

# **The Old RCS Darts Club**

## **RULES**

### **List of Rules**

1.	Name and Logo	1
2.	Aims and Objects	1
3.	Membership	1
4.	The Committee, Officers and Honorary Posts of the Club	1
5.	General Meetings	2
6.	Elections	3
7.	Finance	5
8.	Competitions	5
9.	Matches and External Leagues	6
10.	Venues	6
11.	Code of Conduct	6
12.	Discipline	7
13.	Rules	10

### **List of Appendices**

A.	Official Logo and Nickname	11
B.	Officer Job Descriptions	12
C.	Competition Rules	14
D.	Approved Venues	30
E.	Committee Policy	31

## **1. Name and Logo**

- 1.1 The name of the Club shall be "The Old RCS Darts Club".
- 1.2 The Club shall have as its official logo the Crowned Orc; the official logo shall be appended to this document in Appendix A.

## **2. Aims and Objects**

The Club shall hold the following as its aims and objects, which it shall strive to fulfil as its commitment to its Membership:

- 2.1 To provide and promote an enjoyable darts-orientated environment in which Members can participate actively.
- 2.2 To provide a varied range of competitions that meets the needs and expectations of all Members.
- 2.3 To play matches against such external bodies as the Committee sees fit.
- 2.4 To hold social events of interest to the Membership.

## **3. Membership**

- 3.1 Any person shall be eligible for membership of the Club upon payment of an Annual Subscription, determined annually by the Committee.
- 3.2 Any person who has paid the Annual Subscription shall, upon ratification by the Committee, be a Full Member of the Club. Membership shall last for one calendar year from 1 January.
- 3.3 By general acclamation of a General Meeting, Honorary Life Membership shall be awarded on recommendation of the Committee to current or immediately-lapsed Members. Honorary and Associate Membership may be assigned by the Committee to non-Members. These categories of membership shall not grant their holders any of the rights of Full Members.

## **4. The Committee, Officers and Honorary Posts of the Club**

- 4.1 Officer Posts
  - 4.1.1 There shall be a Committee of the Club, which shall exist to govern it from day to day, to oversee its development, and to make recommendations to its General Meetings.
  - 4.1.2 The Committee shall consist of the following, who shall be the Club Officers:  
  
Captain  
Club Secretary  
Fixtures Secretary  
League Recorder

- 4.1.3 The Committee shall be chaired by the Captain or, in the Captain's absence, by another officer agreed by general consensus.
  - 4.1.4 At meetings of the Committee, each Officer shall have one vote, with the exception of the Chair, who shall have a casting vote only; provided, that when the Committee is considering a Motion of Censure under the provisions of Rule Twelve, an Officer in the Chair shall be granted a vote.
  - 4.1.5 Quorum of the Committee shall be three, including the Chair.
  - 4.1.6 The Committee shall meet at least twice per calendar year. No more than six calendar months shall elapse between consecutive meetings of the Committee.
  - 4.1.7 Committee meetings held over email shall count towards this requirement.
  - 4.1.8 Ordinary meetings of the Committee shall be called by the Captain by giving two weeks' notice in writing to all Officers, except where the meetings are to be held over email, where one week's notice is required.
  - 4.1.9 An emergency meeting of the Committee may be called by any Officer by giving three working days' notice in writing to all other Officers.
  - 4.1.10 Any Member of the Club may attend meetings of the Committee as an observer. No such observer shall be granted a vote.
  - 4.1.11 Officers shall be elected under the provisions of Rule Six.
  - 4.1.12 Officers shall hold office for one calendar year from 1 January.
  - 4.1.13 Job descriptions for Officers shall be appended to this document as Appendix B.
- 4.2 Honorary Posts
- 4.2.1 There shall be the Honorary Post of "President" of the Club. This post shall be held by Duncan Robertson until such time as he no longer wishes to hold it.
  - 4.2.2 There shall be the Honorary Post of "Father of the Club". This post shall be held by the member of the Club who fulfils the following criteria:
    - i) Longest-serving member of the Club; if there is a tie then:
    - ii) The oldest of these.

## **5. General Meetings**

- 5.1 General Meetings shall exist to govern the Club ultimately, to hold elections, and to approve such documents and decisions as required by these Rules and the law.
- 5.2 All General Meetings shall receive a report from the Committee.
- 5.3 There shall be an Annual General Meeting which shall receive independently-examined accounts for the preceding financial year, an Annual Report prepared by the Committee on the activities and management of the Club and shall appoint or re-appoint the Independent Examiner. Other business may be submitted to the AGM.

- 5.4 The AGM shall be held more than ten and not more than fourteen months after the preceding AGM.
- 5.5 There shall be a General Meeting which shall be called in the last three months of the calendar year which shall elect the Officers of the Club for the following year, under the provisions of Rule Six.
- 5.6 The Captain, in the first instance, shall be responsible for calling, convening and chairing all General Meetings. General Meetings shall be called if a written request, signed by at least 20 percent of the Full Members, or by two Officers of the Club, is received by the Captain.
- 5.7 All Members shall be given at least one month's notice in writing of all General Meetings. The Agenda shall be circulated at least one week before the date of the meeting, with all official business papers and reports. The Club Secretary shall co-ordinate the compilation of the Agenda and all formal notices.
- 5.8 Quorum of General Meetings shall be half of the Full Members (rounded up in the case of a fraction).
- 5.9 Each Member shall be entitled to one vote at a General Meeting, with the exception of the Chair, who shall have a casting vote only.
- 5.10 Members may proxy their vote to any other Club Member; provided, that there shall be a limit of one proxy vote held by any Club Member, except the Chair, who may hold any number of proxy votes. Votes proxied to the Chair shall be accompanied with an instruction on how the vote shall be cast on each item of tabled business. The Chair shall not be eligible to exercise proxy votes on business tabled at the meeting. Except in the case of elections, postal votes shall not be allowed.

## **6. Elections**

- 6.1 The Independent Examiner shall appoint himself or another person to act as the Returning Officer for all elections. The appointed person shall neither be a member of the Committee, a Candidate nor a Nominator. If no appointment is formally communicated to the Club Secretary, who shall be responsible for administering the Notice of Elections, then the Returning Officer shall be a person appointed by the Committee who is not a Committee Member, a Candidate nor a Nominator.
- 6.2 Nominations shall open at 9am of the day three calendar weeks before the date of the General Meeting at which the election(s) will take place, and close at 5pm of the day one calendar week before the date of the General Meeting at which the election(s) will take place.
- 6.3 Any Member of the Club shall be eligible to stand for an Officer post; provided, that:-
  - a) he has been a Member of the Club continuously since 1 January of the year in which the election takes place and for the nine months immediately preceding the opening of nominations;
  - b) he is not already a Candidate for any Officer post;
  - c) he is not already a Nominator for a Candidate for any Officer post;
  - d) he is not the Returning Officer or an appointed deputy.

- 6.4 Before the close of nominations, any Member may communicate to the Returning Officer that he wishes to be a Candidate. The communication shall be made in writing and shall identify another Member as his Nominator. Such Nominator may neither already be a Candidate nor a Nominator for another Candidate for that post. Before the close of nominations, all Nominators will communicate their assent to nominate to the Returning Officer. Once the Returning Officer has verified that the Member and his Nominator fulfil the provisions of Rule 6.3 and Rule 6.4, the Member shall become a Candidate; this shall normally be done within two working days.
- 6.5 All successful candidacies shall be displayed on the Club's website as soon as possible after the Returning Officer's acceptance of the candidacy, even if the nomination period is still open.
- 6.6 Any Candidate may withdraw at any time by giving notice in writing to the Returning Officer, and this fact shall be displayed on the Club's website as soon as possible after the Returning Officer's receipt of such notice.
- 6.7 No Nominator may withdraw his nomination at any time unless he finds a replacement that is acceptable to the Candidate. In such cases the Candidate must formally notify the Returning Officer of the intention to make this change, and the replacement Nominator must state in writing that they are happy to nominate the Candidate. The Returning Officer must verify that the new Nominator meets the requirements of Rule 6.4 before the original Nominator can be considered to have been replaced.
- 6.8 Elections shall be held under the Single Transferable Vote system, as defined by the Electoral Reform Society.
- 6.9 Elections for Officer positions that have only one Candidate at the close of nominations shall be automatically returned in the Candidate's favour.
- 6.10 Any Full Member shall have the right to vote in all elections; provided, that he was a Member continuously from the opening of nominations to the date of the voting.
- 6.11 The Returning Officer shall allow for proxy/postal/e-mail/telephone/SMS message votes, and publicise the means of a Member's exercising such rights to all Members no later than the close of nominations.
- 6.12 The Returning Officer shall allow for Candidates in an election to make an Electoral Address to the General Meeting at which the election is to take place and in advance over official communication channels, in a format decided by the Returning Officer, which shall include provisions in Rule 6.11.
- 6.13 Candidates shall be permitted, but not required, to have an official Manifesto, which shall be submitted to the Returning Officer in writing within 72 hours of the close of nominations.
- 6.14 The Returning Officer may at his sole discretion appoint one or more deputy returning officers and counting agents. No person hereby appointed shall be a Candidate or an Agent of a Candidate.
- 6.15 A candidate shall notify the Returning Officer at the close of nominations of his Agent, if he wishes to appoint one for the purposes of receiving and dealing with communications from the Returning Officer or his deputy.

- 6.16 The Chair of the General Meeting at which the election is to take place shall be taken by the Returning Officer or his deputy. The Chair shall be afforded a vote in any election; provided, that he is a Full Member of the Club.

## **7. Finance**

- 7.1 The Committee shall run one or more bank accounts such as to maximise the assets of the Club. The opening and closing of bank accounts shall be reported to the AGM for ratification in the Financial Report.
- 7.2 The Club Treasurer shall maintain the Club Accounts on behalf of the Committee.
- 7.3 The AGM shall appoint the Independent Examiner of the Accounts. No person who is an Officer of the Club may be appointed as Independent Examiner. If there is a vote on an appointment or reappointment at the meeting, Officers of the Club shall not be able to vote. This provision shall not prevent Officers from presenting motions or reports on the appointment or re-appointment of the Independent Examiner, however, this provision shall extend to Officers whose term of office includes outstanding accounts for examination and covered by the appointment or re-appointment.
- 7.4 Should the Club be dissolved, its assets shall be split fairly amongst the Members at the time of dissolution. The Committee shall maintain a policy on the fair division of said assets, which shall include, as one element, the length of time a Member has held Membership of the Club.
- 7.5 If unclaimed, the said assets shall be donated to The RCSA Trust.

## **8. Competitions**

- 8.1 The Club shall have the following Competitions for its members:

League Championship  
Knockout Tournament (Cup and Plate Sections)  
Champions' Shield  
Ladder League  
Blind Killer Competition  
Doubles Cup  
Committee Competition  
Winter Trophy  
Handicap Competition  
President's Masters  
Women's Championship

- 8.2 Rules for all Competitions shall be attached to this document in Appendix C.
- 8.3 With the exception of the Committee Competition, Ladder League, President's Masters and Women's Championship, all matches within competitions shall be played only on dates and at venues agreed by a General Meeting, normally the AGM, unless there is agreement to play them outside of such times by the Captain, Fixtures Secretary and the players involved. The event that occurs when Members gather at a venue on a date so approved shall be known as a Darts Meeting.

- 8.4 In order to fund trophies, any Competition may have an entry fee; provided, that there shall be no entry fee for the Knockout Competition.

## **9. Matches and External Leagues**

- 9.1 The Club shall strive to play Matches against any external body and enter teams into External Leagues as the Committee sees fit.
- 9.2 Matches shall be organised by the Captain. He shall ensure that the format for the Match or League is known and agreed by both parties before the date of the match.
- 9.3 The Captain shall call a meeting of Members who are interested in forming part of the Team or Squad for a Match or External League, prior to the start of the League season in the case of a League. At this meeting, the Captain shall oversee the election of the Team Organisers, which shall consist of a Team Captain, Team Vice-Captain and Team Secretary.
- 9.4 The Captain is eligible to be Team Captain, Team Vice-Captain or Team Secretary and in the event that the Captain is involved in the election as a candidate, the election shall be administered by another Officer of the Club appointed by the Committee.
- 9.5 Teams for Matches and External League competitions shall be selected in a manner determined by the Team Captain in consultation with the Team Vice-Captain.
- 9.6 In order to fund expenditure associated with Matches, the Committee may charge a Match Fee for team members.
- 9.7 For the avoidance of doubt, a person may hold one or more posts of Team Captain, Team Vice-Captain and Team Secretary for different Teams or Squads.
- 9.8 A person shall also be eligible to hold joint posts so that they may be concurrently Team Captain and Team Secretary or Team Vice-Captain and Team Secretary. One person may not hold the posts of Team Captain and Team Vice-Captain for the same Team or Squad.
- 9.9 For one-off external Matches, the Club Captain shall captain the Team.
- 9.10 Teams and Squads may agree standing orders and subordinate rules to govern the administration of the Team or Squad, provided that a majority of Team or Squad members agree to them and that they are reported to the Club Secretary to ensure compliance with the Club Rules.

## **10. Venues**

- 10.1 The Committee shall select venues as it sees fit for Club Competitions upon recommendation from any Member of the Club. A list of current approved venues shall be appended to this document as Appendix D.

## **11. Code of Conduct**

- 11.1 In order for Members to enjoy the Club and its competitions to the fullest extent, basic rules of courtesy shall be adhered to at all times.

- 11.2 Whilst most of said rules fall within the general province of good etiquette and behaviour, and of sportsmanship, the following points are stressed:
- 11.2.1 For the smooth running of the Club and its Competitions and Matches, good time keeping is essential. Rules for Competitions may include sanctions for competitors who fail in this essential aspect.
  - 11.2.2 During play, competitors shall not be distracted, deliberately or otherwise, and there shall be a general exclusion zone around each match board and oche administered by the Scorer.
  - 11.2.3 Mobile telephones should be switched off or to "discreet" or vibrate mode, and general conversation volume should be kept to a minimum.
  - 11.2.4 During social intercourse particularly, all Members shall refrain from offensive language and actions and incidences of harassment or offensive acts shall be reported in the first instance to the Club Secretary.
- 11.3 Officers of the Club shall be empowered to issue summary warnings to members who break this Code of Conduct and on serious or repeated poor behaviour or offensive acts/harassment shall immediately invoke Rule 12 (below).
- 11.4 The Club is a diverse voluntary membership organisation that aims to further its objects in an entirely lawful way, and further actively promotes participation from members from an even wider diversity of backgrounds. The Club will not unlawfully discriminate on any grounds and shall seek to follow the guidance for membership organisations as drawn up by the Equality & Human Rights Commission. Further, the Club will not tolerate or condone any offensive acts or harassment by any member – whether to another member or to someone not directly connected with the Club (this includes the workers in the Venues the Club visits).
- 11.5 Officers of the Club shall have the general power in line with their investigations on being notified of breaches of the Code of Conduct, to ask a Member to leave a Darts Meeting or any event at which the Club is participating. This shall not necessarily be administered as a punishment, but normally would be exercised to alleviate a heated situation or protect the general reputation of the Club. If playing a Match, Team Organisers also have this power.

## **12. Discipline**

### General

- 12.1 Whilst it is acknowledged that the vast majority of Members will go through their Club lives without the need for these rules to be enacted, nevertheless the Committee of the Club would be negligent if it did not have a disciplinary procedure in place. Where disputes arise between Members of the Club you are encouraged to try to resolve your disputes informally, on a one-to-one basis. This should be done by talking directly, politely and objectively to the person with whom you have the grievance. It may be sufficient to explain clearly to the person the nature of the grievance and how it interferes with your enjoyment of Club life. Should this approach prove to be inappropriate or unsatisfactory, or should the incident itself prove to be serious enough to merit greater action, the following procedure should be used. There is a separate procedure for breaches of the rules of competitions, which is outlined in Appendix C.1.



12.2 Reasons for submitting a formal complaint against another Member of the Club include, but are not necessarily restricted to, the following:

i) All Members:

- Breach of the Club's Rules;
- Abusive behaviour, either directly or indirectly;
- Bullying, intimidation or harassment;
- Threatening or deploying physical violence;
- Damage of Club, venue or personal property;
- Poor attendance or timekeeping;
- Refusal to carry out reasonable instructions;
- Theft;
- Being under the influence of illegal substances;
- Disorderly or indecent conduct;
- Bringing the Club into disrepute;
- Acts of incitement or actual acts of discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, age, nationality, ethnic or natural origin, disability, gender or marital status, sexual orientation or religious belief (or lack thereof);
- Acts that might potentially harm the health or safety of another person, whether a Member of the Club or not.

ii) Officers:

In addition to those listed above, the following apply to Officers of the Club:

- Fraud;
- Gross negligence or dereliction of duties.

### Submitting a Complaint

12.3 Should you wish to submit a formal complaint against another Member of the Club, you should submit this complaint in writing to the Captain. If your grievance concerns the Captain, it should be submitted to the President.

12.4 The Officer to whom you have submitted your complaint shall be the Officer in Charge of the Disciplinary, hereafter referred to as the OCD, and he should reply to acknowledge your complaint as soon as possible and should contact you to arrange a time to meet with you at the earliest convenient moment for the two of you.

12.5 Wherever possible, the grievance should be resolved and any decision given at the time of this meeting. However, if this is not practical, for example on grounds of getting further evidence, then an agreement should be reached on when this decision will be given.

12.6 Once a decision has been reached, both parties shall be informed of the decision and any disciplinary action required shall be taken. All decisions are subject to the Appeal Process detailed in sections 12.11 to 12.14.

## Disciplinary Action

12.7 Should the OCD feel that Disciplinary Action should be taken, this action can take the following forms:

- i) Informal Warning
- ii) Formal Warning
- iii) Dismissal

All Disciplinary Action taken should be reported by the OCD to the next meeting of the Committee, and this should be minuted for future reference.

12.8 An Informal Warning shall be a warning regarding minor breaches of the disciplinary rules that are considered serious enough to warrant formal action. The OCD shall issue the Informal Warning in writing to the Member in breach of the rules and warned that any further breaches may lead to a Formal Warning or Dismissal. This warning shall stay on a Member's record for a period of 12 months, after which it shall be permanently removed. Should the recipient of an Informal Warning be an Officer, he shall be allowed to stay in his post should it be felt appropriate by the other members of the Committee. An Emergency Committee Meeting should be called to reach a decision on this issue as soon as possible. Should it be felt that the Member in question should relinquish his Committee status, the Member shall be required to vacate his post and he is obliged to hand over all paperwork he has related to Committee business to the OCD immediately.

12.9 A Formal Warning shall be a warning regarding serious breaches of the disciplinary rules. The OCD shall issue the Formal Warning in writing to the Member in breach of the rules and warned that any further breaches may lead to Dismissal. This warning shall stay on a Member's record for a period of 24 months, after which it shall be removed. Should the recipient of a Formal Warning be an Officer, he shall be required to vacate his post and he is obliged to hand over all paperwork he has related to Committee business to the OCD immediately.

12.10 Dismissal shall be imposed for extremely serious breaches of the disciplinary rules. The OCD shall issue the notice of Dismissal to the Member in breach of the rules in writing. A Dismissal shall take immediate effect and will terminate immediately any participation that Member may have in Club affairs. An Emergency Committee Meeting should then be called to determine the period for which this person may not participate in Club affairs. There is no minimum requirement for this period, but under the most severe circumstances it can be for life. Should the recipient of a dismissal be an Officer, he is obliged to hand over all paperwork he has related to Committee business to the OCD immediately.

## Appeal Process

12.11 An Appeal Process is in place for Members of the Club who feel that their Disciplinary has led to too harsh a punishment. The Appeal Process has two parts, detailed in sections 12.13 and 12.14.

12.12 Should you wish to appeal the decision you must inform the OCD within fourteen calendar days that you wish to appeal.

12.13 The first part of the Appeal Process is to appeal to the Committee of the Club. Having submitted your appeal, a Committee meeting shall be convened within two weeks of your

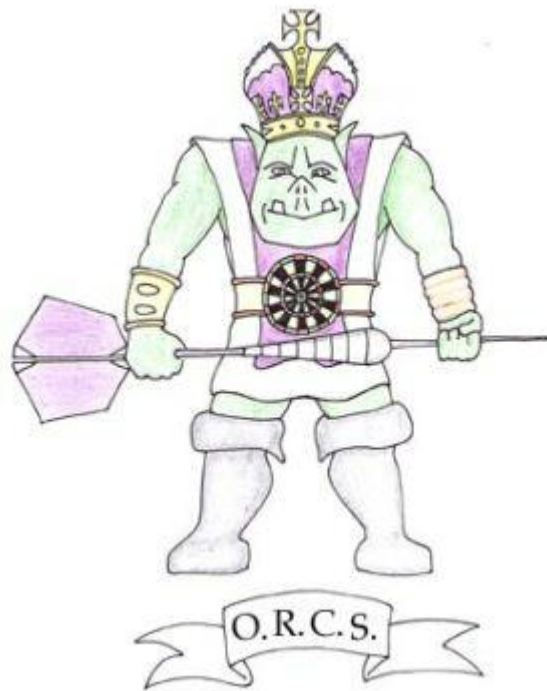
appeal submission. You will be required to attend this meeting. At this meeting, you will be given the opportunity to present your case for appeal. The Committee will then ask you to leave while they discuss the matter in private. Should you be an Officer appealing a decision, you may not take part in the private discussions. The Committee shall make a decision based on the original evidence and your case for appeal and has the right to decrease your punishment, uphold the original decision, or to increase your punishment.

- 12.14 Should you be unhappy with the decision of the Committee, you may appeal to a General Meeting, which shall be held at the next Darts Meeting. You will be required to attend this meeting, where you will again be given the opportunity to present your case for appeal. The Chair of the Meeting will then ask you to leave while the Club discuss the matter in private. The Meeting shall make a decision based on the original evidence, your case for appeal, and the Committee's comments regarding their decision at your first appeal. The Meeting shall have the right to decrease your punishment, uphold the decision of the Committee, or to increase your punishment. The decision of the General Meeting is final, and no appeal may be made to its decision.

### **13. Rules**

- 13.1 Interpretation of these Rules shall be by the Captain. In the event of dissatisfaction, the matter shall be referred to the Committee; in the event of further dissatisfaction, to a General Meeting, whose ruling shall be final.
- 13.2 The term "in writing" shall include, but not be limited to, submission of documents by electronic mail.
- 13.3 In these Rules and Appendices thereto, unless the contrary intention appears, words importing the masculine gender include the feminine and vice versa and words in the singular include the plural and vice versa.
- 13.4 An Ordinary Resolution shall require more votes in favour than against to be passed; a Special Resolution shall require at least twice as many votes in favour as against to be passed; and an Extraordinary Resolution shall require every vote cast to be in favour to be passed.
- 13.5 These Rules may only be altered by a Special Resolution of a General Meeting; provided that notice of the motion to change a Rule shall be received by the Club Secretary seven days prior to the meeting at which the motion is to be discussed. The Club Secretary shall notify Members on the Agenda clearly of any motions changing the Rules.
- 13.6 The Appendices to the Rules do not form part of the Rules, and may be altered by resolution of the Committee, but shall be subject to ratification by an Ordinary Resolution of a General Meeting.
- 13.7 The Committee shall review these Rules annually.
- 13.8 These Rules are binding on the Club and all its Members as of 1 January 2015.

## Appendix A: Official Logo



When playing Matches, the Club shall be known as "ORCS".

## **Appendix B: Job Descriptions**

By Ordinary Resolution of the Committee, these job descriptions may be delegated amongst Committee members, however responsibility remains for their implementation with the Officer as assigned below.

### **All Officers of the Club**

All Officers of the Club shall:

Attend General Meetings of the Club and meetings of the Committee of the Club, or if unable to do so, send appropriate apologies to these meetings.

Arrive at Darts Meetings half an hour before the first scheduled match to allow Committee members to have a brief meeting about the organisation required on the day and to help set up the venue.

Run all Darts Meetings and other Club events.

Report to each meeting of the Committee on their activities from the last meeting.

Fulfil any mandates and directions as given by General Meetings of the Club and by Committee meetings of the Club.

Regularly engage all members of the Club in the Club's activities and democratic workings and shall ensure that feedback is brought to meetings of the Committee.

Have due regard for the finances and assets of the Club and ensure that these are applied in line with the Rules and that they are safeguarded.

Follow applicable guidelines and codes from the Charity Commission at all times.

Be responsible for maintaining a schedule of signatories of the bank accounts of the Club, which shall be appended to this document in Appendix E.

### **Captain**

The Captain shall:

Chair General Meetings and meetings of the Committee;

Select the teams for Matches when there is no pre-appointed Team Captain;

Coordinate the writing of the Annual Report to the AGM, gaining input from all Officers;

Be responsible for application of Rule Twelve (Discipline);

Be responsible for authorising all expenditure prior to payment being made that has been incurred by the Club Secretary;

Organise the Annual Dinner;

Organise other events, as the Committee sees appropriate;

Organise the Committee Championship;

Organise the Committee Dinner;

Regularly gain feedback from members of the Club and act on their wishes.

### **Club Secretary**

The Club Secretary shall:

Deputise in the Captain's absence;

Act as Secretary for General Meetings and meetings of the Committee;

Be responsible for the Club's finances;

Collect all membership subscriptions in good time and prepare a Register of Members;  
Bank all cash and cheques in good time and reflect these in the accounts;  
Be responsible for authorising all expenditure prior to payment being made, unless the expenditure is his own;  
Report regularly to the Committee on the financial health of the Club;  
Be responsible for all Club communications as directed by the Committee;  
Maintain the Rules (including the Appendices);  
Present to each meeting of the Committee an updated Committee Policy File (Appendix E);  
Order any Club regalia, &c., that the Committee deems necessary;  
Maintain the "Club Shop";  
Act as the Secretary with regards to the Club's bankers;  
Maintain Club archives.

### **Fixtures Secretary**

The Fixtures Secretary shall:

Book the venues for Darts Meetings;  
Organise internal fixtures (except for the President's Masters, Women's Championship and Committee Championship);  
Oversee the coordination of the Women's Championship.

### **League Recorder**

The League Recorder shall:

Record all results from all internal competitions (except the President's Masters and the Women's Championship);  
Maintain the League tables;  
Maintain the Ladder League table;  
Collate and maintain appropriate statistics for the Club.

## **Appendix C: Competition Rules**

### ***C.1. General Provisions***

The following provisions shall have effect for all Club Competitions:

1. Competitions shall be organised on a day to day basis by the Fixtures Secretary, with the exception of the President's Masters, which shall be run by the President, the Committee Championship, which shall be run by the Captain, and the Women's Championship, which shall be run by one of the players in the competition, appointed by the Fixtures Secretary. All competitions shall be run ultimately by the Committee.
2. Any Member of the Club may enter any Competition, except the Committee Championship, which shall be open solely to Club Officers-elect. However, entry into certain competitions may be governed by performance in another and entry into the President's Masters is by invitation of the President only.
3. No member shall play more than four matches in total in the League Championship, Knockout Tournament and Champions' Shield in any single day.
4. The Committee shall rule on any disputes, whose ruling shall be final. When a dispute is heard by the Committee, no Officer involved in the dispute may vote.
5. There shall be a disciplinary procedure for Members who persistently breach Competition rules, which shall have two levels: a Written Warning and Expulsion from the competition.
  - 5.1 In the first instance, the Fixtures Secretary shall issue a Written Warning to a competitor who persistently or seriously breaches the rules of a Competition.
  - 5.2 If such breaches continue, the Fixtures Secretary shall recommend to the Committee that the competitor be expelled from that Competition.
  - 5.3 Expulsion shall be subject to appeal to a General Meeting; provided, that written notice of the appeal is submitted to the Fixtures Secretary before the Darts Meeting at which the competition next takes place, or within twenty-eight days, whichever is the sooner.

### ***C.2. Playing Rules***

The following Playing Rules shall govern the conduct of play in all Club competitions, except where specifically provided otherwise in a competition's rules.

#### **1. Definitions**

- 1.1 Referee** - shall mean the person appointed to take charge of matchplay at a matchboard, or on stage. The Referee shall also announce the scores as they are made during matchplay and mark the scores made and the scores remaining on the scoreboard.
- 1.2 Match** - shall mean the total play between two players; sometimes referred to as a 'game'. A match may be divided into Sets.
- 1.3 Leg** - shall mean the minimum element of a match in which there is a full round of play with a winner and a loser.  
A Leg shall constitute a match when the match is not divided into Legs or Sets. The number of Legs in a Set or Match must be odd.

- 1.4 Set** - shall mean that part of a match that consists of an odd number of Legs.  
The number of Sets in a match must be odd.  
The winner of a Set is the player winning the majority of Legs in that Set.  
The winner of the match is the player winning the majority of the Sets in that match.

## **2. Throw [WDF Playing Rule 1]**

- 2.1 Players' darts shall not exceed an overall length of 30.5 cm. nor weigh more than 50 grams. Each dart shall consist of a needle shaped point which shall be fixed to a barrel. At the rear of the barrel there shall be attached a flighted stem, which may consist of up to five separate pieces. (EG: a flight, a flight securing device(s), a flight protector, and a stem.)
- 2.2 All darts shall be thrown deliberately, one at a time, by and from the hand. All darts must be thrown with the needlepoint aimed towards the face of the dartboard. If a dart is not thrown in this manner then the throw will be declared a foul throw and will not count in that respective leg, set, or match.
- 2.3 A throw shall consist of a maximum of three darts.
- 2.4 If a player, during a throw, touches any dart that is in the dartboard, then that throw shall be deemed to have been completed.
- 2.5 Any dart bouncing off or falling out of the dartboard shall not be thrown again.
- 2.6 Any dart falling out of the dartboard before the throw has been completed and the darts retrieved shall not count.
- 2.7 A player deliberately abusing the dartboard when retrieving darts at the end of a throw will be given a verbal warning by the match referee. Another warning will be given if a second incident occurs in the same match. If a third incident occurs in the same match then the player in question will forfeit that respective leg, or set, match.

## **3. Starting and Finishing [WDF Playing Rule 2]**

- 3.1 Each Leg shall be played with a straight start. (i.e. there shall be no requirement to score a double to begin scoring).
- 3.2 Each Leg shall be played with a double finish. (i.e. to finish, and win, the player must land a dart in the double (Double Ring or Bull) of the number equal to one half of the remaining score.
- 3.3 The Bull shall count as 50 and if the score of 50 is required to complete a Leg or match, the Bull shall count as double 25.
- 3.4 If a player in a throw scores more points than remain in the Leg, or the same points as remain without finishing on a double, or leaves a score of one, then that throw shall not count and the score shall remain as it was prior to that throw.
- 3.5 A 'Game Shot' called by a Caller is valid only if the darts thrown achieve the required finish and remain in the dartboard until retrieved after the 'Game Shot' has been called.
- 3.6 If a 'Game Shot' called by a Caller is invalid, then the player shall have the right to continue that throw.
- 3.7 If as a result of an error in calling a 'Game Shot', the player has retrieved any of the darts and not all three darts have been thrown, then the Referee shall replace the retrieved dart or



darts in as near as is practicable the same position and permit the player to complete the throw.

- 3.8 The first player who finishes by obtaining the required double out shall be declared the winner of that Leg. A dart thrown by a player after finishing shall not count.

#### **4. Scoring [WDF Playing Rule 3]**

- 4.1 The rules of the event shall provide for matches or Legs of a fixed odd number, such as 501, 701, or 1001. All scores made shall be subtracted from the given total or the score remaining from the previous throw.
- 4.2 A dart shall only score if the point remains in or touches the face of the dartboard, within the outer double wire, until after the throw has been completed, and the score has been called.
- 4.3 The score is counted from the side of the segment wire in which the point of the dart enters or touches the face of the dartboard.
- 4.4 Darts shall be retrieved from the dartboard by the thrower, excepting only in those circumstances when a physical disability, or physical injury requires a player to have assistance, but only after the score has been announced by the Referee.
- 4.5 A protest about the score attained, or called, after the retrieval of the darts shall not be upheld.
- 4.6 Errors in arithmetic shall stand as written on the scoreboard unless corrected prior to the next throw of the player whose score is in error.
- 4.7 The actual score required by a player must be shown on the scoreboard, clearly visible, at eye level, in front of the players and the Referee.
- 4.8 No indication of the required 'double out' shall be given by the Referee (e.g. he must announce '32' not 'double 16'.)
- 4.9 The Referee shall act as an umpire in all matters pertaining to the Playing Rules when conducting a match and shall, if necessary, consult with the Captain, Fixtures Secretary or other Officers before announcing any decisions during the course of matchplay.

#### **5. Dartboards [WDF Playing Rules 4, 5 & 6]**

- 5.1 In approving venues for the purposes of Rule 10, the Committee shall ensure that the oche and lighting is appropriate for matchplay.
- 5.2 A standard "clock" dartboard shall be used, and the 20 section shall be the darker of the two colours.

#### **6. Order of Play [WDF Tournament Rule 12]**

- 6.1 A throw for the Bull shall determine the order of play in each match.
- 6.2 The winner of the Bull throw shall throw first in the match.

In matches divided into Legs, the winner of the Bull throw shall throw first in the odd numbered Legs, and the loser shall throw first in the even numbered Legs.

In matches divided into Sets, the winner of the Bull throw shall throw first in the odd numbered Legs of the odd numbered Sets, and the first in the even numbered Legs in the even numbered Sets, with the loser throwing first in the other Legs.

- 6.3 The Playing Rules of a competition may provide for a throw for the Bull in the instance of a

'Tie-Breaker' Leg. EG: when the match has progressed to the final possible Leg of the final possible Set of the match and the opposing players are tied in Legs and or Sets.

The winner of the throw for the Bull shall throw first in the Leg in question.

- 6.4 In the throw for the Bull to determine the order of a throw in a 'Tie-Breaker' Leg, the player who threw first in the match shall throw first for the Bull.
- 6.5 In throws for the Bull each player, in Singles events, or one of the team members shall throw one dart for the Bull. The dart must remain in the dartboard in order to count and e-throws shall be made until a dart remains in the dartboard.

If the first player's dart lands in the 25 ring or the Bull, the second player may request it be Removed by the Referee before throwing his dart.

Re-throws shall be called for if the Referee cannot determine which dart is nearer the Bull, or if both darts are in the Bull, or if both darts are in the '25' ring. A re-throw shall be in the reverse order of the previous throw.

The player who throws nearer the centre of the dartboard shall throw first in the match or Leg.

## **7. Conduct [WDF Tournament Rule 16]**

- 7.1 During a match players shall conduct themselves in a manner of respect for the other player(s) and shall refrain from annoying the other players or using offensive language or making offensive gestures and shall refrain from any unsportsmanlike conduct. (e.g. deliberately losing a Leg or match, deliberately delaying matchplay, or interfering with the throw of another player.}

## **8. Playing Attire [WDF Tournament Rule 17]**

- 8.1 Players are permitted to wear sweatbands on their wrists.
- 8.2 No headgear shall be worn without the prior permission of the Committee. (e.g. exceptions could be allowed for medical or religious reasons).

### ***C.3. Club Rankings***

1. There shall be a method of ranking players within the Club based on their performances in competitions, which shall be known as the "Club Rankings".
2. The responsibility for the upkeep of said rankings and the determination of the formula used shall be at the discretion of the Committee.
3. These Rankings may be used in the Club's official competitions as the Committee sees fit; provided, that they may only be used where such an allowance is made within the rules of that competition.

### ***C.4. League Championship***

#### Preamble

1. There shall be a Club Competition known as "the Old RCS Darts Club League Championship", hereinafter referred to as "the competition".
2. The competition shall take place throughout a calendar year, at Darts Meetings as determined by the AGM.

### Entry Requirements

- Entrants must have registered their entry with the Fixtures Secretary by midnight on 1 January of the year in which the competition is being held.

### Competition Format

- The number of Divisions, the number of players in each Division and the number of promotion and relegation places between each Division shall be determined by the Committee; provided, that the minimum number of players in any Division is six.
- During the course of the competition, each competitor shall play every other competitor in the same Division or Qualifying Pool once.
- Each match between two competitors shall be best of three 501 legs; provided, that where there is more than one Division, each match in Division I shall be best of five 501 legs.

### Rankings

- In each Division, competitors shall be ranked by the following criteria:
  - Greatest number of matches won; then, if two or more competitors are tied,
  - Greatest number of legs won; then, if still tied,
  - Least number of legs lost; then, if still tied,
  - Results amongst the tied competitors, based upon the three previous criteria.
- If, after consideration of matches amongst tied competitors, the tie cannot be broken, a tie shall be declared; provided, that should there be a tie for the first rank, that the tied competitors shall re-play the competition until a clear winner is determined.
- The competitor with the first rank in Division I at the conclusion of the competition shall be the Old RCS Darts Club League Champion. The competitor with the first rank in any further Divisions at the conclusion of the competition shall be the Old RCS Darts Club League Champions of their respective Divisions.

## ***C.5. Knockout Tournament – Cup and Plate***

### Preamble

- There shall be a Club Competition known as "the Old RCS Darts Club Knockout Tournament", hereinafter referred to as "the competition".
- The competition shall take place throughout a calendar year, at Darts Meetings as determined by the AGM.

### Entry Requirements

- Entrants must have registered their entry with the Fixtures Secretary by 4pm on the day of the first Darts Meeting of the calendar year in which the competition is held.

### Competition Format

- The competition shall have two phases, which shall be known as the Cup and the Plate.

5. Initially, all competitors shall be entered in the Cup.
6. The Cup shall be shall be played on a single elimination knock-out format. Ties shall be determined by random draw at each round of the competition. There shall be a third-place playoff for losing semi-finalists.
7. Should the number of entrants in the Cup not be a power of two, a preliminary round shall be played, with sufficient numbers of ties and byes to bring the number of teams down to a power of two for the First Round proper.
8. Competitors defeated in the Cup before the quarter-final stage shall automatically be entered into the Plate.
9. The Plate shall be played on a single elimination knock-out format. Ties shall be determined by random draw at the start of each round. There shall be a third-place playoff for losing semi-finalists.
10. Should the number of entrants in the Plate not be a power of two, a preliminary round shall be played, with sufficient numbers of ties and byes to bring the number of teams down to a power of two for the First Round proper.
11. The winner of the Cup Final shall be the Old RCS Darts Club Knockout Champion, and the winner of the Plate Final shall be the Old RCS Darts Club Plate Winner.
12. All matches in the Cup shall be played as best of five 501 legs, except the Cup Final, which shall be best of three sets, each set to be the best of five 501 legs. All matches in the Plate shall be played as best of three 501 legs, except the Plate Final, which shall be best of five 501 legs.

### ***C.6. Champions' Shield***

#### Preamble

1. There shall be a Club Competition known as "the Old RCS Darts Club Champions' Shield", hereinafter referred to as "the competition".
2. The competition shall take place at a single Darts Meeting.

#### Entry Requirements

3. The competition shall be contested by winner of the previous year's Champions' Shield, plus the winners of the previous year's League, Knockout and Winter Trophy.

#### Competition Format

4. In the event that fewer than four players in total qualify through 6.3, the remaining places shall be filled with the next-best-placed players in those competitions that share the same Champion until there are four participants. In the event of a tie for eligibility, those on the same rank shall be prioritised according to the competition in which this rank was attained to split the tie, as follows:

- 1st priority: League
- 2nd priority: Knockout
- 3rd priority: Winter Trophy

5. The competition shall consist of two randomly drawn Semi-Finals, which shall be the best of five 501 legs, and a Final, which shall be the best of seven 501 legs, for the winners of the two Semi-Finals.
6. The winner of the Final shall be the Old RCS Darts Club Champions' Shield Champion.

### ***C.7. Ladder League***

#### Preamble

1. There shall be a Club Competition known as "the Old RCS Darts Club Ladder League", hereinafter referred to as "the competition".
2. The competition shall run from 1 January until the December Darts Meeting in the same calendar year.
3. For the purpose of this competition, the term "week" means a period of seven days beginning on a Sunday and ending on a Saturday.

#### Entry Requirements

4. All members of the Club at midnight on 1 January of the year of the competition shall be entered into the competition. Entrants may leave the competition at any time. Late entry into the competition shall be permitted on condition that the player relinquishes any points gained previously and starts at the bottom of the ladder on 0.00, with each current competitor gaining 0.01 on their Starting Score (see rule 7 below).
5. Anyone new wishing to join the competition may do so at any point up to, but no later than, 30 June.

#### The Ladder

6. The Ladder is the official order of ranking of competitors in the competition.
7. The initial order of competitors shall be determined by the order of finish in the previous year's competition. A competitor's initial points tally shall be one-hundredth of the difference between the number of competitors and his initial rank.
8. Points shall be awarded or deducted as the result of head-to-head challenge matches ("Challenges").
9. A competitor may challenge another if, and only if, all of the following criteria are met:
  - 9.1 Neither competitor involved has an outstanding Challenge.
  - 9.2 Both competitors involved have played a Challenge against a third competitor since the last time they played each other in the competition, or a period of 28 complete days has passed since they last played each other.
  - 9.3 The competitors have not already played each other in the same week.
10. A challenge may only be refused if it breaches one or more parts of rule 9 above.
11. If the player higher in the Ladder at the point of issuance of the Challenge wins the Challenge, he shall score one point and the loser shall score zero points. If the player lower in the Ladder at the point of issuance of the Challenge wins the Challenge, he shall score two points and the loser

shall be deducted one point. Further, if a player wins a Challenge without his opponent hitting the initial double, a Bonus Point shall be awarded.

12. No player may play more than seven Challenges in a week, nor more than one hundred Challenges in total during the Competition. Further, players may play up to seven Challenges on Darts Meeting days which shall be separate from their weekly allowance.
13. Further, during the course of the competition, if a competitor has reached 24 games before the end of April, 48 games before the end of July, or 72 games before the end of October, they may remove themselves from challenges until the end of that timeframe. Once this has been invoked by the competitor it may not, under any circumstances, be revoked.

#### Organisation of Challenges

14. Once a Challenge has been successfully issued, the Challenger and Defender must complete the Challenge by the end of the day on which the Challenge was issued.
15. Any Challenge unplayed by the end the day of issue shall be broken, and the Challenger and Defender shall be free to issue new challenges and to be challenged; provided, that if the Committee is satisfied that a player has deliberately evaded playing the Challenge, it shall have the power to deem that the evader has lost the Challenge or to demote the evader to the last position in the ladder.
16. In the event of there being a collective group of unchallenged players gathered together, the player lowest in the Ladder shall have priority when it comes to the issuing of challenges.
17. On days of Darts Meetings, no Challenge may be issued by a competitor until he and the competitor he wishes to challenge have arrived at the venue for that Darts Meeting; excepting, that if he and the competitor he intends to challenge are not attending the Darts Meeting the Challenge may be issued at any time.
18. The Challenger shall always have the right to withdraw a Challenge by notifying the Fixtures Secretary.
19. The Fixtures Secretary, in conjunction with the Captain, has the right to govern how many Challenges may be issued and played on the final day of the Competition.

#### Playing Challenges

20. Challenges shall consist of one 501 leg.
21. The honour of throwing first shall be decided by throwing one dart each at the bull. The player whose dart is closest to the bull throws first. The Challenger shall throw his dart at the bull before the Defender.
22. The "double in" rule shall apply: a player shall not start scoring until he has hit a double. Any darts that hit the board before a double is hit shall have a value of zero. The first scoring turn for a player shall have the value of the dart that first hit a double and the value of all darts that were thrown after the double was hit.

#### Aftermath of Challenges

23. The result of the Challenge must be passed to the League Recorder by at least one of the players within four calendar days of the Challenge taking place. The date of the Challenge must also be confirmed.

24. If the League Recorder is not informed of the result by this date, he shall have the power to deem the match null and void.

### Winning

25. The occupant of the top position in the Ladder at the conclusion of the last Challenge allowed by the Fixtures Secretary on the penultimate Darts Meeting in the calendar year shall be the Old RCS Darts Club Ladder League Champion.

## ***C.8. Blind Killer Competition***

### Preamble

1. There shall be a Club Competition known as "the Old RCS Darts Club Blind Killer Competition", hereinafter referred to as "the competition".
2. The competition shall take place throughout a calendar year.
3. There shall as many rounds of this competition each year as the Committee sees fit. No more than two rounds shall take place at any Darts Meeting.

### Entry Requirements

4. Competitors may enter as many or as few rounds of the competition as they wish.
5. There shall be a limit of twenty competitors in each round of the competition. If more than 20 competitors wish to enter, priority shall be given initially to those Members who did not participate in the previous round, and then to those Members who did participate in the previous round in the order in which they were ranked in that round. When there is a tie for order of priority, lots shall be drawn.

### Competition Format

6. Each competitor shall select, by random draw of cards, numbered balls, or other method deemed appropriate by the Fixtures Secretary, a number between one and twenty inclusive, which shall be kept secret. This number shall be the number on the dartboard with which that competitor is associated.
7. Each number on the board shall start with fifteen lives.
8. Players shall take it in turn to throw three darts at the board. Any darts that hit the board shall "kill" one life of the number that is hit; provided, that darts hitting the double of a number shall "kill" two lives and darts hitting the treble shall "kill" three lives; further provided, that singles and trebles of numbers that have been reduced to one life shall have no effect. Darts hitting the bull's-eye or the 25 ring shall have no effect.
9. A number shall be eliminated when the double of that number is hit once it has already been reduced to no more than two lives.
10. When a number is eliminated, the competitor holding that number shall be eliminated. He shall display the card, numbered ball, or other distinguishing object which was drawn at the beginning of the game.
11. The Fixtures Secretary may nominate any person present who is not an active competitor to reveal any numbers not selected by any player when such numbers are eliminated.

Scoring

12. In each round, competitors shall be ranked in reverse order of elimination, i.e. the last surviving competitor shall be the winner of the round, and so on.
13. Points shall be awarded according to the following table:

Position	Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	10
2 <sup>nd</sup>	8
3 <sup>rd</sup>	6
4 <sup>th</sup>	4
5 <sup>th</sup>	3
6 <sup>th</sup>	2
7 <sup>th</sup>	1

14. A bonus point shall be awarded for each number eliminated to the player who eliminated it, save that if the player has eliminated himself, there shall be no bonus point awarded.
15. The competitor who accumulates most points over the course of the calendar year shall be the Old RCS Darts Club Blind Killer Competition Champion.

***C.9. Doubles Cup***Preamble

1. There shall be a Club Competition known as "the Old RCS Darts Club Doubles Cup", hereinafter referred to as "the competition".
2. The competition shall take place at a single Darts Meeting.

Entry Requirements

3. There shall be no requirement to register entry before the date of the competition. The Fixtures Secretary shall set a time for Members to register their entry on the day of the competition; this shall give him sufficient time to organise the teams and to perform the draw.
4. All competitors shall be formed into teams of two by random draw; provided, that the Champions from the previous year shall be permitted to defend their title if they wish to do so unless they have won the competition in all of the most recent three years of the competition. If the number of competitors is odd, one team drawn at random at the conclusion of the draw shall incorporate the remaining player and form a trio. This team shall not be the Defending Champions. In such a case, two players shall play in each leg, the team member sitting out to be rotated, changing each leg.

Competition Format

5. Each match in the competition shall be best of three 301 legs except the Final, which shall be best of five 301 legs. The "double in" rule shall apply: a team shall not start scoring until one player has hit a double. Any darts that hit the board before a double is hit shall have a value of zero. The first scoring turn for a team shall have the value of the dart that first hit a double and the value of all darts that were thrown after the double was hit.
6. The competition shall be played on a single elimination knock-out format. Ties shall be determined by random draw at the start of the competition. There shall be no third-place playoff for losing semi-finalists.



7. Should the number of teams not be a power of two, a preliminary round shall be played, with sufficient numbers of ties and byes to bring the number of teams down to a power of two for the First Round proper. If a preliminary round is required, the Defending Champions shall be the only team certain of a bye into the First Round proper.
8. The surviving team shall be the Old RCS Darts Club Doubles Cup Champions.

### ***C.10. Doubles League***

#### Preamble

1. There shall be a Club Competition known as "the Old RCS Darts Club Doubles League", hereinafter referred to as "the competition".
2. The competition shall take place within a calendar year, between dates determined by the Committee. The competition may be run more than once within a particular calendar year.

#### Entry Requirements

3. The Fixtures Secretary shall enforce an appropriate entry deadline before which participants must register their intention to enter the competition.

#### Competition Format

4. The number of teams and the method of forming those teams shall be determined by the Committee.
5. During the course of the competition, each team shall play every other team once.
6. Each match between two teams shall be best of three 301 legs.
7. The "double in" rule shall apply: a team shall not start scoring until one player has hit a double. Any darts that hit the board before a double is hit shall have a value of zero. The first scoring turn for a team shall have the value of the dart that first hit a double and the value of all darts that were thrown after the double was hit.

#### Rankings

8. Teams shall be ranked by the following criteria:
  - 8.1 Greatest number of matches won; then, if two or more competitors are tied,
  - 8.2 Greatest number of legs won; then, if still tied,
  - 8.3 Least number of legs lost; then, if still tied,
  - 8.4 Results amongst the tied competitors, based upon the three previous criteria.
9. If, after consideration of matches amongst tied competitors, the tie cannot be broken, a tie shall be declared; provided, that should there be a tie for the first rank, that the tied competitors shall re-play the competition until a clear winner is determined.
10. The team with the first rank at the conclusion of the competition shall be the Old RCS Darts Club Doubles League Champions.

### ***C.11. Committee Competition***

#### Preamble

1. There shall be a Club Competition known as "the Old RCS Darts Club Committee Competition", hereinafter referred to as "the competition".
2. The competition shall normally take place at the Darts Meeting at which the AGM is held.

#### Entry Requirements

3. Entry into the competition is allowed only for those members of the Club who have been elected to serve on the Club's Committee for that calendar year.

#### Competition Format

4. Each match in the competition shall be a single 501 leg.
5. The competition shall be played on a round-robin basis, with each competitor playing one match against each other competitor.
6. The competitor who wins most matches shall be the Old RCS Darts Club Committee Competition Champion. In the event of a tie, tied competitors shall re-play the competition until a clear winner is determined.

### ***C.12. Winter Trophy***

#### Preamble

1. Where the Club runs a League Championship, there shall be a Club Competition known as "the Old RCS Darts Club Winter Trophy", hereinafter referred to as "the competition".
2. The competition shall take place at a single Darts Meeting, after the conclusion of the League Championship.

#### Entry Requirements

3. In the first instance, the top sixteen finishers in the League Championship in the current calendar year shall be invited to participate in the competition. Should the League Championship consist of more than one Division, the top placed finisher in Division 2 shall take the rank after the last placed finisher in Division 1 and so on.
4. Eligible Members shall be required to confirm their participation in the competition no later than 7pm on the day of the final Darts Meeting of the calendar year at which matches in the League Championship are played, or thirty minutes after their eligibility is confirmed, whichever is the later. Any eligible Member who fails to confirm their participation by this deadline shall forfeit their place unless they confirm their participation before their replacement does.
5. Should one or more eligible Members decline to participate or forfeit their place in the competition, the next ranked player(s) in the League Championship shall be invited to participate in the competition until either all places in the competition are filled or there are no more people available to invite.
6. Should fewer than sixteen Members who have competed in the League Championship in the current calendar year accept entry in the competition, the competition shall proceed, with first-round byes being given as stipulated in rule 15. Should fewer than four Members who have

competed in the League Championship in the current calendar year accept entry in the competition, the competition shall be cancelled.

7. It is the responsibility of the Fixtures Secretary to ensure that eligible Members are aware of their eligibility and to receive confirmations of acceptance or declination of participation from such Members.

#### Competition Format

8. The competition shall be played on a single elimination knock-out format.
9. A seeding system shall be used such that the competitor who finished highest in the League Championship shall be seeded first, the competitor who finished next highest in the League Championship shall be seeded second, and so on.
10. In the first round, the first seed shall play the sixteenth seed [Match A], the second seed shall play the fifteenth seed [Match B], the third seed shall play the fourteenth seed [Match C], the fourth seed shall play the thirteenth seed [Match D], the fifth seed shall play the twelfth seed [Match E], the sixth seed shall play the eleventh seed [Match F], the seventh seed shall play the tenth seed [Match G] and the eighth seed shall play the ninth seed [Match H]. Each match shall be the best of three 501 legs. The losers of these matches shall be eliminated from the competition.
11. In the second round (Quarter-Finals), the winner of Match A shall play the winner of Match H [Match I], the winner of Match B shall play the winner of Match G [Match J], the winner of Match C shall play the winner of Match F [Match K] and the winner of Match D shall play the winner of Match E [Match L]. Each match shall be the best of three 501 legs.
12. In the Semi-Finals, the winner of Match I shall play the winner of Match L, and the winner of Match J shall play the winner of Match K. Each match shall be the best of five 501 legs.
13. The winners of the two Semi-Finals shall contest the Final, the match for which shall be the best of seven 501 legs. There shall be a third-place playoff, which shall be the best of five 501 legs.
14. In addition, the losers of the Quarter-Finals shall play a "consolation bracket", with Consolation Semi-Finals held between the losers of the matches whose winners meet in the Semi-Finals, and with playoffs for fifth and seventh places. All of these matches shall be the best of three 501 legs.
15. Preliminary round byes shall be awarded to the fifteenth seed if there are seventeen competitors. If there are sixteen competitors, there shall be no Preliminary Round and the first seed shall play the sixteenth seed and the second seed shall play the fifteenth seed. First-round byes shall be awarded to the first seed, if there are fifteen competitors, to the first and second seeds, if there are fourteen competitors, and so on. If there are eight or few competitors there shall be no Round 1, and if there are only four competitors, there shall be no Quarter-Finals.
16. The honour of throwing first in the first leg of each match shall rest with the higher seed.
17. The winner of the Final shall be the Old RCS Darts Club Winter Trophy Champion.

#### Special Disciplinary Provision

18. In order to facilitate smooth running of the competition, the Fixtures Secretary shall, in consultation with the Captain, have the power to exclude a competitor scheduled to play a First Round Match from the Competition if he has not arrived at the venue two hours after the competition's scheduled start time and if all other First Round Matches not involving that

competitor have been concluded. A competitor with a first round bye shall not be excluded unless three hours have elapsed since the scheduled start time and the Quarter-Final not involving him has been completed.

### ***C.13. Handicap Competition***

#### Preamble

1. There shall be a Club Competition known as "the Old RCS Darts Club Handicap Competition", hereinafter referred to as "the competition".
2. The competition shall take place at a single Darts Meeting after the conclusion of the League Championship.

#### Entry Requirements

3. The entry deadline shall be 5pm of the Wednesday immediately preceding the competition.

#### Handicapping

4. Each competitor shall be given a handicap under a formula agreed by the Committee. Such a formula shall be based on the Club Rankings. The handicap shall remain the same throughout the competition.

#### Competition Format

5. The competition shall be played on a double-elimination knock-out format with a fixed bracket such that in the first round, the highest seed shall play the lowest seed, the second seed shall play the second-lowest seed, and so on.
6. Competitors shall be ranked and seeded in descending order of handicap. Where there is a tie, ranking shall be determined by the exact Club Ranking points of each player, or if still a tie the drawing of lots.
7. Each match in the competition shall consist of one leg.
8. Should the number of entrants not be a power of two, a preliminary round shall be played in both the "winners" and "losers" brackets, with sufficient numbers of ties and byes to bring the number of players down to a power of two for the First Round proper in each section, and the byes will be awarded to the highest-seeded players.
9. Should the winner of the winners' bracket defeat the winner of the losers' bracket in the Final, he shall be the Old RCS Darts Club Handicap Competition Champion.
10. Should the winner of the losers' bracket defeat the winner of the winners' bracket in the Final, a second Final shall be played, and the winner of this second Final shall be the Old RCS Darts Club Handicap Competition Champion.

### ***C.14. President's Masters***

#### Preamble

1. There shall be a Club Competition known as "the Old RCS Darts Club President's Masters", hereinafter referred to as "the competition".
2. The competition shall take place between the months of March and October inclusive.

### Entry Requirements

3. Entrance into this competition is at the invitation of the President only.

### Competition Format

4. During the course of the competition, each competitor shall play every other competitor twice.
5. Each match between two competitors shall be best of six 501 legs.

### Ranking

6. Competitors shall score points in the competition as follows:
  - 6.1 Winning a match shall score 2 points,
  - 6.2 Drawing a match shall score 1 point,
  - 6.3 Losing a match shall score 0 points.
7. Competitors shall be ranked by the following criteria:
  - 7.1 Most points,
  - 7.2 Best Leg Difference,
  - 7.3 Most Wins,
  - 7.4 Results amongst the tied competitors, based upon the three previous criteria.
  - 7.5 Comparison of results amongst those tied with the highest placed competitor not involved in the tie, and so on down until the tie is broken.
8. If, after consideration of matches amongst tied competitors, the tie cannot be broken, a tie shall be declared. Should this be a tie for first rank then a playoff shall be played until the tie is broken. The format of the playoff shall be further matches of best-of-six 501 legs, in a league style if necessary.
9. The competitor with the first rank at the conclusion of the competition shall be the Old RCS Darts Club President's Masters Champion.

## ***C.15. Women's Championship***

### Preamble

1. There shall be a Club Competition known as "the Old RCS Darts Club Women's Championship", hereinafter referred to as "the competition".
2. The competition shall take place during the calendar year. All matches must be completed by the last day in October.

### Entry Requirements

3. Only women in the Club may enter this competition, all of whom are eligible. The deadline for entry shall be 31 March of the year in which the competition is to be played.

### Competition Format

4. During the course of the competition, each competitor shall play every other competitor twice unless there are seven or more competitors, in which case each competitor shall play every other competitor once.
5. Each match between two competitors shall be three 501 legs.

### Ranking

6. Competitors shall score points in the competition as follows:
  - 6.1 Winning a leg shall score 3 points,
  - 6.2 A score of 100 or more in one set of darts shall score 1 point. Should this score be over 140 then it shall score 2 points,
  - 6.3 A multi-dart checkout shall score 1 point. Should this checkout be over 50 then it shall score 2 points.
7. Competitors shall be ranked by the following criteria:
  - 7.1 Most points,
  - 7.2 Best Leg Difference,
  - 7.3 Most Wins,
  - 7.4 Results amongst the tied competitors, based upon the three previous criteria.
  - 7.5 Comparison of results amongst those tied with the highest placed competitor not involved in the tie, and so on down until the tie is broken.
8. If, after consideration of matches amongst tied competitors, the tie cannot be broken, a tie shall be declared. Should this be a tie for first rank then a playoff shall be played until the tie is broken. The format of the playoff shall be further matches of three 501 legs, in a league style if necessary.
9. The competitor with the first rank at the conclusion of the competition shall be the Old RCS Darts Club Women's Champion.

## **Appendix D: Approved Venues**

In the first instance, the following list of locations are approved venues for Darts Meetings:

The Horseshoe Inn, 26 Melior Street, London, SE1.  
The Peacock, 41 Minories, London, EC1N.  
The Horseshoe, 24 Clerkenwell Close, London, EC1R.

The following are backup venues only:

The Bar Locks, 21 Whitechurch Lane, London, E1.  
Riley's Victoria, 16 Semley Place, London, SW1W.  
The Sheaf, 24 Southwark Street, London, SE1.  
The Libertine, 125 Great Suffolk Street, London, SE1.

## Appendix E: Committee Policy

Policies of the Committee shall appear here.

Committee Policy shall lapse after 24 calendar months from the date of approval. It shall be the responsibility of the Club Secretary to notify the Committee of Policy about to lapse so that it may be re-considered.

### 1. Subscriptions of the Club.

PASSED: October 2014 (Review required by: June 2015).

The basic subscription to the Club shall be £5.00 for one calendar year, from 1 January to 31 December, or part there-of. This subscription shall include free automatic entry into the Knockout Competition, in accordance with Rule 8.4.

### 2. League and Knockout Competitions.

PASSED: October 2014 (Review required by: June 2015).

No player may play another player more than once in the League, Knockout or Champions' Shield competitions at the same Darts Meeting except if approved in advance by both the Captain and the Fixtures Secretary, and only in exceptional circumstances.

### 3. Competition Entry-Fees.

PASSED: October 2014 (Review required by: June 2015).

The following rates, further to the subscription to the Club, apply to the competitions of the Club:

League Championship:	£5.00 per season	
Knockout Tournament:	FREE	(Rule 8.4)
Champions' Shield:	FREE	
Winter Trophy:	FREE	
Ladder League:	FREE	
Blind Killer:	FREE	
Doubles Cup:	FREE	
President's Masters:	FREE	
Women's Championship:	FREE	
Committee Championship:	FREE	
Handicap Competition:	FREE	

### 4. Schedule of Signatories of the Bank Accounts of the Club.

The following Founder Members shall be signatories on the Club's bank accounts:

James Stephen Farrar  
 Robert John Park  
 Samuel Charles Rushton Pickering  
 Duncan Iain Alexander Robertson

All payments shall require the signature (cheque)/authorisation (online) of two of the above four signatories for the payments to be valid.



For the purposes of communicating with the Club's bankers, the Captain and Club Secretary shall sign instructions, which shall be counter-signed by any two of the above who are not Captain or Club Secretary.

#### 5. Notification and Attendance at League DMs.

Players shall notify their attendance at a DM by responding to the monthly invite communication or by contacting the Fixtures Secretary directly a minimum of one week before the date of the DM. If no notification is received it will be assumed that the player can attend the DM and can be there at any time required. Should a player then not attend, his matches may be forfeited in his opponents' favour if there is no viable alternative date on which they can be played.

Due to the large number of fixtures in a season, it is highly recommended that League players attend at least seven of the ten League DMs each year, and all League players must attend the November DM unless notice of missing the November DM is submitted in writing to the Fixtures Secretary at least one week before the October DM. If a League player is going to miss more than three League DMs during the year they are requested to make every effort to give the Fixtures Secretary as much notice of this as possible, and not just wait for the monthly invite communication. In the event that a player does not attend at least seven League DMs, the Fixtures Secretary will make every effort to get all fixtures for that person played; however, if this proves impossible, some matches may be forfeited in their opponents' favour.

It should be noted that playing League matches outside of DMs may cause huge inconvenience not just to your opponent but also to the member of the Committee (usually the Fixtures Secretary) who would also have to attend to act as the "referee" and chalker for the match. With this in mind, it should be noted that although "mid-month" fixtures may take place under exceptional circumstances if convenient for all parties, the Committee and your opponent have the right to refuse any suggestion of a match being played "mid-month".

It should also be noted that playing competitive darts after 7:30pm on a DM is not considered appropriate, and whilst it cannot be guaranteed that competitive darts play will have finished by 7:30pm every month, this reason may be used as justification for forfeiting a match, especially for fixtures outstanding from previous months rescheduled for the November DM if it is due to a player's poor attendance record in previous months that year.