



## OPERATING PROCEDURES

### 1. LEAGUE COMMENCEMENT

- 1.1 League play shall commence at the discretion of the Executive.

### 2. LEAGUE REGISTRATION / PLAY REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1 Teams registering with MHDL shall have a minimum of 6 players, to a maximum of 12 players. A team must maintain six (6) REGISTERED players throughout the current league season.
- 2.2 Teams must have a MINIMUM of 5 players to play on any given night. Four or less players constitute a forfeiture of all 13 points to the opposition. If a team has a continuous problem with insufficient players, the said team may be suspended for the current season. Note: You may commence playing with 4 players if you are guaranteed that your 5th and/or 6th players are enroute. After the fourth singles is played, a 5-minute call shall be given. Should the 5th player not be present within the 5-minutes, this game is forfeit. The same 5-minute call shall be allocated for the 6th singles. If the 5th and 6th players missed the 5-minute call for singles but are present at the time of the write up for doubles, they **shall** be entitled to play. If a team does not have at least the 5th player present at the time of doubles write up, then the night shall be forfeit and all 13 points may be awarded to the other team accordingly.

A team must be present at the default time (8:00 p.m. as per O.P.# 3.1) on the night of play, in order to obtain any forfeited points.

- 2.3 Five (5) minutes shall be given for a player to report to the assigned board once names have been called. Failure to appear within the 5-minute call shall result in a match forfeit.

- 2.4 The minimum requirement to play the "team" game is 6 players.

a) If Team "A" has 5 players for the night and Team "B" has 6 players, the points are awarded as follows:

- a. 5 points for singles,
- b. 5 points for doubles, and
- c. 0 points for the team game.
- d. In total, Team "A" forfeits 3 points to Team "B" (1x singles, 1x doubles and the team game).

b) If both Team "A" and Team "B" have 5 players, the points are awarded as follows:

- e. 5 points for singles,
- f. 5 points for doubles, and
- g. 0 points for the team game.

- 2.5 Captains may sign up a new player to their team on the night of play, but are reminded that the maximum number of players that you can carry on a team is 12. Fees for the new player must be attached to the score sheet in the drop box or points shall not be awarded for any game which the new player was a part of.

- 2.6 Players may be removed from a team's roster for various reasons: 1) moving out of town; 2) no longer interested in playing; 3) work/ family commitments; 4) personality conflicts etc. In all cases, prior to any player being removed from a roster, a letter of explanation shall be provided to the Executive, preferably from both player and captain. In the case where a captain has a full roster of 12-players, the Executive shall make a ruling prior to the captain being allowed to register any new players. If deemed reasonable by the Executive, the captain shall be allowed to register a new member providing it is not within the last 8-weeks of play. In addition, the player removed from the roster shall remain registered as a "member at large", with full entitlement to participate in all league sanctioned events. **ALL REMOVALS ARE SUBJECT TO EXECUTIVE APPROVAL.**

- 2.7 A player may transfer to any team they wish with a written notice to the Executive; however, there shall be a ten day waiting period from the date the written transfer is received by the Executive. Captains of both teams shall be informed of transfer in writing. No transfers shall be accepted in the final 8 weeks of league play. Only two transfers onto any team per league season shall be allowed, providing the teams being affected maintains a **MINIMUM** of six (6) registered players. **ALL TRANSFERS ARE SUBJECT TO EXECUTIVE APPROVAL.**

### 3. **LEAGUE FORMAT**

- 3.1 Starting time shall be no later than 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Teams may start before 8:00 p.m. with the mutual consent of both team captains; however, the default time shall be 8:00 p.m. regardless of such agreement.
- 3.2 No teams shall be allowed to make arrangements to play a league night scheduled match on another night or date, as Tuesday is the official day for MHDL play. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- 3.3 Teams shall be required to maintain enough players that permit extenuating circumstances that will prevent one or more of their players from competing on a league night not to become a problem. This is to create a fair environment for all teams, with no exceptions.
- 3.4 Player format shall be the blind draw method.
- 3.5 a) Home team shall bull up first and the winner of the bull to shoot first. **Note:** "If the first thrower's dart lands in the inner bull, or 50, it shall be removed if it is requested by the second thrower before the second thrower throws. This removed dart shall be considered 'a dart that has remained in the scoring area'. Players shall not have the option of having the opponents dart removed from the outer bull, or 25" (NDFC Rule 16.15.05).  
b) Loser of the match/set to start the second match/set.  
c) In the event of a tie after two games (or four games, in the "A" Division) have been played, the home team shall bull first to determine who starts the final match/set. In doubles, either team player may shoot for the bull, though that said player does NOT have to start the final leg.  
d) The home team shall determine which of two boards will be designated "home" and "away". Once this is established, the home & away team shall chalk on their designated boards. As the MHDL does not recognize "equalized" chalking of matches, if a match is complete on either the "home" or "away" board, the next available match shall be called to that open board to minimize unnecessary delays.
- 3.6 "Darts shall be adjudged equal if each dart:  
a) Is outside of the outer bull and considered to be the same distance from the centre,  
b) Is in the outer bull, or 25, regardless of the relative proximity to the wire of the inner bull, or 50, or  
c) Has 'remained in the scoring area' of the inner bull, or 50.  
IF ADJUDGED EQUAL, THE THROW FOR THE MIDDLE SHALL BE REPEATED, WITH THE THROWING ORDER REVERSED."  
(NDFC Rule 16.15.05) Note: Should a re-throw be required, the darts shall first be removed from the dart board.
- 3.7 Six (6) singles and six (6) doubles:  
a) "A" Division: Best three of five legs for **Singles** and **Doubles**,  
b) ALL other divisions: Best two of three legs,  
c) 501, straight in, double out.
- 3.8 **Singles-** No player shall be permitted to play more than one match/set.
- 3.9 **Doubles-** Players may only play in two (2) doubles matches/sets on any given night and the same two players shall not be partners twice on any given night.
- 3.10 **Team Game** (minimum of six (6) players on each team required to play) - 1001, straight in, double out.
- 3.11 In the event of a team with 5 players, the "bye" spot can be placed in ANY position on the line up sheet, except if both teams have 5 players, in which case, the "byes" shall be placed in the number 6 position (singles and doubles).

- 3.12 At the conclusion of the match, it is the **WINNING** team's responsibility to ensure that the **SIGNED** and dated score sheet is delivered to the executive in one of two methods:
- Deposited into a designated drop off box. Score sheets deposited into a drop box are to be turned in by 5:00 p.m. on the WEDNESDAY following the match. The drop boxes are located at **LIZARD'S PUB & EATERY & SCHOONER'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PUB**.
  - Electronic reporting. Those utilizing the electronic method for reporting may do so by scanning the score sheet and emailing it to the Director responsible for stats; **OR** you may submit a text with a photo of the score sheet to the Director responsible for stats. In either case, the captain who won the match would be required to keep the original score sheet for a period of no less than fourteen (14) days to ensure there is no discrepancy. If there is a new player sign up, you cannot utilize the electronic reporting. You will be required to deposit the original score sheet and money into a designated drop box. Statistician Email: [mhdartleaguestats@gmail.com](mailto:mhdartleaguestats@gmail.com).

**Note:** Under **NO** circumstances shall there be extensions allowed beyond the 5:00 p.m. deadline on Wednesday. Failure to comply with 3.12(a) or 3.12(b) shall result in points deducted from the offending team only. If there is a discrepancy with points or game play, ensure it is documented on the score sheet as such and request a meeting with the Executive. Follow up on this discrepancy with a letter explaining details to the Executive within fourteen (14) days of said discrepancy. The Executive shall in turn, request a meeting to discuss and resolve said discrepancy. Do not forfeit points unnecessarily as this forfeiture shall stand and all 13 points shall be awarded to the other team. If a score sheet is submitted for Executive review, the said score sheet statistics may be temporarily placed on "hold" until the Executive review has been completed. The points on the said score sheet shall be awarded following the review and resolution of the discrepancy.

- 3.13 In the event of a tie upon completion of regular league play, the tie shall be broken by a playoff (for trophy positions only) using regular league format. Playoff shall be the following Tuesday at a venue designated by the Executive. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- 3.14 All teams must retain at least 4 players in order to remain automatically in their division.
- 3.15 At the commencement of each season, teams MAY be moved up or down a division, depending on their final standings from the previous year. The Executive shall TRY to maintain balanced divisions in the league, but will do whatever is required to maintain a balanced LEAGUE. The division of play within the league shall be determined by the team's previous year's standings.

#### **4. TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

- 4.1 MHDL Tournaments (Men's Singles, Ladies Singles and ALL Doubles) shall be run by a member of the Executive (or a certified adjudicator which shall be appointed by the Executive) and follow league format (3 games, 501, straight in, double out). You will toss a coin to determine who the "home" team is. All three games **MUST** be played. All other tournaments are private and do not fall under the umbrella of MHDL. Such tournaments are the sole responsibility of the venue/sponsor. Tournament format may be modified to play up to a maximum of five (5) games instead of three (3) at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- 4.2 The format for MHDL Tournaments shall be as follows:
- Ladies**
    - 12 and under- Round robin.
    - 13 and over- Modified round robin to double knockout. A minimum of two sections is required.

**Six or Less Teams:** In the event there are six or less entries in any of the MHDL events, the format shall be double round robin of 3 legs.

**Seven to Twelve Teams:** In the event, there are seven to twelve entries, the format shall be one round robin of 3 or 5 legs; at the tournament director's discretion.
  - Men & Mixed**
    - 16 and under- Round robin.
    - 17 and over- Modified round robin to double knockout. A minimum of two sections is required.
  - Eight or Less Teams:** In the event there are eight or less entries in any of the MHDL events, the format shall be double round robin.

d) **Tie-Breakers:** **ALL** tie-breakers shall be done by 1-game, 701, straight in, double out.

FORMAT FOR **MODIFIED ROUND ROBIN TO DOUBLE KNOCKOUT** SHALL BE ROUND ROBIN (ALL 3 GAMES). KNOCKOUTS (A & B) - ALL BEST OF 5 LEGS. FINALS- BEST OF 7 LEGS (B winner must win twice to claim first place).

- 4.3 **ALL MHDL** closed shoots come under MHDL Constitutions and By-Laws except the “Medicine Hat Open”, which falls under the ranked tournament guidelines as set forth by the Provincial and National governing darts bodies.
- 4.4 The MHDL Executive (or certified adjudicator) running the event shall be deemed the “Tournament Director” and their decision is final and binding.

## **5. MISCELLANEOUS**

- 5.1 **ALL COMPLAINTS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED, IN WRITING, TO THE SECRETARY, WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) DAYS OF SAID COMPLAINT. Written complaints that lapse beyond the fourteen (14) day period from said complaint (or verbal complaints) shall NOT be deemed viable or acted upon by the Executive.**
- 5.2 In cases of **MISCONDUCT**, unruly behavior, or any action deemed to bring the sport of darts into disrepute, the alleged offender(s) and any witnesses may be requested to attend a disciplinary hearing for which the alleged offender(s) shall have the opportunity to provide their version of the events surrounding the alleged complaint before any decision is rendered. As all members of the MHDL are also members of Darts Alberta (DA), the MHDL follows and enforces all procedures as set forth in the Darts Alberta Disciplinary Proceedings Policy (DA Policy #001). Further, the MHDL Executive reserves the right to request DA to uphold any decisions rendered at a disciplinary hearing, but this shall be discussed on an individual basis.
- 5.3 “If a player, during a throw, touches any dart that is in the dart board, then that throw shall be deemed to have been completed.” (NDFC Rule 10.05).
- 5.4 “A player may ask the amount scored with any dart, or darts, or the score remaining. Indications of the required “double”, or any combination of scores required to finish, shall not be given by the scorer or referee. A player may, however, request assistance from his partner or captain, but must first step back from the oche.” (NDFC Rule 12.08.01).
- 5.5 Any dartboard without a match being played on shall be considered a “practice” board.
- 5.6 Any rule/procedure not specified herein shall be further covered under NDFC rules/procedures.

## **6. BANQUET**

- 6.1 The Executive, for the presentation of awards, shall arrange a banquet annually. Prizes shall be awarded at the discretion of the Executive, subject to the number of teams in each division.
- 6.2 All “180” scores will be honoured along with “170” finishes, “171” scores (three triple 19’s), division high out for male, division high out for female, division high score for male, division high score for female and most sportsmanlike team for each division.