



PLAYING RULES

KNOW THE GAME!!

DARTS SOUTH AFRICA

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DARTS SOUTH AFRICA

PLAYING RULES

These playing rules shall be applied in all events organised under the auspices of Darts South Africa and/or any of its affiliated members.

The General Playing Rules are for all darts events.

DEFINITIONS:

- DSA** : shall mean Darts South Africa or the Management Council of Darts South Africa.
- Organisers** : shall mean Darts South Africa, its Management Council or member darts body of Darts South Africa.
- Player** : shall mean singular and plural; men, women, youth and teams.

- Referee** : shall mean the person appointed to take charge of matchplay at a match board or on stage. A referee may act as “marker”, “caller” or “scorer” for a match.
- Caller** : shall mean the person appointed to announce the scores as they are made during matchplay.
- Marker** : shall mean the person appointed to mark the scores announced by the Caller. Except for staged matchplay, the Marker may act as the Caller of the match.
- Scorer** : shall mean the person appointed to record the scores, the results and other matchplay details on the scoreboard.
- Match** : shall mean the total play between player and/or teams; sometimes referred to as a “game”. A match may be divided into legs or into sets and legs.

- Leg** : shall mean play between individual player or teams for a specific score. A leg shall constitute a match when the match is not divided into legs or sets. The number of legs in a set shall always be uneven.
- Set** : shall be that part of a match that consists of an uneven number of legs. The winner of a set is the player winning the most legs in that set. The winner of a match is determined by the most sets won in that match.

GENERAL RULES:

1. These rules and any supplementary rules laid down in an entry form or other programme shall be observed by all teams and players, failing which, the team and/or players shall be liable to disqualification from the event.

2. The interpretation of the rules shall be determined by the organisers, whose decision shall be final and binding.
3. Any matter not specifically covered by these Playing Rules shall be determined by the Darts South Africa Management Council whose decision shall be final and binding and who shall consider it for inclusion in a revised version of these rules.

4. **DARTS**

Players shall provide their own darts which shall not exceed an overall maximum length of 30,5 cm nor weigh more than 50g. Each dart shall consist of a needle shaped point which shall be fixed to a barrel. At the rear of the barrel shall be attached a flighted stem which may consist of up to three separate parts (i.e. a flight, a flight securing device and a stem).

5. THROW

- 5.1 A player shall throw darts from a standing position, excepting only in those circumstances when a physical disability or physical injury requires a player to adopt a nonstanding position.
- 5.2 All darts must be deliberately thrown, one at a time, by and from the player's hand.
- 5.3 A throw shall consist of a maximum of three (3) darts unless the game is completed in less than three (3) darts.
- 5.4 Any darts falling out of a player's hand may be retrieved by the said player and used to complete the throw.
- 5.5. Any dart bouncing off or falling out of the dart board does not count and shall not be re-thrown.

6. STARTING AND FINISHING

- 6.1 In all darts events a game shall be played off a straight start and finished on a “double”, unless otherwise stated in the playing format of a particular event.
- 6.2 The “bull” shall count as 50 or as double 25 if 50 is required to complete the game.
- 6.3 Any player scoring more than the required amount shall “bust” and the score shall not count, with the player’s score reverting to the score required prior to the opponent’s last throw.
- 6.4 A “Game Shot” called by a caller is valid only if the darts thrown achieve the required finishing number and remain in the dartboard until retrieved by the player at the time that “Game Shot” is called.
- 6.5 If a “Game Shot” called by a referee is declared invalid, then the player shall have the right to continue the throw

which is in progress, in an attempt to finish the game.

- 6.6 If, as a result of an error declared in 6.5, the player has retrieved a dart or darts, then the referee shall replace the dart or darts in as near as is practical to the same position/s and invite the player to complete the throw.
- 6.7 Any darts mistakenly thrown by a player after the required “double” shall not be counted as the game is concluded by the dart scoring the required “double”.

7. SCORING

- 7.1 A dart shall only score if the point remains in, or touched the face of the dartboard, within the outer double wire, and having been “called”, shall be retrieved from the dart-board by the player.

- 7.2 The score is counted from the side of the segment wire in which the point of the dart enters and remains, or is touching, the face of the dartboard.
- 7.3 Darts shall be retrieved from the dartboard by the thrower but only after the score has been “called” by the referee and recorded by the marker.
- 7.4 A protest about the score attained or called, after the retrieval of the dart or darts, may not be upheld.
- 7.5 All scores and subtractions made, should be checked by the referee, the marker, and the players after each throw, and where practicable, before the next player’s throw commences.
- 7.6 All requests by a player to check scores recorded, or subtractions made must be made before that player’s next throw.

- 7.7 The actual score required by a player, must be shown on the scoresheet or scoreboard, clearly visible, at eye level, in front of the players and the referee.
- 7.8 No indication of the required “double” shall be given by the marker, or the referee. (i.e., 32 required, NOT double 16).
- 7.9 The first player to reduce the score required to exactly zero, by obtaining the required “double”, is the winner of that leg, set or match, whichever is applicable.
- 7.10 The referee shall act as an umpire in all matters pertaining to the Playing Rules when conducting a darts match, and shall, if it is necessary, consult with scorers, and other officials, before announcing any decisions during the course of matchplay.

Example of setting out a scoresheet or scoreboard

ANYONE

ANYBODY

FIRST LEG

	*501		501
100	401	85	416
95	306	85	331
140	166	140	191
130	36	91	100
	36 Game Shot		

SECOND LEG

	501		*501
100	401	140	361
85	316	140	221
140	176	100	121
			121 Game Shot

THIRD LEG

	*501		501
180	321	85	416
140	181	41	375
125	56	140	235
	56 Game Shot		

The result of this match is a Win for ANYONE by 2 legs to 1.

*The Winner of the Draw or Toss throws first in the first and third legs.

The Loser of the Draw or Toss throws first in the second leg.

8. DARTBOARDS

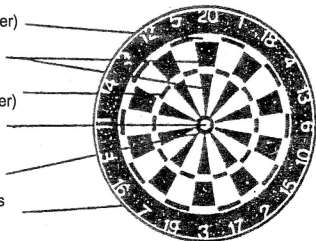
- 8.1 All dartboards shall be of the "Bristle" type.
- 8.2 All dartboards shall be of the "1-20" clock pattern.
- 8.3 The inner narrow band shall score "Treble" the segment number.
- 8.4 The outer narrow band shall score "Double" the segment number.
- 8.5 The outer centre ring shall score "25".
- 8.6 The inner centre ring shall score "50" and shall be called the "Bull".
- 8.7 All the wires forming the segments; doubles; trebles; inner and outer centre rings which together form the "Spider", shall be affixed to the face of the dartboard in such a manner that they lie flat on the surface of the dartboard.
- 8.8 The dartboard shall be fixed in such a manner that the perpendicular height from the floor to the centre of the "Bull", at the same level of the

Oche, shall measure 1,73 metres (5ft 8 ins). See diagram on Page 13.

- 8.9 The dartboard shall be fixed in such a manner that the “20” segment is coloured “black” and is at the top of the dartboard.
- 8.10 The Darts South Africa approved dartboard shall be used in all DSA darts events.
- 8.11 A player or team captain shall have the right to request that a dartboard be changed or moved during the course of a match, always providing that the opposing player or team captain concurs with the request.
Such change or move, shall only be made before the start or after the completion of a leg.
- 8.12 Adjustments to the position of, or changing of a dartboard shall only be carried out by the appointed match official.

INTERNATIONAL DARTBOARD

Double Score
(Twice the number)
Single Score
(Face Value)
Triple Score
(Triple the number)
Bull = Double 25
or (50 points)
Semi-Centre
= (25 points)
Out of Play Areas
(No score)



STANDARD DIMENSIONS

Double and Treble rings inside width measurement	= 8.0 mm. (0.313 ins.)
Bull inside diameter	= 12.7 mm. (0.50 ins.)
Semi-centre inside diameter	= 31.8 mm. (1.25 ins.)
Outside edge of Double wire to Centre Bull	= 170.0 mm. (6.69 ins.)
Outside edge of Treble wire to Centre Bull	= 107.0 mm. (4.21 ins.)
Outside edge of Double wire to outside edge of Double wire	= 340.0 mm. (13.38 ins.)
Overall dartboard diameter	= 451.0 mm. (17.75 ins.)
Conversion factor	1 cm = (0.3937 ins.)
Spiral wire gauge (Standard Wire Gauge) for 'round' or 'diamond' cross section	= 16 SWG maximum. 18 SWG minimum.

9. LIGHTING

- 9.1 In tournament play, all “floor” dartboards shall be adequately lit by suitably positioned lights at each dartboard. (i.e. 100 Watt minimum intensity).
- 9.2 Dartboards used in “stage finals” shall be adequately lit by suitably positioned light fittings. (Two 100 Watt minimum intensity fittings).
- 9.3 All light fittings must be fitted with screens to divert all light away from the Oche.
- 9.4 In “stage finals” the general level of illumination can be augmented by the use of “floods” and “spotlights” but extreme care is needed to prevent the introduction of unwanted “shadows” on the dartboard during matchplay.

10. OCHE

- 10.1 A raised Oche, 38 mm high and 61 mm long (1.5 ins high and 24 ins long) must be placed in position at the minimum throwing distance and shall measure

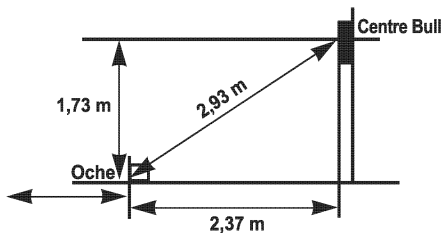
- from the back of the raised Oche 2,37 metres (7 ft 9.25 ins), along the floor to a plumb line at the face of the dartboard.
- 10.2 The diagonal distance from the centre bull to the back of the raised Oche at floor level shall measure 2,93 m (9 ft 7.5 ins).
- 10.3 In those circumstances where the Oche is set down on a raised playing area, then the raised playing area must be constructed so that it is centrally placed in relation to the dartboard. The minimum width of the Oche shall not be less than 1525 mm (5 ft) and the minimum depth of the standing area to the rear of the Oche shall not be less than 1220 mm (4 ft).
- 10.4 During matchplay no player shall tread on any part of the raised Oche nor shall the player deliver any dart with his feet in any position other than behind the toe edge of the raised Oche.

- 10.5 A player wishing to throw a dart or darts from a point on either side of the raised Oche must keep his feet behind an imaginary straight line extending on either side of the raised Oche.
- 10.6 Any player in breach of Clause 10.4 or 10.5 shall first be warned by the referee in the presence of the player's captain or team manager. Any dart subsequently delivered in breach of these Clauses shall not score and shall be declared invalid by the referee.
- 10.7 A player or team captain shall have the right to request that the Oche dimensions be checked and adjusted if necessary, always providing that the opposing player or team captain concurs with the request. Such request must be made before the start of, or after the completion of a leg. The match official shall, at his discretion, convey the request to the Referee and Tournament Director so that a check

and adjustment, if necessary, can be effected. Such check, and any adjustment, shall only be made before the start of, or after completion, of a leg.

10.8 Adjustment to, and the checking of, Oche dimensions, shall only be carried out by an appointed match official.

10.9 Oche dimensions



STANDARD DIMENSIONS

Centre Bull Height	= 1,73 metres (7 ft 8 ins)
Minimum throwing distance	= 2,37 metres (7 ft 9.25 ins)
Diagonal - Centre Bull to back of Oche	= 2,93 metres (9 ft 7.5 ins)
Height of raised Oche	= 38 mm (1.5 ins)
Length of raised Oche	= 610 mm (2 ft 0 ins)
Conversion factor	= 1 cm -0.3937 ins

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Diagonal length} &= \text{Height}^2 \div \text{Ocre}^2 \\ &= 1.73^2 \div 2.37^2 \\ &= 2.9929 \div 5.6169 \\ &= 8.6098 \\ &= 2.934 \text{ metres} \\ &= 9 \text{ ft } 7.5 \text{ ins.}\end{aligned}$$

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