

THE FINNISH DARTS SPORTS ASSOCIATION

In Finland the game of darts is known as a favorite summer cottage game. The rules are a little different than for darts played in many other countries. This dart game can be played both indoors and outdoors.

A summary of competition rules for dart throwing

1 § The competition equipment consists of a dartboard and five darts. No aids are allowed.

2 § The diameter of the dartboard is 341 mm, which is measured from the outlines of the ones so that the diameter of the ten is 35 mm, and the width of each successive circle is 17 mm.

Measuring the width of the circles a one (1) mm deviation is allowed both for the bullseye and the circles, when the overall diameter does not, however exceed 1% error. The odd number circles are white and the other circles are clearly darker enough. During the same competition only one kind of board may be used.

3 § The board is placed on a wall at the height of 150 cm measured from the throwing surface to the middle of the bullseye. A tolerance of +- 1 cm is allowed. The distance between the boards must be at least 220 cm from the middle of the bullseye to the middle of the other bullseye.

4 § The length of the dart is limited to 140 mm, and its weight no more than 25 g. The tip of the dart is at least 30 mm.

5 § The throws are performed from behind a throwing obstruction of the competition lane. The width of the competition lane is 120 cm. The height of the throwing obstacle from the throwing surface is at least 40 mm. The distance from the throwing obstacle to the general public or observers must be at least three (3) meters.

The throwing distance for men and boys is five (5) meters, and for ladies and girls four (4) meters. A Tolerance of +- 3 cm is allowed. Boys no older than 12 years may also throw from four (4) meters.

6 § The darts should be thrown one by one. If a dart breaks the line between two circles, the result is counted according to the inner circle. A dart that has fallen from the board may be thrown again. If a dart attaches itself to a dart already on the board, the result of that dart is the same as the dart on the board.

7 § If the competitor oversteps the throwing obstacle before the darts hits the board that thrown dart will be disqualified.

8 § The referee stands behind the contestant during the throw.

9 § The referee and the competitor together establish the throw score and the referee marks the score down on the score card at the same time. Unnecessary conversation between referee and competitor is prohibited. The competitor himself/herself removes the darts from the board.

The sum total of five rounds of throws is counted as the result with each round comprising five (5) darts. Other dart throwing competitions are 25x5 and 50x5 darts are thrown at a stretch without stopping.

10 § When the competition ends in a tie the number of tens scored settles the competition. If the scores are still tied the number of nines scored settles the competition and so on.

12 § Disturbance of the competitors is not allowed. Each competitor has the right to make a written protest or complain about his/her own or another competitor throw immediately to the referee.

13 § It is forbidden to compete under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

14 § In special team competitions a youth and Men-60 class competitors can also take a part in general class team. This requires two separate competition performances.

21 § There are four competitors in men's team, and three in ladies, Men-60's and youth teams each.

In team competitions for Finnish and district championships each team has to throw at the same time on the lanes, which are beside each other. In the second round the first competitors, of all the eight best of teams from the first round, throws on the lanes at the same time, then the seconds etc. In a similar way the competition is continued to the end of the last round, when the winning team will be disclosed. Participation in official competitions requires the membership of the Finnish Dart Sports Association club, with the exception of international tournaments. The official competitions are the international, Finnish championship competitions, national and district events approved by the Finnish Darts Sports Association.

22 § In official competitions the competitor has to have a prepaid competition licence. The Association must be notified of a change of club before the start of the calendar year. For the result to be acceptable as official and rankable, it must have been thrown in accordance with these competition rules.