

# **GREATER FLINT DART ASSOCIATION**

## **BY-LAWS**

**\*\*Revised August, 2011\*\***

### **ARTICLE I - NAME**

Sec 1 The name of the organization shall be: GREATER FLINT DART ASSOCIATION.

### **ARTICLE II - DEFINITIONS**

Sec 1 Whenever the initials GFDA are used in these by-laws and rules, they shall mean GREATER FLINT DART ASSOCIATION.

Sec 2 Whenever the word Board is used, it shall mean the officers described in (Article VI, Sec 1).

Sec 3 Whenever the term Membership is used, it shall mean a sanctioned member in good standing.

### **ARTICLE III - OBJECTIVES**

Sec 1 The objectives of the GFDA shall be to promote competitive darts, coordinate the functions and activities of darts, to improve the conditions of play and activities and functions, and sanction the league play according to rules in effect as well as maintain harmony with all its members and establish friendly relationship with similar organizations.

Sec 2 The GFDA will develop and distribute an association newsletter.

### **ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP**

Sec 1 Membership is open to anyone who is 21 years of age or, if not 21, is accompanied by the Captain or a responsible adult.

Sec 2 All members are subject to approval by a 2/3 majority vote of the Board.

Sec 3 Any member in question may be approached and/or counseled by 2 Board members. A member may be terminated restricted by a majority opinion of the Board.

Sec 4 The Board's decision may be appealed by the member concerned, in writing, and received by the Secretary no later than seven (7) days after the Board's ruling. The secretary shall arrange a meeting within three (3) days with at least five (5) neutral captains drawn by lot. The meeting must take place within ten (10) days of receipt to review the appeal. No further appeals will be possible.

**Interpretation:** This is the appeal procedure to be used when the board restricts or terminates a membership or when the board rules on a league play protest.

## **ARTICLE V – FEES**

Sec 1 Membership and team fees shall be established by a 2/3 majority of those present at a board meeting.

Sec 2 Membership sanction fees shall be applicable to a period October 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup> or prior to league play. An applicant shall be considered to be properly registered when, within current policies, his appropriate fees have been received by the Treasurer and/or Membership Chairman.

Sec 3 Sanction and league fees are NON-REFUNDABLE. Memberships are NOT TRANSFERABLE. The membership card indicates the name of the new member and a membership card and/or receipt will be issued to such a person whether or not such person actually plays on a team.

Sec 4 Team fees shall be applicable each season. Team failing to submit their fees on or before the announced time of registration will not be scheduled. These fees shall accompany the team roster and along with the roster will enroll the team in the league, subject to scheduling and approval by the board.

## **ARTICLE VI – THE BOARD**

Sec 1 The Board shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Three (3) additional members.

Sec 2 The Board shall be elected for a period of one (1) year and shall take office no later than one (1) week from the date of election. Any member in good standing and having shot two (2) full seasons is eligible to run for a Board position.

Sec 3 When a Board vacancy occurs, sufficient additions shall be made in accordance with Sec 4 of this Article to bring board membership to the required total of Seven (7). Such additions must be made no later than the next regular monthly board meeting following the creation of the vacancy. No joint office may be held

Sec 4 Board vacancies may be filled by the President provided that:

- A. The proposed member is eligible for office at the preceding election.
- B. The name of all applicants are submitted to the board.
- C. A majority of the Board approves the appointment.

Sec 5 A Board member automatically resigns when, without sufficient cause, He/She fails to appear at two (2) Meetings or if He/She is derelict in his duties.

A. Absences and dereliction of duty to be determined by the Board, by a majority vote.

Sec 6 Board members resigning as per Sec 5 shall not be permitted to run for office at the subsequent election.

Sec 7 No Board member shall be required to participate as a player on a team, although they may play as a regular or a substitute

## **ARTICLE VII – BOARD DUTIES/QUORUM**

Sec 1 The Board must meet at least once each month. Meeting date to be determined by the President. Attendance shall be excused if notice of the meeting is not received at least three (3) days prior to the meeting.

Sec 2 Board meeting shall have a time limit of two (2) hours from the time the meeting is called to order. A maximum of fifteen (15) minutes may be allowed for the purpose of completing a point under discussion. This section may be waived by a 2/3 majority vote of the members in attendance.

Sec 3 Three (3) officers and two (2) members shall constitute a quorum.

Sec 4 Should two (2) consecutive Board meetings, scheduled as per sec 1, fail to produce a quorum, the board shall be considered dissolved. It shall be the responsibility of those members attending the second such meeting to arrange and call for an election meeting within thirty (30) days. Should the dissolution of the Board take place less than thirty (30) days prior to a season's end, social event or tournament, those members in attendance must take the appropriate action to ensure the success and continuity of such an event or tournament. In addition, they must call for an election meeting no later than five (5) days after the aforementioned event. The provisions set forth in (Article XI) shall be waived if the election meeting's time and place are announced at the aforementioned event. (Article XI Sec 6) shall not apply to elections held due to conditions described in the section herein.

## **ARTICLE VIII – DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS**

Sec 1 President: The President shall preside over all meeting unless excused by virtue of NO VOTE PROVISIO. He/She may vote only to break a tie. His/Her signature will be one of two required signatures on the checking accounts.

Sec 2 Vic-President: The Vice-President shall assist the President in maintaining the efficiency of the operations and in the absence of the President, He/She shall assume the duties normally performed by the President. He/She shall assume the duty of keeping the By-Laws current. He/She is also the league's arbitrator.

Sec 3 Secretary: The Secretary shall record and provide the minutes of all meetings, handle correspondence and distribute meeting notices.

Sec 4 Treasurer: The Treasurer will have custody of all GFDA funds and shall promptly deposit all monies received. He/She shall be responsible for the collection of fees and fines. He/She shall prepare an annual financial statement for the membership. His/Her signature will be one of two required signatures on the checking accounts. The Treasurer, at the direction of the Board, shall submit the books for an annual audit at the end of each calendar year.

Sec 5 The President shall be responsible to fill any deficiencies in the office of the Board prior to the beginning of business.

Sec 6 League coordinator: The league coordinator shall be responsible for compiling and reporting weekly results for the league. \*\*\*UNLESS THERE IS A STATISTICION\*\*\*

Sec 7 Board members: Sufficient Board member as required per (Article VI, Sec 1), shall assist in administration of the GFDA policies. In conjunction with the titled Board members, they shall be advisors to the various divisions during sanction play.

Sec 8 NO VOTE PROVISIO: No Board member may vote on operational procedures of protest taking place in their sponsoring establishment in which he/she plays. Should this proviso delete the Board below quorum level, it shall be the responsibility of the neutral Board members to assemble a quorum from the list of all neutral captains or coordinators.

Sec 9 All checks issued by the GFDA must be co-signed by the authorized Board members (President and Treasurer) and must have been approved by the Board or a majority of the members present at a general or special meeting.

Sec 10 Appointed officers: appointed officers of the GFDA shall be the Director of Tournaments and the Editor of Publications. Both shall attend Board meetings, but with no vote. (Unless a present Board member)

Sec 11 Committees:

A. Committees shall be appointed by the President and ratified by a majority vote of the Board.

B. Standing Committees shall be headed by an officer of the GFDA, but must contain at least one Board from the membership at large.

C Standing Committees are:

1. Publicity Committee.
2. Rules/By-Laws Committee.

3. Trophy/Awards/Banquet Committee.
4. Temporary Committee may be appointed by the President serving without formal ratification.
5. Membership of all Committees shall end at the expiration of the term of the President that appoints such member.

## **ARTICLE IX – BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

Sec 1 The By-Laws Committee shall consist of a Chairman and at least two additional members whose duties it shall be to recommend changes and amendments of the By-Laws. All proposed changes and amendments to the By-Laws must be presented to them with their recommendations.

Sec 2 The By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the GFDA by a majority vote of the members present and voting; provided that the proposed amendment is submitted in writing to the By-Laws Committee at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is to be voted upon. The amendment shall be signed by at least three (3) members in good standing. If the By-Laws Committee received the proposed change fifteen (15) days in advance and is not prepared for a reading at the following meeting, any of the three (3) members present may give the reading.

## **ARTICLE X – MEETINGS**

Sec 1 Board meeting: Participation in such meeting shall be obligatory for Board members.

Sec 2 Protest meetings: Such meetings shall be subject to the provisions set forth in those rules currently in effect.

Sec 3 Captain's meetings: Such meetings shall be comprised of League Coordinators and the captains or authorized representative from each registered team. Such meetings must be scheduled no later than the second night of play each season.

Sec 4 General meetings: A General Membership meeting shall be held at least six (6) weeks prior to the end of the spring season. This meeting will be for the purpose to end of the spring season. This meeting will be for the purpose of election nominations and such league business. Such a Meeting shall be announced by direct mail.

Sec 5 Recall meetings: Such Meetings shall be held in accordance with the provisions set forth in (Article XI).

Sec 6 Special meetings: Such a meeting may be called for by any member and for a specific purpose only. The specific purpose must be in writing and witnessed by the signatures of at least one (1) member for each sanctioned darter in good standing or ten percent of the current membership, whichever is less. No other business will be discussed at such a meeting. The Board must arrange the time and place for such a meeting no later

than twenty (20) days from the date of receipt of the petition by the Secretary. Such meeting shall be comprised of a committee from the Board and the Captain or authorized representative from each registered team. Interested members in good standing may attend and participate in the discussion. Voting, however, is restricted to one Captain or authorized representative from each registered to one Captain or authorized representative from each registered team attending the special meeting. Unless otherwise specified, all meetings shall be called for at the discretion of the board.

Sec 7 Unless otherwise specified, meeting announcements must be mailed at least five (5) days in advance of the meeting.

Sec 8 Persons other than sponsors, using a sponsoring establishment as their home address, will not be included in any of the mailings as decreed by the Board.

Sec 9 It is the responsibility of the member to maintain a current and valid address with the Secretary.

## **ARTICLE XI – ELECTIONS**

Sec 1 Elections shall run concurrently with the banquet., unless appointed by acclamation (The nomination a minimum seven candidates for seven positions).

Sec 2 All elections shall be by secret ballot. It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary to construct such a ballot. Votes are to be counted by a Steering Committee appointed by the Board.

Sec 3 Nominations for the Board members will require a minimum of seven candidates. One ballot shall be issued entitling members to vote for not more than seven candidates. The seven candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected. In case of a tie for the seventh, a run-off will be held between the candidates involved in a tie.

Sec 4 The Secretary shall call the nominees for all existing Board positions at the general meeting (Article X, Sec 4). The members wishing to place themselves in contention for the Board position shall be nominated at the above mentioned general meeting. None of the above provisions shall preclude nominations from the floor at the time of the election meeting (Exceptions, Article VII, Sec 4).

Sec 5 The above elected seven Board members shall, within one week and by separate/secret ballot, elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer to take over the management of the GFDA. Should more than two (2) candidates be nominated and run for any of the aforementioned offices, the following shall prevail:

A. Any Candidate receiving at least 50 percent of the votes cast shall be elected.

B. Should “A” not prevail, there will be a run-off between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes on the first ballot.

Sec 6 The previous officers will attend to and assist in the transition period.

## **ARTICLE XII – RECALL OF BOARD MEMBER**

Sec 1 Any Board member may be recalled from office by a 2/3 majority of those present at a Board meeting. Members other than Board members may institute recall under provisions set in (Article X, Sec 6).

Sec 2 Any Board member recalled by the Board may appeal under provisions set forth in (Article X, Sec 6). Such appeals must be in writing and received by the Secretary no later than fifteen (15) days after the Board’s recall ruling. There can be no further appeal.

Sec 3 Recall voting shall be done by secret ballot.

Sec 4 Should recall take place at a general or special meeting, it shall be immediately followed by an election to fill the created vacancy or vacancies. If the President is recalled, the office shall be assumed by the Vice-President after which a new Vice-President shall be elected. If the successful candidate is a Board member, a subsequent ballot shall be held to fill the new vacancy.

Sec 5 Should the President be recalled and appeal his/her case, his/her duties shall be assumed by the Vice-President from the date of the petition until a final determination is made at a special meeting.

Sec 6 If at any time a member of the Board is accused of disobeying any of the By-Laws of the Association or its members, a Committee of Investigation shall be established. The Committee shall consist of no fewer than two (2) Board members and three (3) neutral members from the Association. The Committee of Investigation shall have the duty to make a thorough investigation of the accusations made against the Board member and shall make a full report in writing to the full Board. This report shall also include recommendations as to the action that the Board may take and list any possible alternatives. The Committee shall be headed by the Vice-President with the other members being chosen by lot, the name of the accused being excluded. If the Vice-President is the accused, the highest ranking officer shall head the Committee. At the first regular scheduled Board meeting after the complaint has been made against the Board member (in writing), the full Board shall set a date and time for a full hearing on the matter. The date shall be set for no later than the day before the next regular meeting and no sooner than ten (10) days after the meeting that establishes a hearing. The report from the Committee of Investigation shall be completed no later than 72 hours before the time of the hearing, one copy being filed with the Secretary and one copy being given to the officer to preside over the hearing. The Secretary shall be instructed to inform the accused, in writing, to appear before the Board at this full hearing to show cause why he/she should

not be disciplined by the Board. This written notice shall include a complete list of the infractions and the charger against him/her and the date and time of the full hearing. A copy of this notice shall also be sent to each Board member. Failure to obey this written notice shall be cause enough for summary expulsion, unless the member can show cause why he/she is unable to comply. At the time of the full hearing, the Vice-President shall make his/her report on what the Committee of Investigation has found. The accused member shall be allowed to make an explanation and introduce witnesses in his/her own behalf. Each side may cross-examine each other's witnesses during their testimony as well as introduce rebuttal evidence. If the accused wishes counsel, he/she is allowed it at his/her own expense. As this is not a court of law, the burden of proof shall not be such a high standard as in a court, but instead the necessary level shall be a moral conviction of the truth of the charge. No member shall be expelled without at least a 2/3 majority vote while there is a quorum of the Board members present.

### **ARTICLE XIII – POLICY**

SEC 1 Policy changes, temporary rulings and general information are to be announced on the three consecutive weekly result sheets or a supplementary sheet. These policies will be considered to be in force immediately. It is the responsibility of each member to read these announcements.

### **ARTICLE XIV – SPORTSMANSHIP**

Sec 1 Any member not displaying good sportsmanship and courtesy to other member or establishments will be approached by a board member. The situation will be discussed (Further, action shall be according to Article IV, Sec 3 and a written report to be filed with the Secretary).