish National Darts Organisation, or any of its members
6. Northern Ireland Darts Organisation, or any of its members
7. National Darts Association of Great Britain, with the exception of the NDA inter-town darts league

In which persons who are members of darts leagues affiliated to the LDO are invited to represent their darts league, county, or as a result of becoming an official of the England Darts Organisation, the United Kingdom Darts Association, or the World Darts Federation.

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- 13.04 Any dispute concerning the eligibility of any person under this rule may be referred in writing at the instance of any officer, darts team delegate, or by the person concerned to the general secretary for inclusion on the agenda of an executive council meeting at any time i.e., such item shall not be subject to the normal '7 days' notice'.
- 13.05 Prior notice of such a meeting and the subject matter thereof, shall be given to the person concerned and to all executive council members, at which the person concerned shall be given reasonable opportunity of being heard.
- 13.06 The decision of such a meeting that a person is 'ineligible' shall be found by unanimous agreement of the executive council.
- 13.07 At any such meeting, any written report received by the general secretary that the person concerned is, or has been a member of, or an official of, or has played for an outside darts body and that person fails to attend to refute the allegation, therein the meeting may infer that the allegation is well founded providing always that the person concerned has been give written notice of the allegation and where it is to be heard.
- 13.08 Any person who is, or becomes, ineligible under this rule shall remain ineligible for a period of 18 months. This period of time shall commence from the date set by the executive council.
- 13.09 The executive council may reduce or increase this time period if it is considered in the interest of the LDO so to do.
- 13.10 If circumstances arise where a decision is required concerning the eligibility of any person under this rule pending reference to an executive council meeting the chairperson shall, upon making such enquiries as they shall deem fit, including where reasonably practicable of the person concerned, have the power to decide the matter, pending a decision of the executive council.
- 13.11 If, for any reason, it is not practicable to obtain a decision from the chairperson, then that same power shall be exercisable by any one of the other members of the executive council.

14.00 SELECTION

- 14.01 The elected selection committee shall be jointly responsible for the selection of players to represent LEICESTERSHIRE in the British inter-county championships.
- 14.02 Super League team delegates are entitled to nominate players for the consideration of the selection committee.
- 14.03 Only players who are playing members of the county super league and are officially registered with the LDO shall be eligible for selection into the county teams. (See notes under the registration procedure in the super league rules).

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- 14.04 In the instance of an 'incident' occurring in an event in which a LEICESTERSHIRE team is participating, then the respective team manager, or executive officer deemed to be responsible for the LDO party, shall be empowered to suspend any player or any official or any outside person from all LDO activities, pending the result of a disciplinary hearing.
- 14.05 In the instance of a team manager not being present at a match, then an executive officer shall deputise for that one match only.

15.00 DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

- 15.01 The LDO shall adopt the procedures laid down in the UKDA code of practice on disciplinary proceedings in any matters concerning the discipline of any LDO players, officials, and members.

A copy of the code of practice is held by the general secretary in the LDO copy of the UKDA authorised handbook and shall be made available for reference on request.

- 15.02 In the instance of an 'incident' occurring in an LDO function or darts event, which is deemed to have been occasioned by any player, official, or any outside person, then any LDO executive officer who is present at the time of the 'incident' shall be empowered to suspend that player or official or outside person from all LDO activities pending the result of a disciplinary hearing.

Such suspension shall be confirmed in writing to the person concerned and a detailed written report prepared for consideration at the subsequent disciplinary hearing.

16.00 PROTESTS

- 16.01 Any protest concerning a decision, or function organised by the LDO must be presented in writing to the general secretary within 7 days of the decision being made or the function being staged.

17.00 AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS

- 17.01 The executive council shall be empowered to recommend amendments or additions to this constitution at any time, the recommendation to be put before a general meeting for simple majority approval.

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NOTE This version of the LDO Constitution was approved by the Super League Delegates at the LDO Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 26th July 1987 and updated in seasons 2005, 2010, and 2022.

SIGNED

Stu Smith general secretary LDO