

TWIN CITY DARTS ASSOCIATION



Post Office Box 583133
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55458-3133

TCDA BYLAWS

Part I – pgs. 01 - 08
Revised November, 2017

TCDA RULES AND PROCEDURES

Part 2 – pgs. 01 - 12
Revised November, 2017

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TCDA BYLAWS TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARTICLES	TOPIC	PAGE
I	Name	2
II	Definitions	2
III	Objectives	2
IV	Membership	2
V	Fees	3
VI	The Board	3
VII	Board Duties/Quorum	4
VIII	Duties of Titled Officers	4
IX	No Vote Proviso	5
X	Meetings	5
XI	Annual Elections	6
XII	Expenses	7
XIII	Contracts and Agreements	7
XIV	TCDA Discipline and Protests	7
XV	Recall of Divisional Advisors	7
XVI	Policy	8
XVII	General	8
XVIII	Disposition of Assets	8

TWIN CITY DARTS ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of the organization shall be the **Twin City Darts Association, Inc.** Incorporation papers for said organization are on file in the State of Minnesota.

ARTICLE II – DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are integral to the terms of these **Bylaws**:

Section 1 – Whenever the initials **TCDA** are used, they shall mean **Twin City Darts Association, Inc.**

Section 2 – Whenever the term **Board** is used, it shall mean that annually elected body described in Article VI, Section 1.

Section 3 – Whenever the term **Senior Board Member** is used, it shall mean the most senior Board Member present in terms of continuous service.

Section 4 – Whenever the term **Member** is used, it shall mean an individual whose Membership fee for the current season is paid and accepted by the TCDA.

Section 5 – Whenever the term **Appointed Position** is used, it shall mean a non-elected, non-voting position created by and as needed by the Board. Appointed positions have voting rights only when previously granted by the President.

Section 6 – Whenever the term **Honorary Member** is used, it shall mean an individual who by his actions has attained special achievements, contributed outstanding efforts or made significant contributions to the game of Darts in general, or to the TCDA specifically.

Section 7 – Whenever the term **Neutral** is used, it shall mean a Member not involved in the Team, location or League under discussion and to whom the No Vote Proviso does not apply.

Section 8 – As used in these **Bylaws**, masculine pronouns shall be deemed to include all genders and singular or plural numbers, whenever the context so indicates or implies.

Section 9 – The TCDA fiscal year is 1 July through 30 June.

Section 10 – **Rules and Procedures** refer to a separate TCDA document related to rules of play.

Section 11 – As used in these **Bylaws**, the term **Communication** shall refer to official Board communications to the Membership, consisting of mail, website postings, emails, and other such means as are currently used at the time of communication.

ARTICLE III – OBJECTIVES

Section 1 – The objectives of the TCDA are as follows:

- A) Promote the sport of Steel Darts throughout the State of Minnesota.
- B) Organize, manage and develop Steel Darts in the Twin Cities area.
- C) Sanction League competition in accordance with TCDA rules of play.
- D) Publish and distribute (digitally or otherwise, at the discretion of the Board) an Association newsletter (*Bull and Ton*).
- E) Improve conditions of play in TCDA organized, sponsored or sanctioned competitions, including League play.
- F) Coordinate and assist in the functions and activities of Darts, in general, in the Twin Cities Area.
- G) Establish and maintain friendly relationships with similar associations and Leagues within Minnesota and throughout the United States of America.
- H) Represent the Twin Cities on a nationwide Steel Darts basis.

Section 2 – The TCDA shall be a non-profit, non-political, non-sectarian and non-sexist organization.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Membership is open to anyone who evidences interest in darts as a sport, and is in full compliance with Article XIV. Members under 21 years of age have the sole responsibility to ensure eligibility to shoot in any approved TCDA location. The TCDA shall not be held responsible if age limits prohibit access.

Section 2 – All Membership applications are subject to approval by the Board.

Section 3 – A Membership may be terminated or restricted with cause by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board or in accordance with Article XIV.

Section 4 – A non-voting Honorary Membership may be issued at the discretion of and with a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board.

ARTICLE V – FEES

Section 1 – Membership dues and Sponsor fees shall be established by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board present, and are payable as determined by the Board.

Section 2 – Tournament, social, other incidental fees, and prizes that become necessary from time to time shall be established by the Board.

Section 3 – Membership dues shall be applicable to the period established by the Board and approved by the Board (see Article IV, Section 2). An applicant shall be considered properly registered when, within current policies, his application card and appropriate fee has been received by the Secretary.

Section 4 – Sponsor fees shall be applicable to each season. Sponsors failing to submit their fees on or before the announced time could cause their Team(s) to be dropped from the League, or incur other penalties, as deemed appropriate by the Board and set out in the **TCDA Rules and Procedures** (See Article IV in the **TCDA Rules and Procedures**).

Section 5 – Annual Membership dues permit the Member to participate in TCDA League Play during the period(s) established pursuant to Article V, Section 3 of these **Bylaws**. The Board may determine a proration of dues for partial year Membership.

Section 6 – There is no Membership fee associated with an Honorary Member. An Honorary Member will receive a publicly presented lifetime Membership card and plaque from the TCDA in recognition.

Section 7 – Board Members serving as of February 1 of each year shall receive free Membership for that year. Board Members resigning or removed for cause may be required to pay pro-rated season's dues.

Section 8 – Divisional Advisors shall receive free Membership so long as they serve as a Divisional Advisor for both spring and fall seasons of the Membership year. If a Divisional Advisor serves as a Divisional Advisor only for the Spring season or only for the Fall season, they shall be responsible for paying one half of the current annual Membership dues. If a Divisional Advisor has already paid Membership dues prior to becoming a Divisional Advisor, the TCDA shall reimburse that person one-half of the Membership dues previously paid.

ARTICLE VI – THE BOARD

Section 1 – Voting Board Members shall be comprised of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and five Members At-large.

Section 2 – Appointed Positions serve at the pleasure of the Board, appointed by the President, with majority approval by the Board present. Appointed Positions do not have voting privileges unless otherwise specifically granted by the President. These Appointed Positions are subject to the rules, procedures and order applicable to, and governing of, Board Meetings. Appointed Positions serve no fixed tenure and may be removed by the President, without cause or appeal, subject to majority approval of the Board present. Appointed Positions include but are not limited to Divisional Advisors, *Bull and Ton* Editor, Tournament Director, and Webmaster.

Section 3 – The four elected titled Officers shall be bonded.

Section 4 – When a Board vacancy occurs, sufficient additions shall be made in accordance with Sections 9 and 10 of this Article to bring Board Membership to the required total. Such additions should be made no later than the next regular monthly Board Meeting following the creation of the vacancy. No joint offices may be held.

Section 5 – Board Members shall be elected for a period of two years and shall take office as specified in these **Bylaws**. The Board may determine by a majority vote to stagger the terms of office.

Section 6 – A Board Member automatically resigns when, without sufficient cause, he fails to appear at three consecutive meetings. Board Member may appeal such resignation to the full Board, wherein a majority (2/3) of total Board voting in favor is required to rescind resignation.

Section 7 – Sufficient cause is defined as Acts of God, personal hardship, or improper notice per Article VII, Section 1.

Section 8 – Board Members resigning per Section 6, above, shall not be permitted to run for office in the next two elections, and may not be appointed to any position for the same term.

Section 9 – Should a Board Member resign, die or be removed from office, the President shall be empowered to appoint a replacement, provided first consideration is given to those nominees at the last election. The first person to be considered is the one having the most votes and so on down the list until the vacancy is filled.

Section 10 – When the vacancy is not filled in accordance with Section 9, above, the President will fill the vacancy at his discretion provided the candidate was eligible for office at the preceding election. All such appointments are subject to approval by 2/3 of the full Board.

Section 11 – Any Board Member who resigns without sufficient cause (see Article VI, Section 7), is prohibited from running for elected office for the next two elections.

ARTICLE VII – BOARD DUTIES/QUORUM

Section 1 – The Board should meet at least once each month. Meeting dates and locations are to be determined by the President. Attendance shall be excused if notice of the meeting is not received at least three (3) days prior to the meeting.

Section 2 – Five (5) of the elected nine (9) Board Members in attendance shall constitute a quorum. In the absence of the President and Vice President, the Senior Board Member present shall assume the Chair.

Section 3 – Should two (2) consecutive Board Meetings, scheduled as per Section 1, fail to produce a quorum; the Board shall be considered dissolved (See Article X, Section 7).

Section 4 – Should a social event or an Association sponsored tournament be scheduled in the interim between the dissolution of the Board and an Election Meeting, those Members in attendance at the second no quorum Board Meeting must take appropriate action to ensure the success and continuity of such an event or tournament.

Section 5 – The Board may, if needed, conduct its business by phone or email or other such means deemed necessary in order to conduct a vote. The entirety of the Board must be included and the results must be included in the next Board minutes.

ARTICLE VIII – DUTIES OF TITLED OFFICERS

Section 1 – President: The President shall preside at all meetings unless excused by virtue of the No Vote Proviso. The President shall vote last if a polled vote is called. His signature will be one of the four (4) valid signatures on the Association checking and savings accounts. The President shall decide all questions of order, appoint all Committees, unless otherwise ordered, and be an ex officio Member of all Committees.

Section 2 – Vice President: The Vice President shall assist the President in maintaining the efficiency of the operation and, in either the absence or resignation of the President, he shall assume the duties normally performed by the President. The Vice President is responsible for ensuring that the equipment and the darts playing area provided by each Sponsor meet minimum standards and are acceptable to the TCDA. His signature will be one of the four valid signatures on Association checking and savings accounts.

Section 3 – Should both the President and Vice President take leave of office, the Senior Board Member shall assume the duties of the President with the provision that he shall call an **Election Meeting** within sixty (60) days of their leaving office in accordance with Article X, Sections 7C through 7F.

Section 4 – Secretary: The Secretary will record, file and distribute the minutes of all Board meetings, prepare and issue election ballots, receive all Applications for Membership and attendant dues (all dues received will be tendered to the Treasurer at the next scheduled Board meeting) , notify parties of their election to the Board, handle correspondence, file a copy of all weekly Standing Sheets, distribute all meeting notices and announcements, and, at the expiration of his term of office, turn over all pertinent books and papers to his successor. His signature will be one of the four valid signatures on Association checking and savings accounts. Certain duties may be delegated to an appropriate committee or Appointed Position.

Section 5 – Treasurer: The Treasurer shall directly receive and maintain sole custody of all TCDA funds and shall promptly deposit all monies received. He shall be responsible for all collection of fees and fines. He shall be required to submit a Treasurer's Report monthly. The Treasurer, at the discretion of the Board shall submit the books for an annual audit at the end of each Fiscal Year. If the Board so orders, an independent auditing firm will be engaged to conduct the audit review and submit their findings to the Board. The Treasurer should prepare a simplified financial report to be published in the *Bull and Ton* during the first quarter of each year. He will notify immediately the appropriate Divisional Advisor, Sponsor or individual of all returned checks. He shall turn over all pertinent books, records and papers to his successor.

Section 6 – Payments: All expenditures or withdrawals from TCDA funds must be approved by a simple majority of the Board present or by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at a General Membership Meeting.

ARTICLE IX – NO VOTE PROVISIO

Section 1 – No Board Member may vote on disciplinary issues or protests where a conflict of interest exists.

Section 2 – Should this Proviso deplete the Board below a quorum level, it is the responsibility of the Senior Neutral Board Member to assemble a quorum from the list of Neutral Divisional Advisors or Captains. The voting restrictions per Article VI, Section 2 will be waived in this instance for the Neutral Advisors or Captains.

ARTICLE X – MEETINGS

Section 1 – Board Meetings: Such meetings shall be comprised of only Board Members and Appointed Positions in accordance with Article VI, Sections 1 & 2. TCDA Members who are not Board Members or Appointed Positions may attend Board Meetings at the invitation of the President or presiding officer, or at the invitation of the Board as approved at a prior meeting. The President or the presiding officer reserves the right to expel any invitee at his sole discretion.

Section 2 – General Membership Meetings: A minimum of one General Membership Meeting per fiscal year is mandatory. One such meeting may be for the purpose of elections. The General Membership Meeting shall be held upon such notice as the Board deems reasonable. Any proposed **Bylaw** changes or agenda items must be received by the Secretary, in writing, at least five (5) days prior to the meeting. All motions considered at a General Membership Meeting require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of those Members present for passage.

Section 3 – Captains’ Meetings: Such meetings shall be comprised of the Board, Divisional Advisors, and, the Captain or authorized representative from each registered Team. It shall be incumbent on the meetings’ chairman to introduce all Board Members and Divisional Advisors, disperse Captains’ kits, announce any changes to the **Rules and Procedures**, and declare any equipment deficiencies to be corrected prior to League play commencement. Such meetings should be scheduled no later than seven (7) days prior to the first night of season play.

Section 4 – Joint Meetings: At the discretion of the Board, the General Membership Meeting and a Captains’ Meeting may be combined.

Section 5 – Special General Meetings: Such meetings may be called for by any Member and for a specific purpose only. The specific purpose must be in writing and witnessed by the signatures of at least forty (40) Members in good standing or ten (10) percent of the current Membership, whichever is less. Membership numbers must accompany each signature. No other business will be discussed at such a meeting. The Board must announce the time and place for such a meeting no later than sixty (60) days from date of receipt of petition by the Secretary. The **No Vote Proviso** as described in Article IX shall apply to those Members attending a Special General Meeting. Passage of the motion being considered requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote by those Members present.

Section 6 – Recall Meetings: Any Board Member may be recalled for cause (usually dereliction of duty). Any Member in good standing may initiate Recall Proceedings in accordance with Section 2 or 5, above. The decision to recall may be appealed in accordance with Article XIV, Section 2.

Section 7 – Election Meetings: An Election meeting is called only to address Article VII, Section 3 or Article VIII, Section 3.

- A) Should the dissolution of the Board take place less than sixty (60) days prior to the end of the incumbent Boards expiration of tenure, it shall be the responsibility of those Board Members attending the second no quorum Board Meeting to cause the Board Elect to assume office immediately and, if requested, to assist the new Board in successfully conducting any imminent, planned social event or Association sponsored tournament.
- B) Should the dissolution of the Board occur any time prior to sixty (60) days before the end of the incumbent Boards expiration of tenure, those Members present at the second non-quorum Board Meeting shall arrange and call for an Election Meeting within thirty (30) days of the second non-quorum Board Meeting.
- C) The Secretary or, in his absence, the Senior Board Member will announce the Election Meeting and call for candidates in the first subsequent Standings Sheet.
- D) The Election Meeting shall be conducted in accordance with Article XI, as appropriate, exclusive of Sections 1 and 5.
- E) Votes will be tallied at the Election Meeting by the Secretary or, in his absence, the Senior Board Member present at the Election Meeting.
- F) Officers elected at the Election Meeting will assume office, effective immediately.

Section 8 – Unless otherwise specified, all meetings shall be called at the discretion of the President.

Section 9 – Unless otherwise specified, meeting announcements must be communicated at least five (5) days in advance of the meeting.

Section 10 – It is the responsibility of each Member to maintain a current and valid address with the Secretary. Persons other than Sponsors and individuals actually domiciled at a sponsor’s place of business, who use a sponsoring establishment as their current and valid address, will not be included in any TCDA communications issued by the Board. Each Team registered for any TCDA League season is required to submit to the Secretary an e-mail address for the Team. Communications sent to the submitted e-mail address shall be considered delivered to the entire Team. The Team Captain is responsible for notifying his entire Team as to the contents of any such e-mail notice.

ARTICLE XI – ANNUAL ELECTIONS

Section 1 – Elections shall be held annually during the period of February 01 through April 30. Newly elected officers and Board Members shall assume their respective offices on June 1.

Section 2 – To be eligible for a Board position, the individual must have been a Member of the TCDA during the preceding Spring and Fall Seasons and not prohibited by any Bylaw exclusions. It is the expectation that Board Members shall remain active in the organization's Leagues throughout their term(s) of office.

Section 3 – To be eligible for the position of President an individual must have been an active Member of the TCDA for at least two calendar years immediately preceding the election for which he is a candidate.

Section 4 – The position of Treasurer is exempt from Section 2, above. Rather, qualification for the office of Treasurer shall be based on prior experience in the field of accounting. The nominees for Treasurer need not be Members, but they must possess a general knowledge of the Sport of Darts and be nominated by a Member in good standing.

Section 5 – The Secretary shall call for candidates for all TCDA Board positions (titled Officers and Members At-large) no sooner than January 1 of each year. Publishing the call for candidates two separate times in the weekly standings sheets shall be sufficient notice. The call for candidates shall list the positions that will be on the upcoming ballot. Potential candidates shall have at least 14 days from the initial call for candidates to submit their names in writing or email to the TCDA Secretary. The call for candidates shall contain a deadline date for submission of candidacy. Those qualified persons wishing to place themselves in contention for TCDA Office or Offices shall notify the Secretary in writing or email no later than the date specified in the call for candidates. Date of Postmark or email delivery shall be the determining factor. Oral notice to the Secretary or the President may be accepted, however it is not guaranteed until communicated to the prospective candidate by the Secretary via signed reply. For the avoidance of doubt, a read-receipt email (or equivalent, as appropriate) does not constitute a signed reply by the Secretary.

EXCEPTION: This section is not applicable when conditions are those set forth in Article VI, Sections 9 and 10.

Section 6 – All elections shall be by private ballot.

Section 7 – One ballot for each individual Member shall be prepared including the designated positions up for election. It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary to construct such a ballot.

Section 8 – No Member may vote more than once per candidate per office unless more than one Board Member At-large position is up for election, in which case a Member may vote for as many candidates for Member At-large as there are Member At-large positions up for election.

Section 9 – The President shall appoint an election committee to tally the ballots.

Section 10 – Should more than two candidates for a titled office be nominated and run for an aforementioned office, the following shall prevail:

- A)** Any candidate receiving more than fifty (50) percent of the votes cast shall be considered elected.
- B)** Should **A)** not prevail, there will be a runoff election between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes on the first ballot.
- C)** In the case of Members At-large, the candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to the open positions. In the event of a tie for the last open position, a runoff election will be held between candidates involved in the tie.

Section 11 – Candidates for titled office may also run for a Member At-large position in the same election. However, a Member may not hold a titled office and the position of Board Member At-large at the same time. If a Member runs for a titled office and Board Member At-large and wins both positions, the Member must, within 7 days of notification of the final results of the election, relinquish one position. The Member who finished second in the election for the relinquished position shall assume that position. The identity of the second place finishers shall not be made known to the Member who must relinquish a position.

Section 12 – This Article may be affected by any authorized means of Communication.

Section 13 – Election results shall be entered into the Board minutes with full election results.

ARTICLE XII – EXPENSES

Section 1 – Any Member, at the direction of the Board, is to be reimbursed for all legitimate, actual and reasonable expenses incurred.

Section 2 – All expenses are subject to approval of a simple majority of the Board Members in attendance at a Board Meeting.

Section 3 – It is recognized that those persons serving as Board Members or Appointees shall in the normal course of their duties incur miscellaneous minor expenses. They shall be reimbursed at each monthly Board Meeting. Payment shall be contingent upon the successful completion of their assigned duties.

ARTICLE XIII – CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

Section 1 – The Board shall have authority to enter into contracts and agreements in the name of the TCDA. Such contracts and agreements must bear the signature of two current Officers of the Board, both in good standing at the time of signature, in order to make such contracts or agreements binding upon the TCDA.

ARTICLE XIV – TCDA DISCIPLINE AND PROTESTS

Section 1 – Perspective: Categorically, and without restriction, the TCDA reserves the right to censure, fine, suspend or expel (terminate) any Member who willfully creates disharmony, behaves in a manner prejudicial to order and discipline, or tarnishes the image of the sport of Darts.

No player, official, Sponsor or spectator needs to tolerate harassment, belligerency, defamation, or poor sportsmanship from any TCDA Member.

However, remedy for such infractions are not the sole purview of the TCDA. Where the incident occurred has significant impact on who provides subsequent disciplinary action. To wit:

- A)** Non-TCDA sponsored events, tournaments and matches. Problems in public or private establishments are the province of the injured party, the owner(s), or bartender, who may seek redress under local and state law by ejection, police intervention or arrest.
- B)** Non-affiliated association events or League play. In that the TCDA does not legislate, dictate or control non-affiliated association play, the TCDA has no right of disciplinary intervention in the conduct of a non-affiliated association sponsored event. However, with the exception of expulsion from a given tournament by the Tournament Director to restore order, the TCDA recommends that any disciplinary action be the result of non-affiliated association Board consideration. Too, once disciplinary action has been taken by the non-affiliated association Board, it may petition the TCDA to support, endorse or extend its action on an area wide level, including TCDA sponsored events and/or League play.
- C)** TCDA sponsored events, tournaments and League play.
- D)** An infraction or altercation at a TCDA sponsored activity would definitely be cause for disciplinary action by the TCDA Board, including but not limited to: censure, probation, fines, suspension or expulsion.

Section 2 – The procedure for processing a complaint, protest or appeal is set out in the **TCDA Rules and Procedures**.

Section 3 – Fines:

- A)** When a Member, found guilty of conduct unbecoming, a group or person may be fined for the infraction. The President, following consultation with the Board (who shall assist the President in the determination of the amount), shall levy the fine.
- B)** If the fine is not paid to the Treasurer within thirty (30) days of notification, the Member will be automatically suspended from all TCDA sponsored events and lose his Membership for a period of at least one (1) calendar year effective from the date the Treasurer notifies the Board of default. The Member shall not be reinstated under any circumstances until the fine is paid, unless the Board, by majority vote, rescinds the fine.

ARTICLE XV – RECALL OF DIVISIONAL ADVISORS

Section 1 – Any Divisional Advisor may be recalled by a two-thirds majority of the Board or by a simple majority vote of those Members playing in that Divisional Advisor's division. The TCDA may affect this Article by official communications.

Section 2 – The No Vote Proviso does not apply to this Article.

Section 3 – A Divisional Advisor recall may be initiated by a Division Member or Sponsor or by majority vote of the Board.

Section 4 – Sponsor initiated action shall be governed by Article XIV, Section 2.

Section 5 – Division Member initiated action requires that a list of charges and supporting documentation, if available, in the form of a petition, requesting recall be submitted to the TCDA Secretary.

Section 6 – Procedure:

- A) The petition will have a signature page identifying each Division Member by name and Membership number. The petitioner may acquire, upon request to the Secretary, a complete list of Division Members.
- B) A copy of this petition will then be sent to each Member of the Division in question by the petitioner.
- C) Each division Member must vote either pro or con, then sign and return the signature page to the Member initiating the action. Failure to vote will be counted as a con vote.
- D) If more than 50% vote pro, a copy of each signature page will then be sent to the Secretary.
- E) The Secretary will present the petition to the Board, requesting formal notification.
- F) The President will notify the Divisional Advisor in writing of his recall.
- G) The Divisional Advisor will have a right of appeal in accordance with Article XIV.
- H) If more than 50% pro vote is not obtained, the recall petition is defeated.

Section 7 – When the recall is successful, the TCDA will commence the process of appointing a new Divisional Advisor pursuant to Article VI, Section 2.

Section 8 – Board initiated action shall provide the Divisional Advisor with notification as to the reasons for the initiation of a recall vote by the Board and shall give the Divisional Advisor the opportunity to address the Board relative to those reasons.

ARTICLE XVI – POLICY

Section 1 – Temporary Policy changes and rulings, as approved by a simple majority vote of the Board may be made to ensure the well-being of the Association. General information about these rulings will be made available in the form of announcements issued by the Board. Any temporary policy changes and rulings that affect these **Bylaws** will be presented at the next General Membership meeting for approval.

Section 2 – It is the responsibility of all Board Members, Divisional Advisors and Captains to read any notice or announcement issued by the Board.

Section 3 – It is also the responsibility of the Divisional Advisors and Captains to relay the information contained in the aforementioned notices or announcements to the organizational body they represent.

ARTICLE XVII – GENERAL

Section 1 – These **Bylaws** may be amended by the General Membership provided proper notice is given per Article X, Section 2. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Members in attendance shall be required to alter these **Bylaws**.

Section 2 – The **Rules and Procedures** supplements these **Bylaws** and are devised for the purpose of clarity, uniformity and play. The matters related in the **Rules and Procedures** are solely the purview of the Board.

Section 3 – The order of business and/or procedures of any meeting called or any subject not covered by these **Bylaws** or noted in Board Minutes, shall be subject to Roberts Rules of Order, Revised. Should there be a conflict with these **Bylaws** or **Rules and Procedures** and Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, the latter shall prevail.

ARTICLE XVIII – DISPOSITION OF ASSETS IN THE EVENT OF DISSOLUTION

Section 1 – In the event of the dissolution of the TCDA, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all of the liabilities of the TCDA, dispose of the assets of the TCDA by distributing said assets at the discretion of the TCDA Board, with the proviso that no Member of the Board of Directors, no Officer, and no League Member may receive a direct financial benefit unless all TCDA Members receive a substantially equal benefit.

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TCDA RULES AND PROCEDURES

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ARTICLES	TOPIC	PAGE
I	Purpose	2
II	Definitions	2
III	Membership	3
IV	Sponsorship	3
V	Divisions	3
VI	Schedules	3
VII	Equipment	4
VIII	Rules of Play	4
IX	Team and Partnered Game Factors	5
X	Player/Team Status	5
XI	Addition of New Players	5
XII	Conditions of Play	6
XIII	Beginning a Game	7
XIV	Scoring and Marking	7
XV	Forfeits	8
XVI	Reporting	8
XVII	Results	9
XVIII	Postponements	9
XIX	Venues	10
XX	Team Withdrawing	10
XXI	Division Champions and Playoffs	10
XXII	Awards	10
XXIII	Protests and Complaints	11
XXIV	Review Committees	11
XXV	Gambling	11
XXVI	Sportsmanship	12
XXVII	Notices and Announcements	12
XXVIII	Divisional Advisors	12
XXIX	Recall of Divisional Advisors	12

TWIN CITY DARTS ASSOCIATION RULES AND PROCEDURES

ARTICLE I – PURPOSE

The purposes of these **Rules and Procedures** are:

- A) To give substance to the actual conduct of TCDA events, including League play.
- B) To enhance, extend and implement the **Bylaws** of the Association; and to provide processes and procedures for the Membership to ensure accountability of the Board, its Appointees and Divisional Advisors.

Note: The **Bylaws** and **Rules and Procedures** are available on the TCDA website.

ARTICLE II – DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are integral to the terms of these **Rules and Procedures**:

Section 1 – Board: As defined in the **Bylaws** Article VI, the governing body of the TCDA.

Section 2 – Chalker: Scorekeeper during a Leg.

Section 3 – Cork: Bull or Bullseye.

Section 4 – Designated Player: A Team Member or substitute whose name appears on the declared Format Scoresheet of a given TCDA Match.

Section 5 – Format: Type and number of Games to be played in what order by which designated player in a Match, as specified on the score sheet.

Section 6 – League: consists of Divisions, Teams and/or Individuals that have the following in common: play on the same night, play the same format, and whom compete for the same awards. Multiple Leagues may be formed on the same night.

Section 7 – New Member: is a person whom has never previously registered for a TCDA Membership, has never been assigned a TCDA Membership number, has not paid dues, past or present, nor have they ever played in any TCDA League.

Section 8 – Scheduling Committee: committee appointed by the President to include the League Secretary and other such Board Members as deemed necessary. Scheduling Committee has responsibility for creating all schedules of play, for placing new Teams into the appropriate division's and/or Leagues and for recommending movement of Teams from one division to another, when one season ends and another begins.

Section 9 – Season: a designated time frame in which Teams or individuals compete for awards. The Board is responsible for defining the dates of all seasons, which typically follow two standard time frames, spring and fall.

Section 10 – In-house: a designation given to Leagues in which League Members do not travel, all play out of the same venue, on the same night under the same format and compete for the same awards. In-house Leagues are not subject to the distance requirements outlined in Article XIX of these **Rules and Procedures**.

Section 11 – Membership Year: is defined as the 12-month consecutive period beginning on February 1st and continuing until January 31st. The Membership Year defines the period in which Members have active voting and playing rights.

Section 12 – Neutral: A Member not participating in the Division or sponsoring pub in or for which a protest or policy matter is being discussed prior to a decision being made.

Section 13 – Point: Score. One point is awarded for each Game won. Points won are accumulated weekly for each Team and posted in the weekly standing sheet.

Section 14 – Schedule: Order of competition on a weekly basis.

Section 15 – Straight Start: Scoring commences without the necessity of first landing a dart in the outer (doubles) ring.

Section 16 – Structure of Play:

- A) **Leg:** Usually, one-third (1/3) of a Game. Winning 2 of 3 Legs shall constitute a Game won. However, Leg may become a Game when the Format specifies a single Leg Game.
- B) **Game:** Usually, 2 out of 3 Legs. However, a Game may be equivalent to a Leg when the Format specifies a single Leg Game. A Game also denotes a fraction of a Match, which may differ by League or Division depending on the format determined by the TCDA for that League or Division.
- C) **Match:** A night's play is comprised of a set number of Games as determined by the TCDA for that League or Division.

- D) **Legal Throw shall be defined as:** a player who takes position on the Oche Line, initiates arm movement with the clear intent of releasing the dart towards the Board and which the dart is released across the Oche Line. Once a dart has been legally thrown, it cannot be put in play again. A dart need not stick in the scoring surface to constitute a legal throw. Darts dropped, where the intent was clearly not to release, are not deemed legal throws and the player may still put that dart in play.
- E) **Oche Line:** The line which a shooter must stand on or behind to have a legal throw.

Section 17 - As used in these **Rules and Procedures**, masculine pronouns shall be deemed inclusive of all genders and the singular or plural number, whenever the context so indicates or implies.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 – Only registered Members in good standing, approved guests or authorized substitutes may participate in TCDA activities. Tournaments, as approved by the TCDA, may be the exception to this rule, allowing non-Members to participate.

Section 2 – Registered players will receive a Membership card. The Membership number is issued in perpetuity. Members should apply for the same number if they interrupt their Membership and become a Member again at a later date.

Section 3 – Membership dues permit the Member to play in those periods determined by the Board and shall be paid no later than the date specified by the Board. Dues may be prorated for partial year participation.

Section 4 – Team rosters, Membership applications and Membership dues for new players are to be submitted to the TCDA no later than the date specified, by notification to Team Captains.

Section 5 – Members are responsible for maintaining a current address with the League Secretary.

Section 6 – Failure to pay Membership dues by the date specified by the Board may result in player suspension and/or loss of points by the Member’s Team. Final determination is under the purview of the Board and the decision final.

ARTICLE IV – SPONSORSHIP

Section 1 – Each Team requires a Sponsor. The Sponsor is usually the pub owner or manager. He is responsible for all dart playing equipment and layout in the pub. The TCDA is not responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of dart playing equipment, nor is the TCDA responsible for providing or paying for a League, Division or In-House Leagues dart equipment, that responsibility relies solely with the Sponsor or individual Team or League.

Section 2 – Sponsorship fees per season, per Team, as set by the Board, must be paid by the date indicated for the current season in the Captains’ Information Sheet. If the Sponsor does not pay the applicable fee, it is the Team’s responsibility to pay said fee to avoid any penalties. Penalties may include but are not limited to potential point reductions, forced pub relocation or Team suspension.

ARTICLE V – DIVISIONS

Section 1 – The TCDA divides itself into Leagues, some of which are subdivided into two or more Divisions. Divisions are made up of Teams which play on the same night under the same format. Divisions are arranged and determined by the Scheduling Committee.

Section 2 – Leagues that have Divisions will be placed by the Scheduling Committee for the following season. The general rule shall be to advance at least the winner of the current season to the next higher Division. Special circumstances may require no movement or more movement. All such decisions shall be the responsibility of the Scheduling Committee.

Section 3 – The Scheduling Committee shall be the final authority in assigning Teams to Divisions. This applies whether placing a new Team just entering the League and Division for the first time, or placement of a Team(s) who won their previous Division.

ARTICLE VI – SCHEDULES

Section 1 – Any changes in the schedule for a Division may result in the issuance of a new schedule one week prior to effect.

Section 2 – The Scheduling Committee shall have final authority in all schedules.

ARTICLE VII – EQUIPMENT

Section 1 – An acceptable bristle Board must be secured to the wall such that the distance from the center of the Board to the floor measures five feet eight inches, plus or minus one fourth of an inch.

Section 2 – The scoring wedge indicated by the 20 shall be the darker of the two wedge colors and must be the top center wedge.

Section 3 – Lights must be affixed in such a way to brightly illuminate the Board, reduce to a minimum the shadows cast by the darts and not physically impede the flight of the darts.

Section 4 – When more than one Match is being played on Boards mounted on the same wall, we recommend a minimum of eight feet between centers of the Boards in use.

Section 5 – There shall be a scoring Board next to the side of the dartboard.

Section 6 – There shall be a throwing line (the Oche Line) marked on the mat, carpet or floor for each Board. From the front of the Board (scoring surface) to the front edge of this stripe, the distance shall be the exact throwing distance of seven feet, nine and a quarter inches (7'9.25"). A player must be standing on or behind, but not over the Oche Line for the throw to be a legal throw.

Section 7 – The throwing line (the Oche Line) shall be a minimum of two feet in length, centered on the cork. Further, a lateral distance of two feet on both ends of the Oche Line shall be clear of encumbrances such as walls, shelves, tables, etc.

Section 8 – Darts shall not exceed an overall maximum length of twelve inches (30.5 centimeters) nor weigh more than fifty (50) grams per dart. Each dart shall consist of a recognizable point, barrel and flight.

Section 9 – Actual or stylized nails affixed with a dart point are also permitted in League play competition. The nail cannot exceed six (6) inches in length.

Section 10 – It is recommended that each sponsoring establishment provide a bulletin Board or wall area for posting of dart news and information.

Section 11 – All comments concerning equipment of a particular establishment shall be communicated to the Vice President. The Sponsor will be requested to replace any unacceptable, defective or substandard equipment. Should a Sponsor fail to comply with the Association request in a reasonable time, the Vice President will convene an ad hoc committee of three Neutral Captains to resolve the issue. The decision of this committee is final.

Section 12 – Substandard equipment or layout of the playing area which is not corrected in a reasonable time is cause for change of venue.

ARTICLE VIII – RULES OF PLAY

Section 1 – The Team

A) CLASSIC LEAGUE:

1. 4, 5 or 6 players shall constitute a complete Team.
2. The Team Format of 4, 5 or 6 players is optional per night and at the Captain's choice.
3. Teams may have any number of Members, but only four, five or six (maximum) can compete per night.
4. The Format allows one Team to have a different number of players than the opposing Team. For example, 4 vs. 5, 5 vs. 6, 4 vs. 6, etc.

B) IN-HOUSE LEAGUE:

1. In-House Leagues will play under its own format of choice.
2. In-House Leagues will play out of their venue of choice, subject to Board approval, on the same night under the same format.

C) New Leagues will be assigned by the Scheduling committee.

D) The Board may establish or eliminate Leagues as needed.

E) New League formats, if desired, shall be submitted by the Divisional Advisors to the Scheduling Committee for approval no less than one month prior to the start of each season. Failure to submit a format change will result in the League playing under the previous season's format. Any Member requesting a format change for their League may submit a proposal to the Scheduling Committee. The Scheduling Committee will consult with the Board and will either approve or deny said request, or request additional League input before taking action.

F) Team names or individual nicknames as listed on schedules and/or awards are under the purview of the Scheduling Committee and may be denied if deemed offensive or inappropriate to the sport of darts and good sportsmanship.

Section 2 – INCOMPLETE TEAM

Two or three players at starting time shall be considered a legal but incomplete Team. (See Article XII of these **Rules and Procedures**, Sections 10 and 12 for playing late arrivals)

Section 3 – THE MATCH

A Match shall be played consistent with the Format set by the TCDA for that League or Division. The Format for each League or Division shall be determined by the TCDA prior to the beginning of play for a season. The overall format as determined by the TCDA may not be altered by Teams during a season, although the order of matches may be altered due to circumstances as agreed by the Team Captains.

ARTICLE IX – TEAM AND PARTNERED GAME FACTORS

Section 1 – If both Teams are playing with complete Teams, they shall throw on a rotating, alternating basis.

Section 2 – Should a complete pair or Team play against an incomplete pair or Team, the complete pair or Team shall be allowed to throw in normal rotation, as if the incomplete Team were complete.

Section 3 – No player may throw again until each teammate player has thrown in rotation.

Section 4 – A player must have played or been listed in a doubles Game in order to be eligible for the Team Game.

Section 5 – Team Games (or Legs) cannot end in a tie. Score is not necessary to win. The object of any Cricket Game is to close the numbers and Bulls before your opponent does. Merely closing, however, does not win the Game or Leg if the opposition is ahead in score. The score deficit, if there is any, must be made up by scoring on numbers or Bulls. The player, who closes first for his Team, even if the Team has zero score, wins as long as the opponent also has zero score.

Note: An equal score for each side (e.g. 100 to 100) is considered zero score, allowing the Team who has closed all the numbers and the Bulls to be the winner.

ARTICLE X – PLAYER/TEAM STATUS

Section 1 – A Non-Member may register for any Team/Division he wishes; however, he does not officially become a Member of any Team until the first night he plays.

Section 2 – Even though registered for a particular Team/Division, a TCDA Member will be considered a New Member until he actually plays for that Team/Division.

Section 3 – Article XI of these **Rules and Procedures** further defines and regulates the addition of New Members and their playing status.

Section 4 – The Membership dues paid **may** permit the Member to play in more than one League per year, or season, as follows:

- A)** No Member may play for more than one Team in any Division of the same League concurrently.
- B)** No Member may play in more than one Division in any League concurrently.
- C)** The Board may authorize and set rules for each League at any given time, prior to the start of a season, with notification given.

ARTICLE XI – ADDITION OF NEW PLAYERS

Section 1 – Team Captains may play a new player (non-Member) provided that the player initiates registration with the TCDA on the first night he plays. The Team Captain is responsible for collecting the applicable dues and Membership application on the night the Non-Member plays and for submitting same to the League Secretary within 10 days. Section 3 below cannot be violated.

Section 2 – The penalty for violation of Section 1 may be: A deduction from the Standing Sheet of one point per week for each person in violation. Points will continue to be deducted for each week thereafter until the player is properly registered, even if he played only once. Points deducted will be taken from the offending Team's win record and added to its loss record.

Section 3 – A player(s) may not be added during the last three weeks of the season, unless he has played prior to that, with that Team in that season. This rule can't be changed by the Captains agreeing. Placement on a Team Roster does not circumvent this rule.

Section 4 – The penalty for violation of Section 3 will be: The offending Team shall lose all points they may have acquired during the game(s) in which the offending player was a participant. That is, the offending Team shall have such points deducted from its win record and added to its loss record. The non-offending Teams will have their records adjusted to correct any penalties applied.

Section 5 – Substitute Players: This rule allows Teams to add a substitution position to their roster which can be used for non-TCDA Members to play on a Team in place of absent Team Members. There are two basic criteria for adding the substitute position to your roster:

- A) Each Team must have four fully paid Members before it can add a substitute to its roster.
- B) Each Team using the substitute roster position must pay the TCDA a fee assessed by the Board each season.

Section 6 – Substitute Player Guidelines:

- A) The sub fee must be paid on the first night that a substitute plays. If the fee is not paid and submitted to the TCDA within seven days of the first use of the sub position, the Team using the substitute shall receive zero points for the night. The opposing Team will be awarded points only for points won by the substitute player.
- B) The same individual may not sub on a Team more than once in any season. If the same person shoots twice, they must become a TCDA Member that second night of play.
- C) Once the substitution fee is paid, it is good for the entire season.
- D) All other TCDA rules still apply, for example:
 - 1. No substitute may be added within the last 3 weeks of play.
 - 2. The substitute player must be eligible to play (i.e. a sub cannot be a current Member of another Team within the same Division/League).
- E) When filling out the scoresheet, simply write substitute player under one of the player numbers and be sure to include sub's actual name. Do not forget to have the opposing Captain initial the scoresheet next to the substitutes name to indicate their agreement to the use of the player.

ARTICLE XII – CONDITIONS OF PLAY

Section 1 – If Member eligibility is questioned by an opposing Captain, he may submit a protest per Article XXIII of these **Rules and Procedures** to the League Secretary for clarification or further review.

Section 2 – Matches are scheduled to start at 7:15 p.m. on the date and at the place scheduled. It is the responsibility and expectation of each Home Team to have its venue ready for play (Boards and lights up, throwing area cleared etc.) at least 30 minutes prior to the official start time. If a conflict arises at the home pub, an alternate place can be selected upon agreement by both Team Captains involved. If no agreement is made between Captains, their Divisional Advisor will schedule the venue. The Divisional Advisor's decision is final.

Section 3 – The deadline for starting a Match is 7:30 p.m.

Section 4 – Teams with less than two players present at starting time shall forfeit all Points and the Match.

Section 5 – The Visiting Team's Captain shall fill in his roster on the scoresheet first. The home Team Captain shall then fill in his roster on the scoresheet. The home Team Captain shall be allowed to freely see the visitor's roster while completing the scoresheet.

Section 6 – By deadline starting time (7:30 p.m.), each Captain (or acting Captain) must take two of each Team's players who are present and schedule them in the first two positions on the schedule sheet. Either or both Captain(s) may schedule their remaining players at this time. Captains may declare a forfeit at 7:45 p.m. if the first match has not started. Captains, with mutual agreement, may waive the forfeiture start time in the interest of good sportsmanship.

Section 7 – Each Captain is required to assign each player to a position number as indicated on the scoresheet. That player must then play in all Games involving his assigned position number.

Section 8 – Players not present may be listed on the scoresheet; but once declared (i.e., listed on the scoresheet), substitution of another player may not be made (See Section 11 below).

Section 9 – After completion of the first Game, the night's final player format and lineup must be declared and exchanged by the Captains. The visiting Team Captain completes his roster first.

Section 10 – Any player who is placed on the roster and does not arrive in time to play his scheduled Game will cause his Team to play short or forfeit.

Section 11 – Deleting or switching of player, numbers or format after format and lineup have been declared is categorically prohibited.

Section 12 – Late Arrivals: A Team legally starting with less than a complete Team may play late arriving players as follows:

- A) Section 11 cannot be violated.
- B) Late arrival for one Game shall not disqualify a player for his next Game. However, a player arriving after the start of the first Leg of his Game will not be allowed to play in that Game.
- C) Any late arriving player shall be designated to the next open slot on the declared score sheet.
- D) Team Captains do not need to change the match order for Members not there. He may change it in accordance with Section 14.

Section 13 – No more than five minutes may elapse between Games. If this continues, there can be a protest filed, and offending Teams may be penalized.

Section 14 – In the interest of fair play and the Sport of Darts, alterations to the above conditions (except Section 11) may be made ONLY with consent of the opposing Captain and ONLY if he initials such alterations on the scoresheet as proof of his agreement to the alteration(s).

ARTICLE XIII – BEGINNING A GAME

Section 1 – Throwing for Cork (Diddling):

- A) All Games are begun by one Member of each Team throwing one dart at the Cork.
- B) The order of throw shall be:
 - 1. 1st Leg Home Team has the option of throwing Cork 1st or 2nd. 2nd Leg Loser of 1st Leg has the option of throwing Cork 1st or 2nd. 3rd Leg Visiting Team has the option of throwing Cork 1st or 2nd.
 - 2. Only players scheduled to play in the Game may throw for Cork.
 - 3. The Team of the player, who throws closest to the Cork, shall throw first in the Leg for score.

Section 2 – The second thrower may acknowledge the first dart as a single (outer) or double (inner) bull and ask that the Chalker remove the dart prior to his throw.

Section 3 – Re-throws shall be called by the Chalker if the Chalker cannot decide which dart is closest to the cork, or if both darts are anywhere in the inner bull (double), or anywhere in the outer bull (single). An inner bull (double) beats an outer bull (single).

Section 4 – Should the Chalker call for a re-throw, the Team that threw second shall throw first with additional re-throws being made on an alternating basis. All darts shall be removed from the playing surface before re-throws are commenced.

Section 5 – The dart must remain in the playing surface of the Board to count. Bounce outs and darts thrown off the playing surface do not count. The player will continue to throw one dart at a time until one sticks in the playing surface.

Section 6 – Darts must not be touched prior to the decision of the Chalker. The Chalker's decision is final. The rule of thumb is, if you have to measure, re-throw.

Section 7 – Should the second thrower dislodge the dart of the first thrower, a re-throw will be called by the Chalker, with the second thrower throwing first.

Section 8 – The order in which Team players throw Cork shall be left to the Captain or participating Team players.

Examples:

- A) It is a common courtesy for Team players to alternate throwing for Cork by Leg, but it is not mandatory.
- B) The Cork shooter need not be the one who throws first in the Leg.
- C) It is permissible for the player who threw last in the previous Leg to throw for Cork in the next Leg and to take his Team's first turn in that Leg.

ARTICLE XIV – SCORING AND MARKING

Section 1 – Double Out Games:

- A) To commence scoring in 301, a player must land a dart in the outer (double) ring. All subsequent darts in 301 and all darts in 501 that land in the scoring surface of the Board shall be counted for score, less the exceptions noted in Section 1D below. The inner bull is considered a double 25 for both starting and finishing a Game. (See Cricket rules for scoring Team Game.)
- B) All scoring shall be subtracted from a start of 301 or 501 points.

- C) To finish a 301 or 501 Leg, a player's dart must land in a double that is equal to one half of his remaining score. Any and all darts subsequently thrown shall be null and not count. This rule may be modified by agreement of the Team Captains if the Captains determine, in their sole discretion, that circumstances warrant a modification such as an alternative ending to a leg. Any such modification must be set out in writing on the back of the scoresheet for that match, signed by both Team Captains, and turned in to the League Secretary.
- D) **BUST Rule:** A player busts whenever his three darts (or less) score more points than remain in the Leg; whenever his three darts (or less) score one less than the points remaining in the Leg; or, whenever his three darts (or less) score the exact number of points remaining in the Leg without benefit of the proper double.
- E) The Chalker shall mark the Board so that the scores shot are listed in the outer columns of the chalkboard and totals remaining are listed in the two middle columns. Slashing all numbers except current balance is recommended.
- F) Fast finishes such as three in a bed (e.g., three triple twenties or three double twenties), 222, 111, etc. do not apply.

Section 2 – All Games:

- A) The Home Team is responsible for providing an adequate Chalker for all odd-numbered games. The Visiting Team is responsible for providing an adequate Chalker for all even numbered games.
- B) For a dart to score it must remain in the playing surface of the Board five seconds after the third or final dart has been thrown by a player. The Chalker's judgment is final.
- C) In order to score, the point of the dart must be touching the bristle portion of the playing surface of the Board.
- D) No dart may be touched by the thrower, another player, Chalker, Captain or spectator prior to the decision of the Chalker.
- E) A dart's score shall be determined from the side of the wire at which the point of the dart enters the Board.
- F) It is the responsibility of the player to verify his score before removing the darts from the Board or before throwing his remaining dart(s).
- G) At the request of the thrower, the Chalker may inform the thrower what he has left and/or what he has scored. The Chalker may not inform the thrower what he has left in terms of number combinations or the double required. It is permissible for the Captain (as long as he is not the Chalker), or a partner or a spectator to advise a Team's thrower during the course of a Game.
- H) Errors in arithmetic must stand as written unless corrected prior to the beginning of that Team's next throw. The aforementioned may be waived in the interest of good sportsmanship, provided both Captains agree.
- I) The following basic rules shall apply to all Chalkers:
 1. Remain still. Do not talk or move about while keeping score.
 2. Do not look at the shooter.
 3. Stand or sit facing the scoreboard.
 4. Do not lean out to see where a dart is, or follow the darts with body or head movement, until after a shooter's last dart has been thrown.
 5. Do not call out the score of thrown darts, or the score remaining, unless asked.
 6. Do not tell a shooter what to shoot, or what combinations to shoot.
 7. Do not show signs of disgust or excitement when chalking.
 8. Be impartial.
 9. Do not change the sides of the players on the scoreboard in three-leg matches.
 10. If a player or Team starts on the left, leave them on the left, regardless of the diddles.
 11. All Chalking shall be done on scoreboard in view of shooters, not behind them at a table.

ARTICLE XV – FORFEITS

Section 1 - Should a Team have less than two players present at 7:30 p.m., at the location designated on the current schedule or such location as previously communicated to both Teams by the Board and/or Scheduling Committee, they will have been deemed to have forfeited the Match and will receive zero points. The opposing legal or complete Team present shall receive all allowable Match points.

Section 2 - Should a Team have a legal but incomplete Team present, the Captain must play some Games short or forfeit as determined by the scoresheet. (See Article XII of these **Rules and Procedures**).

ARTICLE XVI – REPORTING

Section 1 – The Captain of the home Team is responsible for completion of the scoresheet; mailing it to the League Secretary within 24 hours after the Match is played; and phoning, e-mailing, or texting results to the Divisional Advisor on the day after the Match.

Section 2 – Both Captains are responsible for the accuracy of the scoresheet with their Signatures attesting to same.

Section 3 – Either failure to phone-in/e-mail results or to mail scoresheet in time to meet publication of next Standing Sheet may result in loss of one point for the home Team.

Section 4 – Lack of scoresheet will not be considered an excuse for late mailing of results.

ARTICLE XVII – RESULTS

Section 1 – Web results are posted as unofficial, and only published as season final results once verified by the League Secretary.

ARTICLE XVIII – POSTPONEMENTS

Section 1 – The Captain requesting a postponement must inform the opposing Captain and his Divisional Advisor at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled Match. Failure to do so may constitute a forfeiture of the Match. Acceptance of a postponement shall be at the option of the opposing Captain. Exceptions to this are: an Act of God, special Board decree, or by claiming relief under our weather policy (see section 5 below). Act of God determinations shall be made by the League President. If an Act of God determination is made, the Match shall be made up in accordance with Section 3. See Section 5 below for our weather policy.

Section 2 – All postponed Matches must have a scheduled makeup date established with the Divisional Advisor within six (6) days of the originally scheduled Match. Makeup matches must be played within three (3) weeks of the originally scheduled Match (subject to Section 4). If the Captains cannot agree on a makeup date, the Division's Advisor shall set a date for the Match to be played. Postponed matches will be played at the same venue as listed on the original schedule. If said venue is not available, the opposing Team's venue shall be deemed the second choice. If that venue is not available a neutral venue shall be assigned by that Division's Advisor.

Section 3 – If an Act of God determination is made by the TCDA President, or if there is a special Board decree, the Captains shall confer on a date for a makeup Match. If the Captains are not able to agree on a date for a makeup Match, the home Captain shall, within six (6) days of the originally scheduled Match, submit two (2) reasonable dates for a makeup Match to the Divisional Advisor. These dates must be within three (3) weeks of the originally scheduled Match (subject to Section 4). The Divisional Advisor shall pick one of the two dates as the date for the makeup Match to be played. If the Match is not played, the home Team shall be awarded a one-point victory (e.g. Classic B, a 9-point format, home Team wins 5 - 4). The League President may determine a course of action to be taken in that event.

Section 4 – No postponements or makeup matches are allowed in the last two weeks of a season, except for an Act of God declaration or claiming relief under the Weather Policy.

Section 5 – The TCDA recognizes that the safety of our Teams and players is of paramount importance. It is also recognized that not all weather situations will trigger an Act of God pronouncement as outlined in the above section 1 for the entire Twin Cities area. It is a reasonable assumption that locations within our League may experience differing weather conditions, some of which may rise to the level of being hazardous to commuting to/from a scheduled match. Under these conditions, it is possible for a Team Captain to claim relief from playing a scheduled match, without forfeiting the match points, if the weather conditions in their playing area or their area of commute pose a serious risk to life and safety. In order to claim relief under this policy a Weather Warning must have been issued by the National Weather Service prior to the scheduled event's start time and actual hazardous weather conditions must be present. A Captain claiming relief must contact by 4:00 p.m. on the day of the match being played, both the opposing Team Captain and their Divisional Advisor of their intention to claim weather relief and not play the match as scheduled. Leaving a message, be it text, email or voice, does not constitute proper notification under this policy. If the following conditions were met; a National Weather Service warning is broadcast for the playing area and or commuting area, hazardous weather is present and both the Captain and Divisional Advisor have been duly notified, automatic relief shall be given without further cause. The procedure for rescheduling the match shall follow the existing procedures outlined in sections 2 and 3 of this Article. If the opposing Team Captain does not believe that the weather relief was justified, he may, as outlined in Article XXIII of these **Rules and Procedures**, file a protest. Any such protest will be handled by the TCDA in accordance with Article XXIV of these **Rules and Procedures**. If the protest is upheld, all match points will be awarded to the Team filing the protest. If the protest is denied, rescheduling will occur as outlined above.

ARTICLE XIX – VENUES

Section 1 – A venue must be approved by the Board and Scheduling Committee, prior to the first season at that venue.

Section 2 – Teams requesting a change of venue, either at the beginning of the season or during the season, must first notify or receive approval from the scheduling committee before changing venues. All Leagues, with the exception of In-house Leagues must adhere to the distance rule as outlined in Section 3 below. Approved changes of venue will not automatically result in reissuance of a new schedule by the Scheduling Committee.

Section 3 – All traveling Leagues must adhere to a distance when choosing their Team’s playing venue. The distance requirement shall be deemed, as within 20 miles driving distance of TCF Bank Stadium (420 SE 23rd Ave) on the U of M campus. Actual driving distance will be deemed to be the shortest route as defined by current means, such as Google maps. “As the crow flies” is not an acceptable means of calculating distance. No exception to this rule is allowed and venues currently outside the distance requirement are not excluded from this rule. The Board shall be the final arbiter of whether a venue falls within the accepted limits. The Board’s decision is final and cannot be appealed.

ARTICLE XX – TEAM WITHDRAWING

Section 1 – A Team shall be considered to have withdrawn from the League effective on the date the Secretary has received written notice from the Captain or Divisional Advisor.

Section 2 – A Team shall be automatically withdrawn from the League if it forfeits twice during a season. The Scheduling committee may refuse placement for future seasons of offending Teams.

Section 3 – All Matches previously played against a Team who has withdrawn shall be considered null and void if the Team withdraws during the first half of the season. If the Team withdraws during the second half of the season, all such Matches played since the first half of the season shall be considered null and void.

ARTICLE XXI – DIVISION CHAMPIONS AND PLAYOFFS

Section 1 – The Team with the highest number of Points in the Win column of the Standings Sheet at the end of the season is that League or Division’s Champion.

Section 2 – Any tie that involves movement from one Division to another, and all first place ties, MUST be played off. Any ties that do not involve Division movement, and not played off, will result in a Team plaque only.

Section 3 – All Teams in contention must be prepared to play off ties on any one of the ten (10) days following the last regularly scheduled Match in their Division.

Section 4 – Procedure:

- A) If two or more Teams (as identified in Section 2) tie, they will play off to determine a winner.
- B) No postponements are allowed during playoffs other than for reasons listed in Article XVIII of the **Rules and Procedures**.
- C) All playoffs will be held in a neutral location.
Exception: When both Teams are from the same sponsoring establishment, that establishment shall host the playoff.
- D) The home Team shall be determined by a coin flip.
- E) The playoff format will be set by the scheduling committee.

ARTICLE XXII – AWARDS

Section 1 – The Board shall appoint an Awards Committee to recommend each season’s awards. The expenditures for awards will be determined by the Board.

Section 2 – Awards will be distributed to the fall and spring season winners. The manner of distribution will be determined by the Board. As a general rule awards will also be presented to second place finishers but is at the discretion of the Awards Committee.

Section 3 – A maximum of eight (8) awards will be given per Team.

Section 4 – A player must have played at least three (3) times with the Team during its winning season in order to qualify for an award.

ARTICLE XXIII – PROTESTS and COMPLAINTS

Section 1 – A protest is defined as a grievance based on the TCDA **Rules and Procedures** which, if upheld, would affect the score or outcome of the Match played.

Section 2 – Only Captains or Acting Captains may file protests.

Section 3 – The initiator of the protest is required to notify the League Secretary of the protest within 5 days after the alleged infraction by submitting a properly completed TCDA Action Form which cites specific rule violations. The TCDA Action Form shall be provided in Captain’s materials, available on the TCDA website or may be requested from the League Secretary or the Division’s Advisor.

Section 4 – All properly filed protests will be referred to a Review Committee, see Article XXIV below.

Section 5 – A Complaint is defined as a grievance, based on **Bylaws** and not covered under the **Rules and Procedures**, and does not affect scores. A properly filed complaint may be submitted by any Member of the TCDA, currently in good standing.

Section 6 – Complaints must be submitted to the Board for action and final review. The Board, in its authority, may rule on the complaint as an entirety of the Board or the President may choose to assign the complaint to a Review Committee, see Article XXIV below. Complaints resolved by the entirety of the Board are final and not subject to appeal.

ARTICLE XXIV – REVIEW COMMITTEES

Section 1 – A Review Committee is a panel appointed by the TCDA President, all of whom shall be Members of the TCDA and at least one of whom shall be an elected Board Member or a Divisional Advisor. The President shall not serve on any Review Committee except in the capacity of ex-officio Member of all TCDA committees. The President shall appoint one Member of the Review Committee to be the presiding Member of the Committee and this individual shall determine all procedural issues presented to or faced by a Review Committee. Protests will be handled by review committee, and complaints maybe handled by a review committee or the entirety of the Board.

Section 2 – The presiding Member of the Review Committee shall make the final determination as to who are the parties to the matter under review.

Section 3 – A Member assigned to a Review Committee shall withdraw from the assignment if they believe that they are disqualified or have a conflict of interest (personal interest, inability to be impartial, lack of neutrality, etc.).

Section 4 – All parties to the matter under review shall have the opportunity to present evidence to the Review Committee. The Review Committee shall decide as a procedural matter how they will conduct their review. The Review Committee may use oral interviews, written submissions, formal or informal hearings, or any other manner of proceeding which they deem appropriate and reasonable to the circumstances. If a party to a matter under review refuses to accept correspondence from the Review Committee, the Review Committee may draw negative inferences toward all matters in such correspondence to which a response was requested.

Section 5 – The Review Committee shall render a decision setting forth the reasons for the determination reached in the matter under review. The Review Committee need not delineate reasons for their determination if all parties sign a settlement agreement. All determinations of a Review Committee shall be filed with the League Secretary and all parties will be sent a copy of the determination.

Section 6 – The President may attempt conciliation of any matter under review by a Review Committee independent of the assigned Review Committee. If a conciliation agreement is reached, it shall be reduced to writing, signed by all parties, and filed with the League Secretary.

Section 7 – In any matter under review by a Review Committee the evidentiary standard shall be a preponderance of the evidence.

Section 8 – Individuals and/or Teams that are recognized as parties to a Protest or Complaint may appeal the findings of the Review Committee. Appeals must be submitted to the Board within five (5) days after receiving the Review Committee’s final determination. Appeals may not introduce new evidence, but must clearly state the parties’ reason(s) for believing that the Review Committee made an incorrect determination of findings. The Appeal(s) will be heard by the majority of the Board, as defined in Article VI, Section 1 of the **Bylaws**. Board Members who sat on the Review Committee may not vote on the Appeal. All decisions of the Board are final and not subject to further appeal.

ARTICLE XXV – GAMBLING

Section 1 – Gambling is neither sanctioned nor authorized at any TCDA sponsored event.

ARTICLE XXVI – SPORTSMANSHIP

Section 1 – Excellent sportsmanship is the hallmark of darts. Every player should expect it and demonstrate it at all TCDA sponsored events.

Section 2 – Attempts to distract an opponent while he is throwing will not be tolerated.

Section 3 – If so requested by the thrower, all spectators and players must align themselves out of his line of vision and at least two feet behind the position from which the player is throwing.

Section 4 – No participant in a Game may engage in practice throws for the duration of that Game. The only exception is if there is an interruption in play.

Section 5 – The Board may expel Members for un-sportsmanship like conduct or actions detrimental to the League.

ARTICLE XXVII – NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Section 1 – It is the responsibility of Divisional Advisors and Captains to read any notice, announcement (including Standing Sheets) issued by the Secretary or the Board.

Section 2 – It is also the responsibility of the Divisional Advisors and Captains to relay the information contained in the aforementioned notices, announcements and Standing Sheets to the organizational body they represent.

Section 3 – It is a requirement that each Team, regardless of League or Division, shall maintain a current email address that is known to the TCDA and shall serve for all official TCDA notices and announcements.

ARTICLE XXVIII – DIVISIONAL ADVISORS

Section 1 – Each Division shall have a Divisional Advisor appointed by the President.

Section 2 – The Divisional Advisor does not necessarily have to play in the Division he represents.

Section 3 – Board Members may also serve as Divisional Advisors.

Section 4 – Newly appointed Divisional Advisors shall assume office at the beginning of each season.

Section 5 – Divisional Advisors are prohibited from adjudicating a protest or issue involving their Team. Such issues/protests shall be referred to the Board for resolution.

Section 6 – Divisional Advisors shall have qualified Board Member status per Article VI, Section 2 of the **Bylaws**.

Section 7 – A Divisional Advisor is responsible for reading and being familiar with the **TCDA Bylaws** and the **TCDA Rules and Procedures**.

ARTICLE XXIX – RECALL OF DIVISIONAL ADVISORS

Section 1 – Divisional Advisors may be recalled by the Board, a Division Member or a Sponsor in accordance with Article XV of the **Bylaws**.

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