



## **RULES, CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Rules and Regulations .....</b>	<b>3 – 11</b>
<b>League Play .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Dues .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Rules of the Game .....</b>	<b>4 – 5</b>
<b>Scoring .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Special Doubles League Rules .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Forfeits .....</b>	<b>5 – 6</b>
<b>Protests .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Ratings .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Player Eligibility .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Playoffs .....</b>	<b>8 – 10</b>
<b>Trophies .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Personal Conduct .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Environment .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Equipment .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>National Rules .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Constitution .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Bylaws .....</b>	<b>13 – 18</b>

# **RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DARTING ORGANIZATION**

## **Section 1                      League Play**

- (a) A full MVDO year shall consist of summer, spring and fall seasons. The Fall Season, including City Playoffs, must be completed at least one full calendar week before Christmas.
- (b) All league-sanctioned competition will be played in accordance with a schedule drawn up by the Board and the MVDO Recorder(s).
- (c) The Board and the MVDO Recorder(s) shall be responsible for assigning teams to divisions.
- (d) Starting time for all divisions and leagues is 7:30 p.m. A 15-minute grace period will be allowed. Therefore, a team may not call in a forfeit until 7:45 p.m. Please see the "Forfeits" section for further information.
- (e) In the case of extremely bad weather, the team captains should contact each other to confirm or reschedule the match. If a dispute arises, the Board will assist in rescheduling or canceling that night's scheduled matches.
- (f) For 4-person format a bar owner is required to provide a minimum of two (2) boards per match being played. The team captains will ultimately decide how many boards the match will be played on. If there is a disagreement, two (2) boards will be used. The home team has the option of deciding which boards the match will be played on. For Doubles and Mixed formats only one (1) board is required per match.
- (g) The official MVDO score sheet for each division dictates the regular order of play in the all divisions. Games may be played out of order only with the consent of both captains.
- (h) The roster for each game will be completed first by the visiting captain and submitted to the home captain for inspection. The home captain then completes his roster for that game. Once a name is placed on the lineup sheet, it cannot be changed without the consent of the opposing captain. It is not necessary for either team to show its lineup for more than one set of games at a time.
- (i) Results of each match are to be called in by a home team representative to the recorder no later than 6:00 p.m. of the day following the match. Failure to call in results by the deadline will result in the home team being penalized their wins for that night. This affects the team's total score only; individual players will still receive credit for their actual wins and losses. The visiting team is not affected.
- (j) The boards to be used for league play must be cleared at least 30 minutes before match time to allow players adequate warm-up time.
- (k) The captains are responsible for the smooth running of each match, and any disputes that arise during the course of play must be settled in private conference of the captains only.

## **Section 2**

### **Dues**

- (a) Membership dues will be as follows: Spring \$20, Summer \$15, Fall \$20. Dues are due by the end of the second week of play each season. Failure to pay on time will result in games played by offending player to be changed to forfeits. These games will remain forfeits even if the player eventually pays their dues.
- (b) If a new player is added to a team in the first 8 weeks of the Spring or Fall season, the dues will be \$20. If a new player is added in the last 7 weeks of the Spring or Fall season the dues will be \$10. The first 5 weeks of Summer will be \$15. The last 5 weeks of Summer will be \$10. Once a player is added they have two weeks to pay their dues or their games will be changed to forfeits. These games will remain forfeits.

## **Section 3**

### **Rules of the Game**

- (a) Each leg begins with a “cork” which determines which team begins the game. A player from the home team flips a coin. The winner of the flip has the choice of throwing for the cork first or second. One dart by each team is then thrown for the bull. The player throwing the dart closest to the center of the board wins. In the case of a tie, or if it is not clear which dart is closest, the cork will be re-thrown, with the player who shot first throwing second, until one player wins. The second shooter has the option of requiring that a single or double bull be pulled. A double bull beats a single bull. Both darts in either the single bull or the double bull is a tie. In any doubles or team event, the player throwing the cork has the option of allowing a teammate to start the game.
- (b) In “01” games, the player (or team) starts with a prescribed number of points and the aim is to reduce the score exactly to zero, finishing with a double. In 301, the player must also start with a double, no score being counted until the initial double is thrown. It is usually customary that only one person per team is required to double in for the entire team. In other “01” games, no double is required to start scoring, unless provided for in the format of that division. The inner bull (double bull) is scored as 50 points, and the single bull is scored as 25 points. If a player busts (reduces the score to 1, less than zero, or to zero without hitting a double), the score reverts to what it was before that turn. If both captains agree before the match, and both teams have had 5 rounds at the double 1, the cork rule may be used to determine the winner of the contest.
- (c) The scorekeeper, if any, can tell a player what amount is left to attain or what has been scored with the darts thrown. It is the player’s total responsibility to throw at the right numbers. If he is told what to shoot by anyone and it is the wrong number, the darts stand as thrown, and the score actually thrown is counted. Once the final double has been thrown, the game is over and any darts thrown afterward do not count.
- (d) In Cricket, only the numbers 20 through 15 and the Bull are used. The team closing all numbers and the Bull (innings) without being behind in points wins the game. An inning is closed by scoring three hits in that inning. A hit in the double scores two and the triple scores three. All hits in an inning beyond those required to close the inning will score the value of the number (25 for Bulls) in points unless your opponent has also closed that inning. Points cannot be scored in innings that are closed by both teams. Cricket will be “slop” (all hits in live innings count), unless both captains have agreed otherwise.
- (e) Spanish is identical to Cricket except only the numbers 20 through 10 are used and Spanish is always “call”; the player must declare which number he is throwing at and hits in other numbers do not count. Gentlemen’s call may be played with the consent of both captains, however, it is strongly

suggested that a verbal call be made when shooting at the 15-10 and 14-11 beds if both innings are alive.

- (f) Minnesota is played with slop cricket numbers, along with 3 in a bed, triples, and doubles. Once the 3 in a bed is closed, any additional beds, if taken for score, are recorded as the total amount thrown (80, 140, etc.). This is a “slop” game like Cricket.
- (g) The foul line will be strictly enforced, and a player must have both feet behind the front edge of the foul line. If a player has one or both feet over the foul line in the judgment of both captains, the score for that turn will not count. A violating player must be warned immediately. Repeated violations will be grounds for protest.

#### **Section 4                      Scoring**

- (a) A dart shall be scored where the point of the dart first enters the board.
- (b) During his turn, a player may walk to the board to see what his dart has scored, but he may not touch the dart. Once a player touches a dart in the board, his turn ends. Score for that dart and any previously thrown dart is counted.
- (c) Players may not remove their darts from the board until their score is recorded and acknowledged by the opponent. Any dart that has been removed from the board before the score is recorded and acknowledged cannot be scored. Under no circumstances will a player be able to improve his situation by removing darts from the board.
- (d) In “01” games, errors in arithmetic not detected by the beginning of the same team’s next turn shall stand as written. In Spanish and Cricket games, errors must be corrected before the opponent’s next turn or will stand as written.

#### **Section 5                      Special Doubles Leagues Rules**

- (a) All four of the team’s players, regular or substitute, may compete on any given night of play.
- (b) Any competing team in the Mixed Doubles League must have at least one male and one female member and they must be equally paired in all legs. Two team members of the same sex cannot play in the same game segment of a match.

#### **Section 6                      Forfeits**

- (a) The following guidelines will determine when and how forfeits will be declared. In all situations involving the judgment of the team captains it is intended that good sportsmanship prevail in all cases. The Executive Board reserves the right to reverse forfeits or take other disciplinary action against any team or players abusing these guidelines or otherwise behaving in an un-sportsmanlike manner.
- (b) A forfeit can be declared for failure of a minimum number of members of either team to attend and complete a match.
- (c) Any members of a team who are present and ready to play a match may do so. They may play only the games for which they have enough players. The team game may be played with three players,

skipping the turn of the missing player. Doubles may be played with one player, skipping the turn of the missing player. A team will be dropped from the league for having a total number of forfeited games that is one greater than the number of games they play in a regular league match. (i.e. a team will be dropped from a 9 game format division after forfeiting their 10th game).

- (d) It is the responsibility of all team captains to insure that the minimum number of his team's eligible players will be promptly present at all matches.
- (e) A match may be rescheduled by prior agreement of both captains with at least 24-hour advanced notice given to the opposing team captain. If at least 24-hour notice is not given, the match may still be rescheduled as long as both captains agree. The MVDO Board has the right to waive the 24-hour notice requirement in the event of an emergency. Matches scheduled for the last two weeks of the division's regular season cannot be rescheduled.
- (f) All rescheduled matches must be made up before the next scheduled match between the two teams and before the second to the last regular season match for the division. The team originally requesting the rescheduling will be assessed a temporary forfeit. This forfeit will be removed when and if the match is actually played.
- (g) If a team requests and is granted a rescheduling of a match, they may not request to reschedule another until the prior match has been played.
- (h) If either team is not ready to begin play promptly at the prescribed starting time both captains may or may not agree to wait a certain period of time for a sufficient number of players.
- (i) If a four-person match begins with either team having only three players, the team game is played with the 3-member team skipping a turn.
- (j) Any eligible members of a team that arrive after the start of a match may play in any games that have not been previously forfeited.
- (k) No player may play in more than one part of either a doubles or singles set of games.
- (l) As games are completed, forfeits will be immediately entered on both score sheets for any games in the next segment of games for which a team does not have enough players. A segment is a group of games of the same type (i.e. 501 doubles, Cricket, singles, etc.).
- (m) Any team that forfeits a full match during the final two weeks of divisional play (not including "BYE" weeks) will be dropped from league play for the remainder of that season. If a team drops under this circumstance or as a result of too many forfeits (see paragraph "c" above), each member of that team will be fined \$20.00. This fine is non-refundable. This fine may be appealed to the Rules & Rating Committee who may rescind the fine for justifiable cause. The fine for the members of teams that are dropped from the league may be waived only for team members who were present and available to play at the time of the forfeited match. Any player failing to pay this fine will be permanently ineligible for any MVDO sanctioned competition until this fine is paid. This rule also applies to teams which forfeit in either divisional or city playoffs, with exceptions being made only in those cases where the offending team contacts the Executive Board in sufficient time to make other arrangements.
- (n) In the event that a team is unable, for any reason, to complete a season, scores involving that team will be adjusted as necessary to assure no resulting advantage to any remaining team. Scores for all matches played after the most recent point at which the removed team had completed an equal number of games against every other team in the division will become 0 wins and 0 losses. Scores from matches played prior to that point will stand as played.

## **Section 7**

### **Protests**

- (a) Protests will be heard by a panel of at least three team captains; none of who shall be from the protesting division (except during playoffs), and the chairman will be the MVDO Vice-President. Chairman will give advance notice of the hearing to the effected captains. The Vice-President will be disqualified if his team is involved in the protest and the President will appoint a chairman.
- (b) A protest must be filed with a Board member in writing within one week of the protested match. If mailed, postmark date will control. In the last three weeks of the season, the protest must be made orally by noon of the day following the match to any Board member.
- (c) During Playoffs, protests must be made before the match is completed and will be heard immediately if at all possible. If the protest is dropped on completion of the match because the protested game would not alter the outcome of the match, the fee will be refunded.
- (d) A fee of \$10.00 must accompany the protest. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be refunded.
- (e) The Vice-President will keep a written, permanent record of all protests, including the names of the parties, the nature of the protest, names of the panel members, and the results.
- (f) The Vice-President will establish the rules to govern the hearings. It is strongly suggested that oral evidence be allowed.
- (g) The Board will notify the protester of the current status of the protest within 2 weeks of the initiation of the protest.

## **Section 8**

### **Ratings**

- (a) The MVDO Recorder(s) and the MVDO Executive Board shall be responsible for the rating of players and the dissemination of teams into divisions. Ratings will be loosely based on "A" for expert, "B" for intermediate, and "C" for beginner. Numerically the range will be 1 – for a New Player; 20 – 99 for "C" player; 100 – 199 for "B" Player; and 200 – 299 for "A" Player. Ratings are based on win/loss percentage, the division played, and ratings from prior seasons. The MVDO will use any and all information available to determine the ability of a player. This information may include any prior ratings from other leagues and tournament play.
- (b) Players without a current rating will be assigned a temporary rating by his/her team captain. If it is later determined that the temporary rating was misrepresented by either the player or his captain, all games played by that player will be forfeited and the player will be ineligible for all MVDO play for the remainder of the season.
- (c) Players re-entering the league after an absence will be given the rating they have in the MVDO historical database. If a rating cannot be found, then the new player shall be given a temporary rating of 1 indicating the player as "new" - as mentioned above.
- (d) A 1 rating is NOT a rating. It is an indicator that a player is new to the league and his rating is unknown at the time of registration. After the player's first season has ended, the new player's performance in league play will be assessed and a rating will be assigned to them before the MVDO ratings formula is run.
- (e) At the end of each season the MVDO ratings formula is run on all players for that season to determine their new rating.

## **Section 9**

### **Player Eligibility**

- (a) A player is eligible for league play by being paid up in his/her league fees and at least 21 years of age. Only players from the original roster or players legally added to the roster will be eligible to play on a given night. Players cannot be added to a team during the last 3 weeks of league play.
- (b) Teams that need to add players to the roster after the season has begun may do so by notifying league recorder (631-MVDO) at least 24 hours before intended league play. Any additions of un-rated players will be subject to the temporary rating procedure above. You may not add a player to your roster that is rated more than 20 points higher than the division rating. If a player is added and plays who is more than 20 points higher, then all of his or her games will be forfeits. The highest "A" division on any night may add anyone to their team, regardless of their rating. If the highest division is a "B" division then the 20 point rule still applies.
- (c) The maximum number of players per season on a 4-person team is eight, and the maximum for a doubles team is four. Once a player has played, he cannot be replaced or removed from that team for that season.
- (d) A player cannot play for more than 1 team on the same night of the week, per season.
- (e) A forfeit will be declared for use of an ineligible player or players to the extent that all wins involving such players shall be forfeited to the opposing team or teams. Team captains must be responsible for the integrity of their team rosters and for ascertaining the eligibility of each member. When in doubt, team captains should ask to see the latest weekly standings sheet, and have the questioned player produce proper identification. Use of an ineligible player is grounds for protest.
- (f) Any team which knowingly and willfully plays a person known to be ineligible to play on that team will be suspended from playoff participation for that season.
- (g) Anyone caught playing on a team under an assumed name shall be automatically suspended from the MVDO for two consecutive seasons. Any captain or acting captain who knowingly uses an illegal player shall also be suspended for two consecutive seasons.
- (h) **Survival Rule:** With a unanimous vote of the Executive Board, the board has the right to assure the survival of a team using any means necessary if a team is unable to complete a season due to factors out of their control – such as illness, relocation, death, injury, etc.

## **Section 10**

### **Playoffs**

- (a) **4-Person team Divisional playoffs** - The first, second, third, and fourth place finishers in the regular season will compete in the divisional playoffs over a two week format as scheduled by the Executive Board. During the first week of Divisional playoffs the first place team will play the fourth place team at the first place team's bar, and the second place team will play the third place team at the second place team's bar. The winners of each match will advance to week two of divisional playoffs. Each winning team must call the league recorder to report their victory. Week two's match will be played at the home bar of the higher seed of the two advancing teams. The MVDO web site along with a special recording on the league recorder will indicate where week two's playoff match will be held. In all cases, the home team will be the team with the higher finish during the regular season. The team winning week two's match must report their victory to the league and will then advance to the City Playoffs. In the event the winning divisional playoff team knows in advance that they cannot represent their division in the City Playoffs, it is the responsibility of the captain to inform the losing team that they will represent the division in the City Playoffs in their place. The captain must also report this to the league. This is to afford penalty (rule Section 6.m) for forfeiting in the city playoffs.



- (b) In the event of ties, the head-to-head record of the two teams during the season will determine the higher placed team. In the event that two teams are still tied, a special match will be scheduled by the Executive Board prior to the start of playoffs. If this is not possible, the teams will play one team game prior to the start of the playoffs to determine the final standings.
- (c) The home pubs of the first and second place teams within the division will be the host of week one of the divisional playoffs. The higher seed of the two advancing teams based on regular season finish will host week two of the playoffs. Playoff bars must have 2 boards per playoff match available to be eligible to host the playoffs. In the event this is not possible due to conflicts or facilities, the match will be played at the lower seed's bar with the higher seed still retaining Home team status. In the event this bar is also unavailable, the Executive Board will award another pub the playoffs. The Board should offer the playoffs to another sponsoring pub in the division in order of teams finish within the division. If all sponsoring pubs in a division are unwilling or unable to host the playoffs, the Board will choose a facility.
- (d) **All Doubles Divisional Playoffs** - The first, second, third, and fourth place finishers in the regular season will compete in the divisional playoffs as scheduled by the Executive Board. The Divisional playoffs will be played in one week with the first place team hosting the matches. All four playoff teams will arrive at the first place team's home bar at 7:00 PM. The first place team will play the fourth place team and the second place team will play the third place team. The winners of each match will then play each other to determine the divisional playoff winner. The team winning the match will report their victory to the league recorder and then advance to the City Playoffs.

City Playoffs for all Doubles leagues - Tuesday Open, Thursday Cricket and Thursday Mixed - will be on the Tuesday or Thursday, respectively, following the Divisional Playoffs.

- (e) The City Playoffs will consist of the winners of the divisional playoffs in the team leagues, date and place to be determined by the Board. If two teams compete who used different formats during the regular season, the format of the match will be that of the lower-ranked team. The home team will be determined by the toss of a coin. The bracketing within divisions, A/B/C, will be determined by "Luck of the Draw". In general, the 4-person B and C playoffs will be run on a Saturday following the season. The "B" and "C" City Champions will then move on to play any "A" City Playoff teams for the Overall 4-Person City Championship. This match or matches will be held on either the Monday or Wednesday following the Saturday playoffs. The night will be determined by which night had more registered teams. The location of the match is up to the MVDO Board.
- (f) No playoffs shall begin until all protests dealing with regular season play have been heard and appropriate action taken.
- (g) If a player or players are members of different teams that are both involved in City Playoffs, those players must select which team they will play for before the competition begins. Bouncing back-and-forth from losing to winning teams will not be allowed during playoffs.
- (h) The league will maintain an ordered list of taverns qualified to host Doubles City Playoffs as well as a list of taverns qualified to host the Four Person Team City Playoffs. Taverns qualified to host either City Playoffs will have food service available and a minimum of three (3) MVDO teams registered in the current season. In addition, taverns must have a minimum of four (4) boards properly installed (attached to a building wall or partition) for Doubles City Playoffs and eight (8) boards installed to qualify for Four Person City Playoffs. These eligibility requirements must be met prior to the beginning of the season in question. Any tavern failing to qualify will be dropped from the list and any tavern qualifying to be added to either list will be added to the bottom of the list. Both Doubles and Four Person City Playoffs will be offered to the tavern at the top of the appropriate list. Each tavern hosting a City Playoff or declining the offer will be moved to the bottom of the list.

- (i) To be eligible for divisional or city playoffs, a player who was not on the original roster must have competed in at least 8 doubles or singles legs as shown in the standings book. Team game participation cannot be used in computing a player's eligibility.

## **Section 11                      Trophies**

- (a) Trophies will be awarded to the first place finishers of the regular season in each division, with the individual players on each first place team receiving individual trophies. If a player does not play at least 8 doubles or singles legs in a season, they will not be eligible to receive a trophy.
- (b) Most Valuable Player trophies will be awarded in each division to the player having the highest win/loss record during the regular season in the doubles and singles events. In Doubles divisions - Minnesota is a doubles game and does count in the MVP qualification formula. NO A or B rated player may win a C division MVP award and NO A rated player may win a B division MVP award unless their rating is within 20 points of the division rating. (Example - If a B player with a rating of 105 is playing in a C95 division, they are still eligible for MVP Award because their 105 rating is only 10 points higher than the division rating of 95.) In the event of a tie for MVP, the player with the most singles game wins will be the MVP. If still tied, duplicate trophies will be given. To qualify for MVP, at least 70% of the doubles and singles matches available must have been played.
- (c) Winners of the city playoffs will have their team name inscribed on a permanent traveling trophy, receive individual trophies, and its pub will have possession of the traveling trophy for the following season. Traveling trophies exist for the following - Overall 4-Person Team, "B" 4-Person Team, "C" 4-Person Team, Mixed Doubles, Cricket Doubles and Open Doubles. "B" and "C" Open doubles does not have a traveling trophy.
- (d) The Sergeant-at-Arms or his appointee will be responsible for selecting trophies within the price guidelines given by the Treasurer.

## **Section 12                      Personal Conduct**

- (a) Heckling or other harassment is forbidden. A team may make as much noise as it wants while it is shooting, but must remain quiet while the other team is throwing. All players and spectators must give the thrower plenty of room to throw, and must refrain from undue movement in or near the dartboard lane. Repeated harassment or loud, foul language may result in forfeiture or up to 9 match points. Physical abuse will not be tolerated and can result in suspension or termination as an MVDO member. Unsportsmanlike conduct is also grounds for protest.
- (b) The Executive Board reserves the right to suspend or terminate any member or team that conducts itself in an unsportsmanlike, unlawful, or other manner that is not in the best interests of the MVDO.

## **Section 13                      Environment**

- (a) It is the responsibility of the pub owner and the home team captain to see that a normal pub-type environment is maintained during league play. Excessive noise, loud machines, and extremely loud and/or boisterous behavior should be avoided. Repeated offenses of this nature may result in the pub being suspended from the league.

## **Section 14**

### **Equipment**

- (a) Standard English “bristle” 20-point clock-faced dart board of top quality and good condition.
- (b) The dartboard wire spider must not be broken, and the double and triple rings must be within a tolerance of 1/32” of the normal spacing of 3/8”.
- (c) Dartboards shall be placed 5’- 8” from the floor to the center of the bull’s-eye, with the “20” bed at the top center. This wedge must be dark-colored.
- (d) The foul line will be 7’- 9 1/4” from the surface of the board, measured along the floor to the front edge of the line, and will be a minimum of 24 inches long, 12 inches on either side of center.
- (e) All league-play dartboards shall be firmly anchored and well illuminated with a floodlight or a fluorescent fixture.
- (f) Adequate scoring equipment and materials must be provided and located in such a position that the score may be read easily by the players and spectators.
- (g) The pub owner will be responsible for supplying and maintaining the league-play dart board(s), and a suitable environment for darts.
- (h) It is the responsibility of the pub owner to arrange for an inspection of all league play dartboards (and any future significant changes) by a representative of the MVDO Standards Committee prior to any MVDO sanctioned competition. If the inspected area and environment is found to meet MVDO standards, the representative will affix a certificate of inspection and approval close to each inspected dartboard.

## **Section 15**

### **National Rules**

- (a) The M.V.D.O. is a member of the American Darts Organization. All rules not covered here will fall under ADO National Tournament Rules.
- (b) The ADO National Tournament Rules can be found on the Internet at <http://www.adodarts.com/adorules.html>.

# **CONSTITUTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DARTING ORGANIZATION**

## **Article I. Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Mississippi Valley Darting Organization (hereafter known as the MVDO), a non-profit organization to be incorporated under the laws for the State of Missouri.

## **Article II. Purpose and Objectives**

The purpose of the MVDO shall be to promote the sport of darts in the metropolitan Saint Louis area and to maintain a favorable public posture toward darts, its participants, and its sponsoring establishments. To this end, the MVDO shall:

- A. Enhance the proficiency and the national reputation of the Saint Louis area dart shooters through tournaments, and insure fair play by the adoption of equitable rules and regulations.
- B. Encourage interest in the sport of darts through promotions, publicity and educational programs.
- C. Enhance the public image of darts through involvement in civic and charitable endeavors.
- D. Promote cooperation with other dart organizations, both locally and nationally based.

## **Article III. Governing Body**

The membership in good standing shall constitute the MVDO. The governing body of the MVDO shall be the elected Executive Board.

## **Article IV. Amendment**

The constitution of the MVDO may be amended by a simple majority of eligible votes cast at a regularly scheduled General Membership Meeting called by the approval of a simple majority vote of the Executive Board. (Please see Article 15, "Amendments", of the Bylaws for amendment procedures).

# **BYLAWS OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DARTING ORGANIZATION**

## **1. “Year”**

- A) The MVDO year shall run from January 1 to December 31.

## **2. “Dues and Fees”**

- A) Team and individual fees and dues shall be established by the Executive Board, hereinafter referred to as “Board”.
- B) Any team failing to submit a completed roster (and accompanying fees), at the regular season registration will be ineligible for play that season.
- C) Fees are not refundable for any reason.

## **3. “Membership”**

- A) Membership is limited to permanent residents of the metropolitan Saint Louis area as defined by the Executive Board. However, the Board may authorize associate memberships, at a fee the Board deems reasonable, which would entitle the holder to be placed on the mailing list for the monthly bulletins, tournament information, etc. Associate members are not allowed to vote on League matters.
- B) Membership meetings will be held prior to the start of each league season. Registration for the upcoming season will be held at the meeting and trophies and awards for the preceding season will be presented. The Membership Meeting will be publicized in a timely manner giving date, place and agenda of scheduled meeting. Decisions taken by the Board can be overruled by a two-thirds majority of those members present and voting. Robert’s Rules of Order will govern the meetings.
- C) The Executive Board retains the right to terminate or suspend any member, team, or pub, but only after receiving a written protest that must be handed to a Board member or mailed to arrive at the MVDO address within 48 hours after the violation. The defendant must be notified of the complaint by registered mail and of a hearing by the Board at a specified time and place and must be given the opportunity to defend himself before the complainant(s). The owner of the pub in which the alleged violation occurred, may at his/her discretion, be present at the hearing. Failure of the defendant to appear at his hearing will be considered to be a plea of no contest. The Board will act on the evidence before it. A written explanation of the judgment and action of the Board will be sent to defendant by registered mail.

## **4. “Officers”**

### **A) “The Executive Board”**

- (a) The voting seats of the Executive Board will consist of the President, Vice-president, President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-of-Arms, A Divisional Rep, B Divisional Rep, C Divisional Rep and the past-President of the league. Should the past-President decline this position, this seat shall remain vacant. In addition, the Executive Board may appoint 2 bar

representatives who may attend Executive sessions. However, these are non-voting seats.

- (b) The Board shall consider and report to the general membership on all proposed measures for the general welfare of the MVDO, shall adopt such policies to enhance this welfare. The Board shall direct the expenditure of the funds of the MVDO, but not in excess of the amount held by the Treasurer. The Board shall make a semi-annual report to the general membership. A simple majority of the Board shall be required for the transaction of business at Board meetings.
- (c) The Board will meet once per month during the MVDO year, time and place to be determined by the President and communicated to all Board members in sufficient time to allow for attendance. The President and a quorum of the Board must be present at all Rules & Procedures Meetings.
- (d) A quorum of the Executive Board shall have the power to make any decisions it deems necessary to conduct the business of the MVDO. However, its rulings may be overruled by a two-thirds vote of a general membership meeting.

**B) "Terms of Office"**

- (a) The President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms and the Divisional Representatives shall be elected by the general membership. If vacancies occur due to resignation or removal, the President may appoint new officers, subject to the consent of the Board, to complete the term of the departing member. Any MVDO officer may be removed from his or her office at any time for incompetence or misconduct as determined by a two-thirds majority vote of the attending membership at any membership meeting.
- (b) All elected officers shall serve one year and the term shall be from February 1<sup>st</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- (c) No officer of the MVDO shall receive payment or remuneration for their services (except for approved expenses that shall be reimbursed to them at the direction of the Board). The Board may, at its discretion, appoint individuals to perform the duties of record-keeping and standings generation. These positions demand more time than a volunteer worker would reasonably be expected to give. No current Board member may hold any of these paid positions.
- (d) Should the MVDO Board determine that an MVDO officer has been absent, unwilling or otherwise unable to perform his duties for an extended period of time, a majority vote of the Board shall have the authority to temporarily assign all or part of the duties of that office to any eligible MVDO member. The temporary officer shall have the full authority of the former officer for the duration of the term of that office or until the original officer is able to resume his duties.
- (e) If vacancies occur due to resignation or removal, a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board may appoint new officers to complete the term of the departing member.
- (f) Candidates for Office of the Executive Board may only be nominated and appear on the ballot for one (1) seat on the Board.

**C) "Duties of the President"**

- (a) To lead and direct the affairs of the MVDO.

- (b) To enforce and uphold the constitution, by-laws, and Rules and Regulations of the MVDO, to make any necessary interpretations thereof, and to rule on any problems or conflicts that are not covered by these documents.
  - (c) To establish administrative procedures when necessary to ensure the effective operation of the MVDO.
  - (d) To request volunteers from the entire general membership to serve on standing and special committees and to appoint Chairpersons from the volunteers. The chairpersons will then select the committee members from those volunteering.
  - (e) To call and chair meetings of the Executive Board and the general membership of the league.
  - (f) To act as ex-officio member of all committees and to cast the deciding vote in the event of deadlocks therein.
  - (g) To be at all times responsive to the needs and desires of the general membership.
- D) **“Duties of the Vice-president”**
- (a) To assume the duties of the President of the MVDO in the absence of the President and in the event the President is unable to complete the term of his office for any reason.
  - (b) To act as an advocate of the general membership in the event that the consensus of the opinion of the general membership is opposition to that of the President.
  - (c) To act as the principle point of contact between the Board and the general membership.
  - (d) To preside over all protests necessitated by sanctioned league competition.
  - (e) To perform such lawful duties delegated to him or her by the President.
- E) **“Duties of the Secretary”**
- (a) To establish and maintain current membership information to include addresses, phone numbers, and other information necessary for election verification.
  - (b) To assemble and compile information necessary to effect a rating system for MVDO players.
  - (c) To be responsible for the dissemination of teams into divisions at the beginning of each season.
  - (d) To be the chief public and media relations officer of the MVDO.
  - (e) To be responsible for the correspondence and relationships with other darting organizations.
  - (f) To maintain minutes of all meetings of the Executive Board and the General Membership and to make such minutes available for publication or inspection by any member.
- F) **“Duties of the Treasurer”**
- (a) To maintain creditable bookkeeping records of the MVDO funds and to submit a budget each season to the general membership within 30 days of the membership meeting.

- (b) To maintain systems to comply with the tracking of funds as may be required by funding sources outside the league.
- (c) To maintain disbursement controls to comply with State and Federal guidelines.
- (d) To maintain financial records and documentation in compliance with current law and good accounting practices.
- (e) To maintain and provide all financial records for inspection by the Board and the general membership.
- (f) To maintain dual-signature accounts in financial institutions selected with the approval of the Board.
- (g) To complete financial reports to be submitted to the general membership at least semi-annually.
- (h) To order all materials required by the MVDO with the approval of the Board and disburse funds in such a manner as to keep a good credit rating for the league.
- (i) To be responsible for the collection of all money owed to the MVDO.
- (j) To request a minimum of three (3) bids for any expense above one thousand dollars (\$1,000) that is not provided for in the budget.

G) **“Duties of the Sergeant-at-Arms”**

- (a) To serve as director of all minor tournaments sanctioned by the MVDO, to serve on the major tournament committee and act as or appoint someone as league representative to the ADO (American Darts Association).
- (b) To assist in coordination of all tournaments in the Saint Louis area with the sponsoring body of the tournament.
- (c) To serve as director of the league playoffs.
- (d) To serve as custodian of all property belonging to the MVDO.
- (e) To ensure that all those attending and voting at all Executive Board and membership meetings be qualified to do so.
- (f) To serve as Parliamentarian at all meetings.

H) **“Duties of the Divisional Representatives”**

- (a) To attend Executive Board Meetings and help out in any planning, organizing or execution of MVDO functions and events.
- (b) To act as a liaison between the Executive Board and the General Membership in the appropriate ratings classifications for all matters. If a problem cannot be resolved then they will consult the rest of the Executive Board.
- (c) To collect ballots at their division bars on elections and format choices.



## 5. “Captains”

- A) All team captains are required to provide home telephone numbers that the league will provide to other captains within the division.
- B) All team captains are responsible for making sure each member of their team has paid his or her dues. Dues should be paid with the registration at the beginning of the season. If they are not, then it is the captains responsibility to make sure all members are paid by the end of the second week of play. If they are not, any games played by non-paid players will become forfeits.
- C) All team captains are required to provide match results when they are the home team. They can either fax or call in their results to the MVDO recorder at 314-631-6836.

## 6. “Committees”

- A) The Rules and Ratings Committee shall meet at least once annually to review the constitution, rating, by-laws, and general rules of the MVDO and shall submit majority recommendations to the Board for approval prior to being submitted to the general membership for consideration. The Committee must review ratings each season. This committee, chaired and chosen by Vice-president, will have a minimum of two (2) non-board members from each division, but not more than two (2) from one (1) bar.
- B) The Publication Committee shall be responsible for publication of all official publications including tournament programs and a newsletter that will be sent to all league members at least twice per league season.
- C) The Election Committee shall be in charge of the annual election of officers, which will take place at the Spring Season Membership Meeting. This committee shall devise and implement rules necessary to conduct a secret ballot election and verify that voting is done only by qualified members. The Election Committee shall devise a method by which an MVDO member in good standing can participate in any MVDO election by submitting an absentee ballot. Any member of this committee seeking nomination or election to any office shall immediately resign from this committee. Such vacancy will be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the committee. This committee will at all times be autonomous and free from the control of outside forces. All candidates will be allowed to watch the opening of the ballots in a non-participatory fashion.
- D) The major tournament committee (ADO sanctioned tournaments) will be composed of four (4) members appointed by the President with the consent of the Board of Directors. The terms will be staggered so that a new member will be appointed each year. The Sergeant-at-Arms will serve as the fifth member of the committee. The President will designate the Chairman. The committee will report regularly to the Board and coordinate activities with the Board.
- E) The Publicity Committee will assist the Secretary in organizing and administering promotional and charitable activities of the MVDO.
- F) The MVDO Standards Committee will be responsible for visually inspecting the equipment and playing conditions for all dart bars currently sponsoring teams in the MVDO. The Chairperson will appoint as many inspectors as deemed necessary for this purpose and it will be the bar owner's responsibility to make any changes recommended by the inspectors.
- G) The Bi-State Committee will be appointed to coordinate our league's participation in the Bi-state tournament with the three other participating leagues.

## 7. “Amendments”

- A) A Rules and Procedures Meeting will be held in the middle of each season enabling the proposed changes to be printed in the Bullshot News for people to discuss and consider prior to the General Membership Meeting. All league members will be welcome to attend and participate in this meeting.
- B) Amendments of all topics must be submitted to the “Rules” Chairman 15 days prior to the Rules and Procedures Meeting in order to be considered at that meeting.
- C) Any league member in good standing may propose any change or amendment to the Constitution, by-laws, or Rules and Regulations of the MVDO at any Rules and Procedures Meeting. If the proposed amendment receives a simple majority vote of the attending members of the Rules and Procedures Meeting, the proposal will be presented to the General Membership at the next General Membership Meeting. If the proposal receives a simple majority vote at the General Membership Meeting, the proposed amendment shall be adopted.
- D) All amendments shall become effective at the commencement of the next scheduled season unless otherwise provided for in the amendment.
- E) All changes proposed at a General Membership Meeting shall be presented in writing to the attending membership prior to voting.
- F) If an amendment is voted on at a General Membership Meeting, the same rule cannot be on the ballot again for at least two years.