



## Rules & By-Laws



**G.** A scorekeeper should watch the board, not the shooter. The scorekeeper should not call out the score of any individual dart thrown. The scorekeeper may, on request, inform the thrower of the score of the dart (s) thrown and / or the remaining score. The scorekeeper must not advise anyone of any combination to be scored. The score shall be marked after the last dart has been thrown.

**H.** For a dart to score it must remain in the board five (5) seconds after the third or final dart has been thrown by that player. The tip of the dart point must be touching the bristle portion of the board in order for that dart to be counted as a score.

**I.** The thrower, another player, scorer or spectator prior to the decision of the scorer may touch no dart.

**J.** A dart's score shall be determined from the side of the wire at which the point of the dart enters the board.

## **7. GAMBLING**

The TDA feels that an official rule against gambling during match play would be, in view of existing state and federal laws on this subject, redundant. The TDA takes the position, however, that it is a law-abiding organization and will not condone betting, gambling, use of illegal substances or any other illegal act during TDA sponsored events.

## **8. ETIQUETTE**

**A.** Opposing players should stand at least two and a half feet (2 ½') behind the player shooting at the foul line and should not talk to or make distracting noises to the player when he/she is on the line. Shooters may request assistance from their teammates.

**B.** Any person throwing a dart at any object, other than the dartboard, will not be allowed to play any more that night, nor will a substitute be allowed. Any member who throws a dart at another person will automatically forfeit his/her membership to the TDA for the duration of the life of the TDA.

**C.** A player is allowed nine practice darts before the game starts.

**D.** A player involved in an on going game is NOT ALLOWED TO PRACTICE ON ANY

BOARD, or else forfeit that game will be enforced.

**E.** Player's may take up to one (1) minute between turns and three (3) minutes between games.

**F.** The Team Captains are responsible for the smooth running of each match. Any disputes arising in the course of a match shall be settled in private conference between TEAM CAPTAINS.

**G.** The Team Captains shall be responsible for the conduct of team members with regard to abusive language, disruptive behavior and excessive alcohol consumption, which is disturbing to the opposing team and/or player(s) throwing in the game.

## **9. GENERAL**

**A.** The TDA has and reserves the right to suspend or terminate any member or team whose conduct is not in the best interest of the TDA.

**B.** The TDA assumes no responsibility for accidents or injury on the premises during any sanctioned event or league season.

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# RULES AND BY-LAWS OF THE TROPICAL DART ASSOCIATION

60 hours of play. The first time a score-sheet is not received within the allotted time, the Statistician will verbally reprimand the Team Captain and notify the Executive Board. The second time a team misses a deadline, that team will lose all wins and quality points. The opposing team will retain all wins and quality points.

**(2)** The Statistician may apply the penalty for the second late score-sheet only if the offending Captain or Team Representative has been verbally reprimanded of the first offense. For this purpose, The Team representative shall be defined as any member in good standing on the defending team.

**(3)** Scores recognized by ADO (180's & 170 high in's or outs), shall be retained by members of the offending team for ADO purpose only. Such scores shall not be complied with an individual's quality points

**(4)** In the event both teams lose all copies of the score-sheets, both teams will suffer forfeits.

**(5)** The postal service shall in no way be held responsible for late score-sheets. A computer malfunction is not excuseable for late electronic score-sheets.

## 5. FORFEITS

**A.** A forfeit may be declared for the failure of a team to attend a match, unless the match is rescheduled. If any team fails to show for a scheduled match twice in one season, that team shall be suspended from play for the remainder of that season.

**B.** A forfeit may be declared if a team has less than four (4) players in attendance for a six-person team, or two (2) players in the case of a four-person team. The forfeiting team shall be awarded no points. The attending team shall be awarded all points.

**C.** A forfeit shall be declared for the use of an ineligible player. The team having such a player in its lineup shall forfeit the games in question.

### D. Forfeit Penalties

**(1)** If a team is subject to a forfeit, the match shall be recorded as zero (0) wins and the appropriate number of losses for the format played. No quality points, high in's or high out's for that team will be recorded, but ADO scores shall be retained by members in good standing for ADO purposes only. Such scores shall not be compiled with an

individual's quality points. The opposing team shall record all wins and no losses and shall retain quality points, high in's or high out's scored during that match.

**(2)** If a team is suspended from play, the Statistician shall recompile the statistics. The matches shall be null and void (treated as a by week) and no quality points, high in's or high out's will be awarded to any team (s) which played the suspended team. Only ADO scores shall be retained for ADO purposes only. Such scores shall not be compiled with an individual's quality points.

**(3)** Any Captain wishing to file a formal Grievance for a forfeit not covered by the rules and regulations stated above will submit his/hers written request along with a payment of twenty dollars (\$20) refundable if the Board up holds the filed grievance. The Board will convene a special meeting within forty-eight (48) hours of having received a formal request in writing from the offended team Captain.

## 6. SCORING

**A.** In diddling, the visiting team shall throw first. The player or team scoring the dart closest the bull's eye shall win the throw. In case of a tie, the players / teams shall throw again in reverse order.

**B.** The Captains of each team shall be responsible for providing a scorekeeper for each match. Any scorer not a member of the playing teams must be acceptable by both team Captains and must follow TDA rules.

**C.** The foul line shall be strictly enforced.

**D.** The scorer shall call out the total points scored on each throw (three [3]) darts before the player may remove their darts from the board.. It is the responsibility of the player to verify his / her score before removing the darts from the board. If the darts are pulled, the scorekeeper's decision as to the total score shall be final.

**E.** Any error in scoring must be corrected before the next turn of the player / team whose score is in error. If the first dart of the next turn of that player / team is thrown, the score shall stand as posted.

**F.** A scorer shall ask all shooters for permission to smoke or drink at the scoreboard. If smoking or drinking distracts anyone, the scorer shall refrain from doing so.

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# BY-LAWS OF THE TROPICAL DART ASSOCIATION

## 1. NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Rio Grande Valley Tropical Dart Association, herein after referred to as the TDA.

## 2. DESIGNATION OF THE ORGANIZATION

TDA shall be registered as a non-profit Texas organization for the purpose of promoting darts in the area of the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

## 3. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the TDA shall be to promote darts in the area. The TDA shall be the controlling organization for all competitions sponsored by the TDA.

## 4. TDA YEAR

The TDA year shall be from January 1, to December 31.

## 5. DUES

**A.** Dues are \$50.00 per year for new members and \$45.00 per year for renewals. These rates apply only if paid in January.

**B.** Dues must be paid before the beginning of each TDA season. A season shall be defined as a period of play the length of which shall be determined by TDA to facilitate scheduling. A season(s) shall not exceed forty-five (45) play dates in a single TDA year. Seasonal dues are \$22.50 for existing members and \$25.00 for new members. Associate (non-league) playing members are \$10.00 per year.

**C.** The Team Captains are responsible for making certain that the dues are paid before a person plays in a league.

**D.** Sponsorship dues shall be \$50.00 per team per season or \$100.00 per team per year. Yearly rates apply only if paid in January.

**E.** Dues are non-refundable after commencement of a season. Membership dues are for the format being played and sponsorship dues must be paid when the roster is submitted. Example: Six man format = 6 x \$22.50 (membership) + \$50.00 (sponsorship) = \$185.00

## 6. DIVISIONS

**A.** The TDA may consist of one or more divisions.

**B.** Each division shall select their time of play

and format.

**C.** The board of Directors shall determine the number of divisions as to best facilitate play in a season.

**D.** All other functions of the division are under the direct control of the TDA.

## 7. MEMBERSHIP

**A.** A Team Captain shall be selected by each team to represent that team in all matters of TDA business. Any team lacking a representation in person or by written proxy at any meeting shall forfeit one win in that team's overall standings.

**B.** Each Team Captain shall submit a roster of at least four players (6 person format) or 2 players (4 person format), complete with the addresses and phone numbers, to the Scheduling Committee two weeks prior to the commencement of a season.

**C.** If a new player is added to the roster after the commencement of a season, the Team Captain shall print the new player's name on the back of the score sheet for his/her first night of play.

**D.** No one under 21 years of age is allowed membership in the TDA except in the Youth League.

**E.** A member TDA may not participate in more than one division in a given league per season. A member, my however, participate in more than one league per season.

## 8. OFFICERS

### A. Executive Board

Elected officers of the TDA shall be the Executive Board, consisting of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms and ADO Representative.

### B. DUTIES

**(1) President:** The President shall be the Executive Officer of the TDA, and shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Board, the Board of Directors and the General Membership, except when excused as ineligible under the neutrality rule. The President shall appoint all committee chairmen. Upon election, the President shall immediately appoint a Statistician and Publishing Editor for the Newsletter. The

## 3. MATCH PROFILE

**A.** Prior to the beginning of a season, each division may vote to use one of the following formats:

### (1) Six Person Team Format

(all sets 2 of 3 games)

- Six (6) Singles 501 D/O – 6pts
- Three (3) Doubles U.S. Cricket/Pt – 3pts
- Two (2) Team (3 p.) 701 D/O – 2pts

### (2) Four Person Team Format

(all sets 2 of 3 games)

- Four (4) Singles 301 D/I D/O – 4pts
- Four (4) Singles U.S. Cricket/Pts – 4pts
- Two (2) Doubles 601 D/O – 2pts
- Two (2) Doubles U.S. Cricket/Pts – 2pts
- One (1) Team (4 p.) 801 D/O – 1pt

### (3) Four Person Team Format

(all sets 2 of 3 games)

- Four (4) Singles 501 D/O – 4pts
- Four (4) Singles U.S. Cricket/Pts – 4pts
- Two (2) Doubles 601 D/I D/O – 2pts
- Two (2) Doubles U.S. Cricket/Pts – 2pts
- One (1) Team (4 p.) 801 D/O – 1pt

**B.** On a six-person team, the maximum number allowed on a roster is twelve (12) and the minimum is four (4). On a four-person team, the maximum number of players allowed on a roster is six (6) and the minimum is two (2).

**(1)** If a team roster is filled, no additional members may be signed unless a member submits a signed resignation to a T.D.A. officer, shall be ineligible for league play for the remainder of the season of play. A team member who moves out of town and returns shall be eligible to rejoin the team, provided the team roster is not full. If it is full, he may join another team.

**(2)** The status change of a team, including dropping or adding of a team member, must be noted on the back of the team score sheet, which shall be submitted to the statistician.

**(3)** Any time a player is added to a team, the CAPTAIN must collect the player's dues before that player is allowed to begin league competition. The Captain will turn the player's dues in at the next Captain's Meeting. (Pay before you play)

**(4)** A team may terminate a player by submitting a written notice of their intent, signed by two-thirds (2/3) majority of the team members, to the Board of Directors. Any player so terminated shall be eligible to join another team except in the last five (5) weeks of play.

**(5)** Teams wishing to add a new member after the commencement of the fifth to the last match must petition the Rules and Grievances Committee for special permission. A new member to a team may be added before midway thru a season or on the midway shoot that night.

**C.** Lineups shall be filled out "in the blind".

Team Captains may list two players (primary and alternate) for any set. The primary player shall be listed on the line provided on the score sheet. The alternate player shall be listed in Parenthesis ( ) on either side of the primary player. Once a primary player begins play, that player must continue to play as assigned except under the following conditions:

**(1)** The primary player becomes physically unable to continue.

**(2)** The primary player fails to make a call to the line. (Due to an emergency)

**(3)** In either instance, the primary player – once removed- may not play for the remainder of the match.

**(4)** Score Sheets shall include first and last names.

**D.** Players in the lineup must be present at the foul line for their scheduled game (s) or the game (s) WILL be forfeited. (See 8.E)

**E.** The home team has choice of boards and the boards shall be numbered.

**F.** The matchboards shall be cleared one-half (1/2) hour before starting time so that players may warm up.

**G.** The Team Captains are responsible for the smooth running of each match. Any disputes arising in the course of the match shall be settled in private conference between Team Captains.

## 4. SEASON MATCHES

**A.** Season matches shall be held in accordance with ADO Tournament Rules except as noted herein. All matches are to be played on the night scheduled except when the TEAM Captains have mutually agreed to reschedule. (See 2.D)

**B.** All match results must be mailed or emailed to the Statistician. Both Team Captains shall retain a secondary score-sheet.

**(1)** Score-sheets must be mailed/emailed (postmarked/sent) to the Statistician within

# RULES OF THE TROPICAL DART ASSOCIATION

## 1. EQUIPMENT

**A.** All League competition, including tournaments and playoff, shall be played on a standard English bristle, 20 point clock face dart board, of top quality. NO BRIGHT OR SHINY METAL

**B.** Dart-boards shall be placed five feet, eight inches (5'8") from the center of the bull's eye to the floor, with the twenty (20) at the center. The twenty (20) wedge must be dark colored.

**C.** The establishment owner shall be responsible for supplying and maintaining two (2) league play dart-boards per each two (2) teams, which must be deemed acceptable by the TDA. Two (2) boards must be available for use each match scheduled at an establishment

**D.** The foul line shall be seven feet, nine and one-quarter inches (7' 9 1/4") from the surface of the board, measured along the floor to the front edge of the line. The foul line may also be measured on a diagonal from the bull's eye to the tow line, the distance being nine feet, seven and three-eighths inches (7' 9 3/8"). The foul line shall be a minimum of twenty -four inches (24"), twelve inches (12") to each side of center.

**E.** All league play dartboards shall be firmly anchored and well illuminated. This is the responsibility of the Team and the Sponsor.

**F.** A scoring surface shall be provided and must be located in such a position as shall be visible to players and spectators. . In addition, the establishment will be responsible for supplying a minimum of four dry erase markers, two erasers and assuring that the scoreboards are free of scratches and are easily legible by the players. Any items not conforming to these standards set forth by the TDA will be replaced prior to the next scheduled league play.

**G.** The dartboard's wire spider must not be broken and double and triple rings must be within tolerance. Embedded wire must be repaired.

**H.** The dartboards shall be placed, when side-by-side, with a distance of not less than six feet (6') bull to bull.

**I.** If cited for a deficiency by the Standards Committee, the establishment must correct the problem before the next match involving TDA teams. The establishment will call the Standards

Committee and ask to be re-accredited for play. Failure to comply will result with the AWAY team having the choice of location for the match. All league play must be played on TDA certified boards.

## 2. DATES AND TIMES OF MATCHES

**A.** All league competitions shall be played according to the schedules drawn up by the TDA Scheduling Committee.

**B.** Starting time for the first match IS 7:30 PM local time, as opposed to "bar time". Any match not underway by 8:00 PM may be subjected to a forfeit unless otherwise agreed upon by BOTH Captains.

**C.** Line-ups shall be made out no later than 5 minutes before the agreed starting time.

### D. Rescheduling of Matches

**(1)** The Captain must give the opposing Captain a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours notice. If less than twenty-four hours notice is given, the team being asked to postpone will have the choice of location.

**(2)** Rescheduling is to be done with the mutual consent of both Captains.

**(3)** The team asking for the reschedule does not give up its home game advantage.

**(4)** A rescheduled match must be made played within fourteen (14) days of the originally scheduled match. If, in unusual circumstances, a time and place can not be agreed upon that falls within that fourteen day period, the following procedure shall be implemented:

**(a)** Prior to the end of the fourteen-day period, both Team Captains shall verbally notify the statistician of the rescheduled date.

**(b)** Failure to agree upon a date and verbally notify the Statistician shall result in a forfeit by both teams.

**(c)** If either or both teams fail to show up for the rescheduled match, that team or teams shall be subject to forfeit.

**(d)** All games that are rescheduled must be played prior to the end of the scheduled season regardless of the circumstances.

**(e)** In the event a match is rescheduled, the Captain asking for the postponement is responsible for the ultimate rescheduling of the match and for notifying the Statistician. (See 4.1&2)

President shall be a de facto member of all committees.

**(2) Vice-President:** The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in his/hers absence or ineligibility.

**(3) Secretary:** The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the TDA General and Board of Directors meeting, which shall be an official record of all business transacted.

**(a)** Ultimately receive and maintain TDA records.

**(b)** Notify appropriate individuals of all official meetings other than regularly scheduled monthly meetings.

**(4) Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall:

**(a)** Receive all TDA funds and maintain them in a bank account approved by the Board of Directors. The signature of two elected officers shall appear on any check or voucher submitted to this account. The only signatures allowed on the signature card shall be those of the Executive Board. Bank statements shall be addressed to the Treasurer for review. The Treasurer shall then forward them to the President within two weeks of receipt.

**(b)** Maintain an accurate account of all monies collected and dispersed, supported by a file of vouchers, bills, statements and invoices.

**(c)** Submit a financial report to the Board of Directors, at the meeting following the end of each season, at each monthly meeting and following major tournaments or other significant events.

**(d)** Prepare, in conjunction with the Board of Directors, an annual budget each fiscal year, showing anticipated income and expenses for each season and distribute copies of this budget to all Board members.

**(e)** Make available, at the direction of the TDA President, all financial records for audit, inspection by Board members, or, at the discretion of the board members, an outside audit.

**(5) Sergeant at Arms:** The Sergeant-at-arms shall maintain order and enforce parliamentary procedures.

**(6) ADO Representative:** An ADO representative shall be elected annually if applicable. The ADO Representative shall receive \$50 per ADO meeting attended per quarter, with a maximum payment of \$200 per year, to defray costs of traveling to ADO meetings.

## 9. ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS

**A. Qualifications:** An acceptable candidate for an elected office must have been a member in good standing, of the TDA and never been removed from any office or appointed position in the TDA, other than by honorable resignation or expiration of term of office. A person need not be on a team, but rather must be a paid member in the TDA.

**B. Election Procedure:** Elections shall be held annually at the December General Membership meeting and shall be by written secret ballot.

**C. Voting:** Votes shall be by a fifty-one percent majority vote. If no one candidate has a majority, there will be a run-off between the two top candidates.

**D. Term of Office:** The regular term of office for each officer shall be from January 1 to December 31. If an officer resigns or is removed from any office, an election shall be held at the next General Membership meeting to fill that office for the remainder of the term. In the absence of an acceptable candidate, the duties of that office may be dispersed among the remaining officers, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, for the remainder of that term.

**E. Removal of Officers:** Any TDA officer may be removed from office at any time for incompetence or misconduct by a two-thirds majority vote from the Board of Directors. The removal must be put on the agenda at one meeting and voted on at the next meeting.

## 10. GOVERNING BODIES

### A. Board of Directors:

**(1)** The Board of Directors shall consist of the Executive Board, other elected officers and one representative from each team, usually the Team Captain. If the Team Captain is also an elected officer, the team shall choose another member to represent it on the Board of Directors. Each member of the Executive Board shall carry only one vote and may not represent any other team or member by proxy or other means. Other members of the Board of Directors shall carry only one vote but may represent another team or member by written proxy.

**(2)** The Board of Directors may act only in the presence of a quorum, which shall consist of fifty-one percent of the Board of Directors.

(3) The Board of Directors shall have the power to make any decisions it deems necessary to conduct the business of the TDA.

**B. General Membership:**

The General Membership of the TDA shall consist of all members of the TDA in good standing, in that the member has paid all dues and is not under suspension or expulsion.

**11. MEETINGS**

**A. Board of Directors:**

(1) The Board of Directors shall meet monthly during the first week of the month. Each Board, after it has been elected, shall designate the night of the week that Board shall meet.

(2) Division coordinators, standing committee chairman and the Publishing Editor shall attend meetings as non-voting members.

(3) The President may call a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors for matters of great urgency to the TDA as a whole. The Executive Board may override this decision by a two-thirds majority vote from the Board.

**B. General Membership:**

The TDA shall hold at least two General Membership meetings per year. The dates are to be set as needed. The agenda shall be set at the Board of Directors meeting prior to each General Membership meeting and published in the Newsletter.

**C. Attendance:**

(1) All meetings shall be open to the General Membership, in that any TDA member in good standing may attend and be heard, but may not vote except at a General Membership meeting.

(2) If a Team Captain misses two meetings in a season, the President shall notify that Captain's sponsor.

**D. Location:**

All meetings must be held in a suitable location with adequate facilities.

**E. Order:**

Roberts Rules of Order shall be used as a guideline for conducting all meetings.

**F. Representation:**

All votes and representation, if not in person, may be by written proxy.

**12. AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS**

Proposed amendments to the by-laws shall be presented verbally and in writing to the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee will rewrite the amendment, if necessary and present it, along with the Committee's recommendation, to the Board of Directors for a vote. If the Board of Directors passes the amendment, it will be presented at the next General Membership meeting where it must be passed by two-thirds of those present. After passing, the amendment will be published in the Newsletter and a copy sent to each Captain. It is the captain's responsibility to give to each team member a copy.

**13. AWARDS PRESENTATION**

An Awards Night shall be held at the close of each season's competition schedule. The date & place shall be determined by the Board of Director's together with the number and kinds of awards to be presented.

**14. APPOINTED OFFICES**

**A. Statistician:** The Statistician shall compile statistics on each member and team weekly and send a report to the Board of Directors monthly.

**B. Publishing Editor:** The Publishing Editor shall attend monthly Board meetings and report pertinent facts to the membership. The Editor shall also report any other news of interest and importance to the members.

**C. Tournament Director:** The Tournament Director shall be in charge of running tournaments sponsored by the TDA and be responsible along with his/her committee, to ensure the TDA rules and by-laws are adhered to at those tournaments.

**15. COMMITTEES**

**A.** The President shall appoint the Committee Chairmen or other appropriate titles of persons in charge of committees. A committee shall consist of at least three persons including the chairman.

**B.** The President may appoint any Special Committee Chairman as necessary.

**C.** Club Standards Committee: The members of the Club Standards Committee shall visit each sponsor that wishes to host a team for the TDA. The committee shall contact managers / owners of said sponsorships to inform them of the TDA requirements and ensure compliance

seasonally. The committee shall also investigate any complaints regarding existing sponsorships.

**D.** Public Relations Committee: Members of the Public Relations Committee shall coordinate all advertisements for the TDA, including publishing standings in the local newspapers and keep the Board of Directors informed of the actions taken.

**E.** Scheduling Committee: Members of the Scheduling Committee shall establish and distribute schedules for each season of play. Schedules shall be made following ADO guidelines.

**F.** Trophy/Awards Committee: Members of the Trophy Committee shall acquire trophies trophies and awards as required for each season of play and ensure they are ready for presentation on the designated Awards Night.

**G.** Tournament Committee: Members of the Tournament Committee shall maintain continuous liaison with the Tournament Director and coordinate support efforts.

**H.** Way and Means Committee: Members of the Ways and Means Committee shall accomplish those duties assigned by the President of the TDA.

**I.** Rules & Grievance Committee: Members of the Rules and Grievance Committee shall consist of one person from each sponsorship. During protests, the members from the involved sponsorships shall abstain from participating. The Committee is to make the judgments on protests, screen proposed changes in rules and by-laws and help interpret the rules and by-laws when necessary.

**16. ALL STAR TEAM**

The All Star Team, being a representative of the TDA, is accountable to the Board of Directors and the rules and by-laws of the TDA.

**A.** The ADO Representative shall be in charge of organizing the All Star Team.

**B.** The members of the All Star Team must be in good standing.

**C.** The All Star Team shall be formed though competitive shoot-outs, giving all TDA players an equal opportunity.

**D.** The All Star Team shall choose its own Captain and honorary representatives.