



Bull & Ton NEWSLETTER

Fall 2010

www.twincitydarts.com

Volume XXXIV No. 3



**2010 Charles F. Stutz Presidential Award winner, Al Finnegan,
and 2010 Sportsperson of the Year, Steve Millman**

See inside for much more.

Visit www.twincitydarts.com for more information on darts.



Hello fellow darters

I hope this latest edition of the Bull & Ton finds all of you in good health.

In October we had our annual Banquet. It was nice to see all who attended. Once again let me congratulate Steve Millman. Steve was awarded the "Sportsperson of the Year" award. As said at the banquet, Steve goes above and beyond the call of duty. He truly is an asset to our organization.

Margo Ulrich was our banquet organizer, once again great job Margo.

Going in to November (wow how time flies) our fall season is coming to a close. I have not heard many complaints about things happening around the league, which tells me that everyone is doing a great job. Let me congratulate all of you for making my job that much easier. From all the team captains for reporting all the scores in a timely fashion, to the Divisional Advisors for getting the scores reported to Paul Cushing, and for Paul getting all the scores on our Website for all to see. This is exactly what I mean when I say everyone doing a great job. Just one glitch and "BANG", it could all fall apart. Thank you.

At the banquet, I was awarded the "Charles F. Stutz Presidential award. I was so over whelmed to have been selected, not just by the award, but having it presented to me by Charles himself. Like I said at the banquet, Charles is truly our Ambassador for the T.C.D.A. I have so much respect for this man as I'm sure you do as well. Again "Thank you

Charles, I have many awards on my wall but this one truly stands at the top all by it's self."

As you are all aware there have been changes made to the rotation of moving up in the divisions. In the past it was always the 1st and 2nd place teams that moved. Well we had to make a change to only the 1st place team will advance. This change needed to be done to keep all divisions as competitive as possible. I want to thank all of you for your understanding in this.

If you are not aware of it, and often thought about how our organization was founded, I strongly recommend that you take a few minutes and click on the section of pie on our web page that reads "History of the T.C.D.A.". I just came back from spending 9 wonderful days down in Las Vegas with good friends, Larry Vietor, Ed and Sally Otjen. As we were sitting out on Ed's deck it was truly entertaining to listen to Ed talk of forming the T.C.D.A. I'm thinking to myself, this is it, this is the man who had a vision of steel tip darts in the Twin Cities. This is the gentleman who founded our organization. With out Ed and Sally and others, there would not be the Twin City Darts Association. Again I highly recommend reading it.

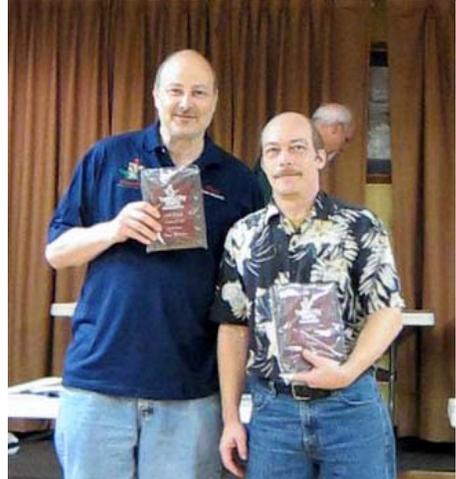
As I close this message to you, I want to wish all of you a Happy and safe Holiday season. I look forward to seeing all of you at our tournaments in the future.

Take care.

Alan Finnegan
President
Twin City Darts Association



Some pictures from the Annual Banquet



New Board Member At Large

To those who don't know me, I'd like to introduce myself. I'm Steve Millman, long time T.C.D.A. member, but brand new board member. I am grateful for being elected to the board and promise to be your voice for issues that concern you about T.C.D.A.. If you have something you would like to share with the Board of Directors, or have a matter you would like to see resolved, or have suggestions for the league, get in touch of me and let me know what is on your mind. You can reach me at Steve.Millman@gmail.com.

By the way, this is a two way street. Look for me to reach out, from time to time, to other T.C.D.A. members to bounce ideas off of them. ©

A few words from the new tournament director

Hope everyone enjoyed the summer and are back in the swing of league darts. I've spent a good portion of the summer figuring out what it takes to put on State and Dartmania. Thank you to those who have been so patient with me and to Ryan and Karin Loch for all their hard work last year!

The Fourth of July turned out to be "Dart Day" at the Twins game when Terry Rantala, Paul and me ran across Ryan and Karin and South Dakotans LaRue and "C." Paul and I were also able to make it to the Autism Tournament Terry hosts in Thunder Bay the weekend of September 25. There was a good turnout, we raised a lot of money for a good cause, and it's always nice to see how other folks run their tournaments. Boyd Wade was kind enough to put us up for the weekend and hosted a great party. The Canadian's all say "Hey!" and look forward to seeing everyone in spring. Here's a couple of pictures from the party....



I included some basic information about State and Dartmania in the Captain's packets. I am in the process of putting together full fliers for those events and will make them available as soon as they're finalized. Just as a reminder, the following are the dates of those events as well as other nearby tournaments. Please consider coming out and showing your support for steel tip darts in general, as well as darts in Minnesota.

2011 Tournaments

Date	Tournament	Location
January 8	Justin Hanson Memorial	Aberdeen, SD
February 11-13	Aberdeen Open	Aberdeen, SD
February 26	State	American Legion North St. Paul
March 18-20	Gold Rush	Mitchell, SD
April 8-10	Dartmania	Ramada Inn and Waterpark Brooklyn Park, MN

As a final note, it was a great honor to have served as one of the Sportspersons of the Year. I hated to miss the Banquet this year, but Paul did a great job at passing the torch to Steve Millman. He has really done a huge amount of work over the past year to promote darts and

represent the TCDA. He is very deserving of the award, and I wanted to extend my sincere congratulations. Hope to see everyone at the tournaments this year!

Karen Ekstrum

©

How Can We Attract/Retain T.C.D.A. Members?

A common question we all have heard is what can be done to attract and retain new members for T.C.D.A.? Each year we see some turnover in our ranks. How can we bring people into our League? How can we keep them coming back?

During this past year we tried to attract new players with our new Cricket League and tried to start a Singles League. Maybe occasional luck of the draw tournaments might help?

What are your ideas? Who should we target? What types of people do you know who might enjoy playing darts in a dart league? What should we do?

Please forward your thoughts and ideas to me at: Steve.Millman@gmail.com ©

American Darts Organization

www.adodarts.com

Are you interested in competing on a Regional or National Level against other Dart Players? From time to time the American Darts Organization (ADO) stages competitions in order to choose representatives from a region to compete in National Events.

The T.C.D.A., as a member of the ADO, is notified when such activities take place. As our new ADO Rep, I can try to get the word out to our membership when I hear from ADO.

By the way, if you throw a Ton 80 in an ADO recognized event, such as Dartmania, and you let me know, I will submit your name to the ADO so that they recognize you in their newsletters.

If you have questions, contact me at Steve.Millman@gmail.com ©

Sportsmanship

By Steve Millman

I won't presume to understand why I was chosen this year as 2010 Sportsperson of the Year; but I would like to say to all who nominated me or voted for me, thank you. It was a very unexpected and much appreciated honor.

I'd like to share some personal thoughts with the group about Sportsmanship (or Sportspersonship if you prefer).

In T.C.D.A. we shake hands before a match, and at the end of the night. We tap fists after each leg. We try to be good sports by winning graciously and accepting losses without anger or humiliation. We try to be helpful to others. If someone breaks their shaft and you have a spare, help them out. When you have a visiting team come to your pub, make them feel at home. T.C.D.A. is not a job, it's a fun, recreational pastime.

In respect to our league, volunteer if you can. If you have great ideas for promoting the league or attracting players, bring them to the board's attention. Ideas are always welcome but more consideration is given to those who stand behind their ideas and offer to help, or even lead efforts.

T.C.D.A. is your league, and mine. The more good natured fun and friendly competition people find in league play, the more likely they will keep coming back for more. Lets all help by being great sports.

©

Singles League

By Steve Millman

We are still hoping to start a new Singles League sometime soon. The Singles League would consist of a number of players throwing round-robin against each other in games of 501/301/Cricket. We could play out of one or more pubs, once a week or once a month. The league is intended for one-on-one friendly competition. If you are possibly interested in throwing in a Singles League and/or have thoughts you would care to share your thoughts on the subject, contact me at Steve.Millman@gmail.com

Some Fun Cricket Games

By Steve Millman

At the end of our night in Cricket League opposing Captains agree on the final Cricket game of the night. We choose between regular Cricket (20s thru 15s and Bulls), Chase (20s thru 10s, no Bulls), Minnesota Cricket (20s thru 15s, Bulls, Doubles, Triples and Threes in a Bed) and Ultimate Cricket (Minnesota Cricket + Chase Numbers 14 thru 10). If you haven't tried any of these variations, give them a shot. They're a lot of fun. ©

A Question for Classic League Players/Captains

There has been some talk about expanding Classic League format to 11 points. by expanding cricket to 3 games, not 3 legs. The first 2 games would consist of best of 3 legs and would be regular cricket. The last game would be Minnesota Cricket or Captains choice of another cricket game such as regular cricket or chase.

If you play in Classic League, how would you feel about this expansion? Should this change be adapted? If so, should it be for all Classic Divisions or only A and AA? Players/Captains, we'd like your feedback. Email me at

Steve.Millman@gmail.com

©