

WORLD DARTS FEDERATION

WORLD CUP YOUTH

Format and Playing Rules

Sixth revised edition



Full Member of AIMS



Committed to compliance with the WADA World Anti-Doping
Code Sample collection could occur at any time as required by

WDF

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DEFINITION

WDF	Shall mean the World Darts Federation, or the Executive of the World Darts Federation, the governing body for the Sport of Darts throughout the World.
Organisers	Shall mean the World Darts Federation, its Executive, or a darts body or it's appointed organisers to carry out functions in relation to a darts tournament.
Player	Shall include the singular and plural, teams as well as individuals, males and females.
Referee	Shall mean the person appointed to take charge of match play at a matchboard, or on stage. A Referee may also act as a Marker, or Caller for the match.
Marker	Shall mean the person appointed to mark the scores made and the scores remaining on the scoreboard. Except for staged match play, the Marker may act as the Caller for the match.
Match	Shall mean the total play between two players; sometimes referred to as a 'game'. A match may be divided into sets.
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.
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.

1. GENERAL

- 1.01 The Playing Rules and Format for the WDF World Cup Youth listed below are a set of rules created especially for the WDF World Cup Youth. These rules are not comprehensive and must, at all times, be read in conjunction with the WDF Playing and Tournament Rules and Bye-Laws.
- 1.02 The proposed official tournament invitation shall be submitted to the WDF Executive by the WDF Tournament Director four (4) months before the scheduled date of the WDF World Cup Youth. On approval by the WDF, the WDF Tournament Director shall circulate the invitation and documents to all WDF members. The documents will also be placed in the Members Login area of the WDF website.
- 1.03 The closing date for entries will be shown on the entry form and must be strictly adhered to. All entry forms, player biographies, and accommodation reservations must be in the hands of the host organisers and the WDF Tournament Director by the specified closing date.
- 1.04 The WDF Executive will make all decisions and retain complete responsibility for all aspects of the WDF World Cup Youth.

2. PLAYERS

- 2.01 All players must be eligible to play for their country and shall be selected by the respective Full Member Darts Body for that country, by any such method that they themselves determine.
- 2.02 Players must be under the age of 18 on December 31 in the year prior to the year in which the WDF World Cup Youth takes place.
- 2.03 It is the responsibility of the officials of the player's respective WDF Member Darts Body to check and properly verify that all players entered for the WDF World Cup Youth fully comply with the age restrictions detailed on Clause 2.02.
- 2.04 In cases where teams require Visas to enter the host country, written proof that visas have been obtained will be required before teams can be entered into the draw. Written confirmation must be sent to the WDF Tournament Director by email at least fourteen (14) days before the start of the tournament.

Countries that do not supply the required documentation, will not be entered into the draw. The WDF will not accept any responsibility or liability for any costs incurred for teams which are not included in the draw because they have failed to obtain the necessary visas within the stipulated time.

- 2.05 As the Men's, Women's and Youth WDF World Cup tournaments are played concurrently, Youth players selected to play in the Men's or Women's WDF World Cup are not permitted to be selected for or take part in the Youth WDF World Cup in the same year. This includes substitutions during match-play and replacements due to absenteeism.

3. COMPOSITION

- 3.01 The WDF World Cup Youth shall consist of five (5) events:
 - (a) Boys' singles
 - (b) Girls' singles
 - (c) Boys' pairs
 - (d) Girls' pairs
 - (e) Mixed Pairs

- 3.02 Each WDF member country may enter one team consisting of two (2) boys and two (2) girls.

Details for the WDF World Cup for Seniors can be found in the World Cup document.

4. GIRLS PLAYING FORMAT

All games shall be played as 501 up, straight start and double to finish.

- 4.01 All events shall consist of Round Robin preliminary groups followed by a Knockout format for the qualifiers from the Round Robin Groups. The number of groups will be decided by the WDF Tournament Director based on the number of entries received
- 4.02 The following playing format shall apply to both events
- (a) All Round Robin games shall be best of five (5) legs
 - (b) Knockout Girls Singles matches shall be best of five (5) legs up to and including the quarterfinals. Semi-finals shall be best of seven (7), legs, The final shall be best of nine (9) legs.
 - (c) Knockout Girls Pairs matches shall be best of five (5) legs up to and including the semi-finals. The final shall be best of seven (7) legs
- 4.03 The Tie-break rule shall apply in all Round Robin and Knockout matches
The throwing order in all Tie-Break legs will be decided by a throw for the bull

5. BOYS PLAYING FORMAT

All games shall be played as 501 up, straight start and double to finish.

- 5.01 All events shall consist of Round Robin preliminary groups followed by a Knockout format for the qualifiers from the Round Robin Groups. The number of groups will be decided by the WDF Tournament Director based on the number of entries received
- 5.02 The following playing format shall apply to both events
- (a) All Round Robin games shall be best of five (5) legs
 - (b) Knockout Boys Singles matches shall be best of seven (7) legs up to and including the quarterfinals. Semi-finals shall be best of nine (9) legs, The final shall be best of eleven (11) legs.
 - (c) Knockout Boys Pairs matches shall be best of seven (7) legs up to and including the semi-finals. The final shall be best of nine (9) legs
- 5.03 The Tie-break rule shall apply in all Round Robin and Knockout matches
The throwing order in all Tie-Break legs will be decided by a throw for the bull

6. MIXED PAIRS PLAYING FORMAT

All games shall be played as 501 up, straight start and double to finish.

- 6.01 All events shall consist of Round Robin preliminary groups followed by a Knockout format for the qualifiers from the Round Robin Groups. The number of groups will be decided by the WDF Tournament Director based on the number of entries received
- 6.02 The following playing format shall apply
- (a) All Round Robin games shall be best of five (5) legs
 - (b) Knockout Mixed Pairs matches shall be best of five (5) legs up to and including the quarterfinals. Semi-finals shall be best of seven (7), legs, The final shall be best of nine (9) legs.
- 6.03 The Tie-break rule shall apply in all Round Robin and Knockout matches
The throwing order in all Tie-Break legs will be decided by a throw for the bull

7. SEEDING

7.01 There shall be no seeding in the WDF World Cup Youth.

8. DRAW

General Rules

- 8.01 The order of play for all matches in all events will be determined automatically by the official WDF computer software programme.
- 8.02 All singles and pairs events will be drawn and published 48 hours ahead of the scheduled start of the first event of the WDF World Cup.
- 8.03 The draw for the WDF World Cup Youth is the responsibility of the WDF Executive and shall be conducted by the person/persons authorised by the WDF Executive only.
- 8.04 No unauthorised person shall conduct or change any part of a WDF World Cup Youth draw.
- 8.05 All Round Robin groups will consist of a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of six (6) players/pairs or teams.
- 8.06 The number of players/pairs entered into each tournament will determine the number of groups required for any Round Robin event:
- (a) 6 – 12 singles/pairs/teams competing – Two (2) groups
 - (b) 13 – 24 singles/pairs/teams competing – Four (4) groups
 - (c) 25 – 48 singles/pairs/teams competing – Eight (8) groups
 - (d) 49 – 96 singles/pairs/teams competing – Sixteen (16) groups
- 8.07 The Round Robin group draw shall ensure that subject to players/pairs winning their Round Robin group, they shall meet players/pairs from the same country as late as is possible in the knockout stages of the tournament.
- 8.08 Two players/pairs will qualify from each group, for the knockout stages

Withdrawals/Disqualifications

8.09 Should a player/pair withdraw from the tournament after the draw has been made, the group will be played with just the remaining players/pairs.

Where a player/pair withdrawal leaves a group with two (2), players/pairs less than any other group, a draw will determine which player/pair from any of the groups with two (2) players/pairs more than the group with the withdrawal will move to the group from which the withdrawal came.

- 8.10 Once play in a group has begun, should any player/pair withdraw or be disqualified, all matches against the player/pair that withdrew or were disqualified will be recorded as “win to nil” to the opposing player/pair, irrespective of whether games have been played against the player/pair that withdrew or was disqualified.
- 8.11 Should any player/pair withdraw or be disqualified in the knockout stages, the opponent will receive a bye to the next round.

9. PLAYING SCHEDULE

9.01 The Playing Schedule will be finalised by the WDF Executive based on the number of entries

10. DARTBOARDS

A sufficient number of match boards will be provided so as to meet the requirements of the tournament. A minimum of four (4), practice boards will be provided for use by players partaking in the tournament

11. THROWING ORDER

- 11.01 In Pairs Events countries shall designate the order of throw of the players on the entry form submitted on the WDF World Cup Youth entry form. The order of throw shall remain unchanged during the entirety of the Pairs events.
- 11.02 The designated Board Official will arrive at the matchboard in good time before the start of a match with the Match Sheet. The Match Sheet will contain the names of the players or pairs who shall play in the match, their country, the board number and the scheduled starting time of the match.
- 11.03 The Match Sheet will also indicate the order of play and the throwing order. The Match Sheet will also clearly indicate which Player or Pair shall start the match.
It is the Team Managers responsibility to verify that the printed Match Sheets have been correctly produced prior to starting the match in question.
- 11.04 The Player or Pair designated on the Match Sheet will throw first in the first leg and alternate legs thereafter.
- 11.05 If it is discovered that a player has thrown out of order the leg shall be stopped immediately and replayed using the correct throwing order. The player(s) concerned shall receive a warning.

If the leg has been completed and a subsequent leg has already started, the result of the played leg shall stand. Should the same player, or another player from that Pair throw out of order in a subsequent leg of the same match that leg will be forfeited

12. PRACTICE DARTS

- 12.01 Each player is entitled to six (6), practice darts at the assigned matchboard prior to the match. No further practice darts may be thrown during the match without the permission of the match referee
Practice darts during "stage" matches are permitted only after players have returned to the stage after a break, and then only after permission has been given by the Stage Referee
- 12.02 No practice shall be allowed on unassigned matchboards without the express permission of the Floor Manager after an event has started. Practice boards shall be provided for the exclusive use of the players.

13. SCORING

- 13.01 The scoring during match play must show the points scored and the points left for each player/team:

Player A		Player B	
	501		501
100	401	85	416
95	306	140	276
45	261	60	216
81	180	121	95
60	120	59	36
100	20	18	18

14. REPLACEMENTS DUE TO ABSENTEEISM

Players who are unable to attend the World Cup Youth may be replaced. Replacements will be permitted until 30 minutes before the scheduled start time on Day One of the tournament.

Countries wishing to make replacements must inform the WDF Executive as soon as possible providing the names of the absent player and the name of the substitute.

The throwing order in Pairs matches may not be changed as a result of a replacement.

15. SUBSTITUTIONS DURING MATCHPLAY

In the Pairs events a player may be substituted if unable to continue for a “bona-fide” reason. In such cases one substitute will be permitted. A substitution can only be made before the start of a match and only by an individual who has not already played in the current World Cup Youth. Should the substituted player become fit to resume play at a later stage of the event that player shall be reinstated.

16. MATCH TIE-BREAK RULE

16.01 In all matches where a tie-break leg is played, the following procedures shall be followed.

- (a) In Singles matches the player who started the match shall throw first for the bull.
- (b) In Pairs matches the first player named on the Match Sheet shall throw first for the bull. Only the first player named on the Match Sheet shall partake in throwing for the bull.

All darts thrown at the Bull count.

Any dart which enters the Bull or “25” sector shall be removed before the opposing player throws. In the event of equal darts, the throw shall be retaken, in the reverse order, until a decision is reached. Any dart which does not remain in the board shall be thrown again immediately and before the opponent takes their throw.

The player throwing second can ask for the first player’s dart to be straightened. Straightening must be conducted by the Marker or a Floor Manager. The Marker or Floor Manager places their finger underneath the thrown dart, removes the dart and replaces the dart in the same place but horizontally

17. ROUND ROBIN GROUP QUALIFICATION

17.01 One (1) “Round Robin Group Point” will be allocated for every match won during Round-Robin Match-play. These points will only be used to determine finishing positions in the Round Robin Group stages and will not count towards a country’s World Cup Youth Championship overall points total.

17.02 In the instance of players or pairs being 'tied' with equal points following the conclusion of all Round-Robin Group matches, the comparison of 'legs difference' will be used to resolve a tie.

17.03 If players or pairs remain 'tied' after a comparison of 'legs difference' has been made, then the result of the actual match between the two (2) players or pairs in the Round-Robin Match-play shall be used to resolve the tie.

17.04 If three (3) or more players or pairs are tied on the same number of points, leg difference will be used to determine the higher placed player or pair.

17.05 Should leg difference be equal, points and then leg difference in the results between the tied players or pairs (excluding other players or pairs in the group), will be used to determine the higher placed player or pair

17.06 Where players or pairs cannot be separated, one tie-break leg will be played

- (a) All players or pairs shall play on one board.
- (b) The throwing order shall be established by throwing for the bull.
Lots will be drawn to decide the order of the throw for the bull.
- (c) The winner of the tie-break leg shall qualify from the group
- (d) Where two qualifiers are required, the leg continues with the remaining players until a second player or pair has finished their leg

17.07 Knockout stages will be deemed to have started at the point that the knockout stage draw is published

17.08 Should any team withdraw or be disqualified in the knockout stages, the opponents will receive a bye to the next round

17.09 The Knockout brackets following Group Round Robin events read as follows

For Four Team Groups

- 1) Winner Group 1 v Runner Up Group 3
- 2) Winner Group 2 v Runner Up Group 4
- 3) Winner Group 3 v Runner Up Group 1
- 4) Winner Group 4 v Runner Up Group 2

For Eight Team Groups:

- 1). Winner Group 1 v Runner Up Group 6
- 2). Winner Group 2 v Runner Up Group 5
- 3). Winner Group 3 v Runner Up Group 8
- 4). Winner Group 4 v Runner Up Group 7
- 5). Winner Group 5 v Runner Up Group 2
- 6). Winner Group 6 v Runner Up Group 1
- 7). Winner Group 7 v Runner Up Group 4
- 8). Winner Group 8 v Runner Up Group 3

For Sixteen Team Groups

- 1). Winner Group 1 v Runner Up Group 12
- 2). Winner Group 2 v Runner Up Group 11
- 3). Winner Group 3 v Runner Up Group 10
- 4). Winner Group 4 v Runner Up Group 9
- 5). Winner Group 5 v Runner Up Group 16
- 6). Winner Group 6 v Runner Up Group 15
- 7). Winner Group 7 v Runner Up Group 14
- 8). Winner Group 8 v Runner Up Group 13
- 9). Winner Group 9 v Runner Up Group 4
- 10). Winner Group 10 v Runner Up Group 3
- 11). Winner Group 11 v Runner Up Group 2
- 12). Winner Group 12 v Runner Up Group 1
- 13). Winner Group 13 v Runner Up Group 8
- 14). Winner Group 14 v Runner Up Group 7
- 15). Winner Group 15 v Runner Up Group 6
- 16). Winner Group 16 v Runner Up Group 5

18. POINTS ALLOCATION

Countries can earn points that go towards the overall World Cup Youth Championship in two ways:

18.01 Round Robin Group Points

Points shall be awarded based on the final position in the Round Robin Group Table

(a) When Groups consist of three (3) **OR** three (3) and four (4) Players or Pairs:

- Winner – 5 points
- Runner Up – 3 points
- Third and fourth – 1 point

(b) When Groups consist of four (4) **OR** four (4) and five (5) Players or Pairs:

- Winner – 7 points
- Runner Up – 5 points
- Third – 3 points
- Fourth and fifth – 1 point

(c) When Groups consist of five (5) **OR** five (5) and six (6) Players or Pairs:

- Winner – 9 points
- Runner Up – 7 points
- Third – 5 points
- Fourth – 3 points
- Fifth and sixth – 1 point

18.02 Knockout Stage Points

18.03 Knockout Stage points will only be awarded to the Players and Pairs reaching the Knockout stages of events

18.04 Points will be allocated to countries as follows based on the finishing position of players and pairs in events:

	Singles	Pairs
Winner	28	42
Runner Up	21	30
Joint 3rd	15	20
Joint 5th	10	12
Joint 9th	6	6
Joint 17th	3	2

- 18.05 The country achieving the highest total of points from all five (5) events shall be crowned the WDF World Cup Youth Champions.
- 18.06 In the event of a tie for first place both Boys and both Girls from each country will play as a team in one (1) tie-break leg of 1,001 against all other countries involved in the tie-break to determine the WDF World Cup Youth champions
- (a) All countries will play on one board
 - (b) The throwing order shall be established by a throw for the bull
 - Lots will be drawn to decide the order of the throw for the bull
 - Only the first player named in each team shall throw for the bull
- In the event of a tie for second or third place, those countries shall be declared Joint WDF World Cup Youth Runners Up or Third Placed countries
- 18.07 Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded to the winners, the runners-up and the joint third places in each event
- 18.08 Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded to the tournament winners, runners-up, and third placed teams. An additional medal will be awarded to one (1), Team Manager from each of the three best overall countries.

19. ADVERTISING

- 19.01 See [WDF Playing and Tournament Rules Clause 17](#).

20. PLAYING ATTIRE

- 20.01 All players representing their country shall wear the approved playing attire or uniform of their country at the opening ceremony, during the tournament itself (until eliminated from all events), and at the closing and awards ceremony.
- 20.02 Team players must be uniformly attired, i.e. all team shirts, blouses, dresses, skirts or trousers and footwear shall be in uniform colours and styles for that team.
- 20.03 Enclosed footwear must be worn at all times during match-play, award presentations, and all official ceremonies relating to the event. They shall be of a colour and style in keeping with the approved playing attire. Flashing devices and luminescent strips are not permitted.
- 20.04 Trainers and jogging shoes are not permitted.
- 20.05 The playing attire of countries can bear four (4) pieces of advertising material, slogans, or logos relating to a marketable product or concern. Alcohol, tobacco and gambling advertising is NOT permitted in youth events. If a country wishes to use more, they should get the approval of the organisers and the WDF

Acceptable dimensions are:

- a) 6 x 1 inches, (15.24 x 2.54cm)
- b) 2.45 x 2.45 inches, (6.22 x 6.22cm)
- c) 4.55 x 1.33 inches, (11.55 x 3.38cm)
- d) 3 x 2 inches, (7.62 x 5.08cm)

Patches must be placed as follows:

- a) Upper right chest
- b) Lower right chest
- c) Upper left chest
- d) Lower left chest

- 20.06 In all WDF World Cup events the playing attire of all participating players and teams shall be subject to WDF approval. Any unacceptable playing attire must be challenged and where required, changed before that player/team can participate in any introductions, match-play, interviews, or presentations
- 20.07 Any player/team refusing to meet with WDF approval may be refused participation.
- 20.08 Players are not permitted to wear any article of clothing over their approved Playing Attire during match-play.
- 20.09 Players are permitted to wear sweatbands on their wrists.
- 20.10 No headgear shall be worn without the prior permission of the Organisers. Exceptions may be allowed for medical or religious reasons.
- 20.11 No earphones/headsets shall be worn during match-play at any time without the prior permission of the organisers. An exception could be allowed for the need to use a hearing aid.

21. DISPUTES

- 21.01 In the instance of a dispute occurring during match-play the match concerned shall be stopped immediately. Both Team Managers shall then accompany the Board Official to the Floor Manager.
- (a) No disputes around issues that occurred during a match will be considered once that match has finished.
- 21.02 The Floor Manager will then make a ruling. All players shall remain at the matchboard. If the Floor Manager is unable to make a ruling, or if the ruling by the Floor Manager is disputed, it will be referred to the WDF Tournament Director.
- 21.03 In the instance of an appeal against a ruling made by the WDF Tournament Director the appeal shall be heard by the WDF Executive members who are present and available.
- 21.04 Any decision made by the WDF Executive members shall be final and binding.

22. TEAM MANAGERS MEETING

- 22.01 Prior to the start of match-play the WDF Executive shall hold a meeting for all Team Managers.
- 22.02 The WDF Executive will use this meeting to answer any questions around any of the tournament rules, and supply Team Managers with the latest information concerning the WDF World Cup.

23. COMPLIANCE WITH ANTI-DOPING RULES

- 23.01 All players and officials shall comply with the requirements laid down in the [WDF Anti-Doping Rules](#)

24. COMPLIANCE WITH TV/STREAMING REQUIREMENTS

- 24.01 By competing in the WDF World Cup Youth, all players agree to playing “live on TV/stream” when requested.

25. SMOKING AND DRINKING

The entire playing room shall be smoke free. In addition, the designated playing area shall be alcohol free.

Any player found to be in breach of Clause 25.01 shall be liable to the forfeiture of the match during which the offence took place and shall be reported to the appropriate darts body for Disciplinary Proceedings to be considered

- 25.01 It is forbidden for any player participating in the WDF World Cup Youth and irrespective of age, to drink any form of alcoholic beverage during the course of the WDF World Cup Youth.

The course of the WDF World Cup Youth shall be interpreted as from the morning of the day of the Opening Ceremony until the morning of the day after the Farewell Banquet. It is the duty of the officials from the respective countries to ensure that this rule is enforced.

Breach of this rule will lead to immediate disqualification of the player or players involved and the suspension of the responsible official or officials.

Random Alcohol Tests of youth players will be taken during the event

26. WORLD CUP YOUTH TROPHIES

- 26.01 All World Cup Youth trophies are the property of the WDF

- 26.02 All World Cup Youth trophies become the responsibility of the recipient Member Darts Body immediately following their presentation.

It is the responsibility of the recipient Member Darts Body to present the perpetual trophy to the hosting Member Darts Body of the next World Cup Youth on arrival at the next World Cup Youth.

Any damage to a World Cup Youth trophy after the presentation and before it is delivered to the next Member Darts Body will be restored by the Member Darts Body.

AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS

The WDF Executive reserves the right to amend, add to, or delete, any of the WDF World Cup Youth Rules at any time to meet any purposes deemed to be necessary by the WDF Executive.

REVISION NOTES

Revision 6

Complete revision of the WDF World Cup Youth Format and Playing Rules