



PUB GUIDE

SAVANNAH AREA DARTING ASSOCIATION
Post Office Box 23553 Savannah, Ga. 31404

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

A Pub Owner's Introduction and Guideline to S.A.D.A. Dart Play.

The Savannah Area Darting Association (SADA) was formed to provide the organization needed to promote one of the fastest growing sports in America. Darting has proven to be very enjoyable and highly competitive for the young and old, female or male, and even the handicapped. At the same time, it has been a profitable venture for many Pub owners in our area, since we provide a steady supply of customers on a normally slow evening.

The following is a set of guidelines and suggestions, which the SADA is presenting to you as a business person so you can better understand the total situation of league dart play. You should be aware that we, as an association, have put upon ourselves a rather extensive set of rules and regulations that we must adhere to. Therefore, we are not asking more of you than we ask of ourselves.

The What's, Where's, and When's:

1. The league consists of a number of Divisions, each of which has eight teams. (On occasion scheduling requires 6 or 10 teams.)
2. Each team consists of between six and ten players.
3. There are three fourteen-week seasons each year.
4. Each team plays seven home matches and seven away matches each season.
5. Tuesdays, with minor exceptions, at 8:00 PM is the date and time of weekly matches. (Teams sometimes reschedule due to conflicts.)
6. Each match normally lasts two to three hours.

The Who's:

Your sponsored team(s) captain(s) will be the most important individual(s) to get to know. He/she should be able to answer questions that may arise or get in touch with someone who can. Along with captains, there is also the SADA Board of Directors and the Rules and Grievance Committee you can turn to. With the help and co-operation from both sides, league darting should be an added benefit to your establishment.

The How's:

Figure I shows how a dartboard, scoreboard, and toe line (oche) should be set up. The diagonal measurement from the toe line to the bull's eye center is the most critical since floors may not be even or at a right angle to the wall.

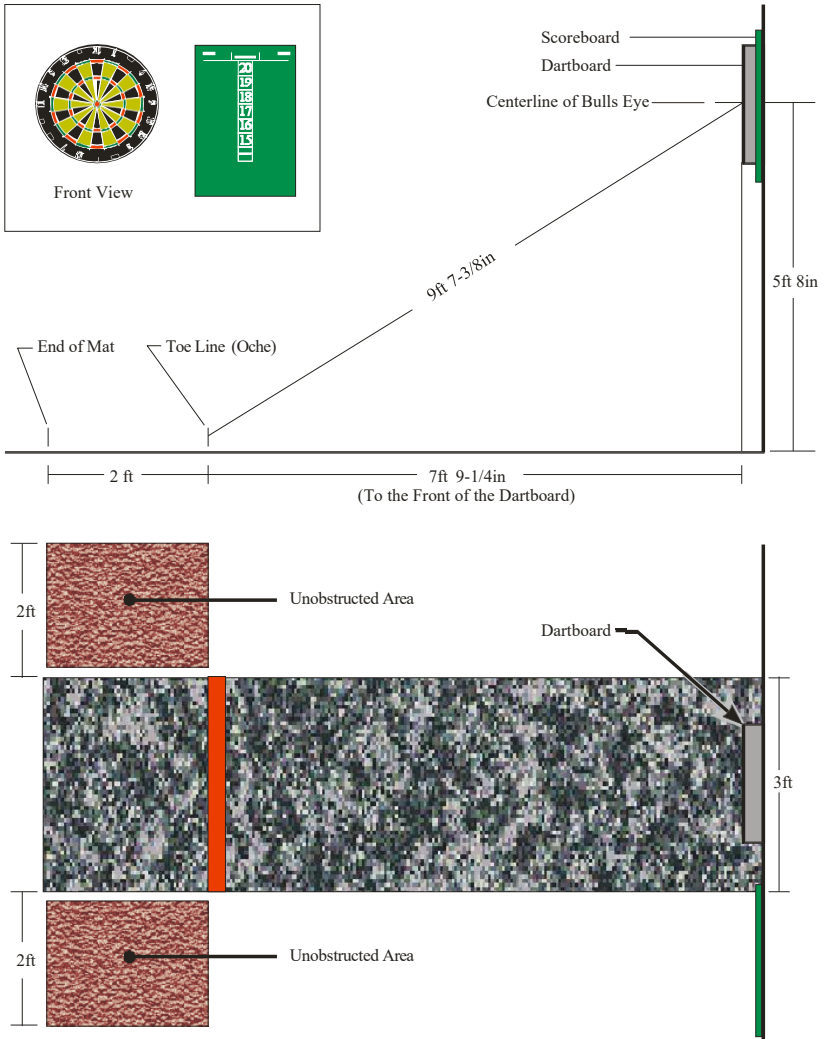
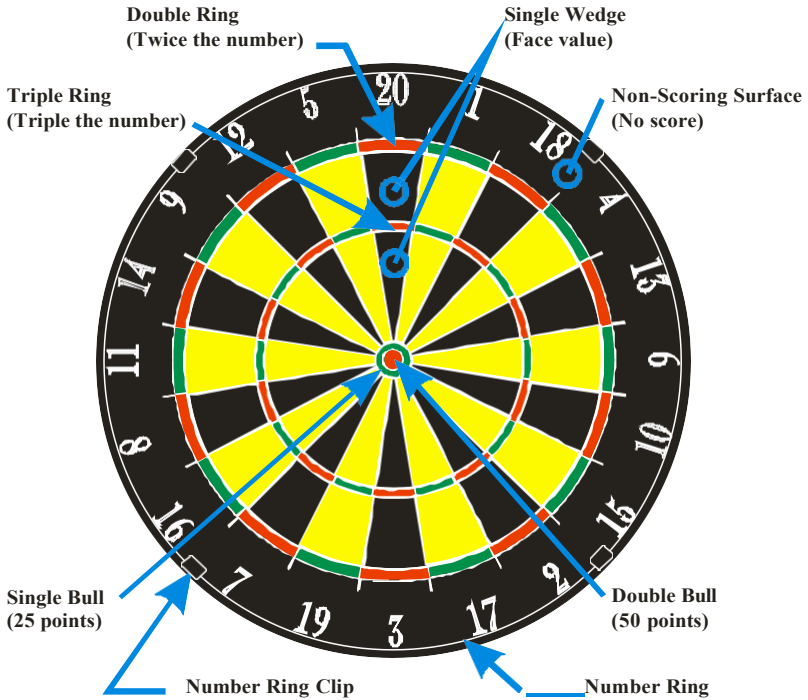


Figure I

Figure II illustrates the main components/divisions of a standard clock-faced bristle dartboard. A good dartboard is made of millions of bristles tightly compressed and held together with a steel band. The bristles face the player like the end of a paintbrush. When a dart enters the board, the bristles separate. When the dart is removed, the hole closes. Inexpensive, rolled-paper dartboards do not have this feature and do not last very long.



Standard 18" Bristle Dartboard

Figure II

The dimensions of the darting range and the quality of the dartboard itself must be strictly adhered to. The league's Rules and Grievance Committee will be more than happy to help you certify your range's measurements. This will provide a basis of fair and equal competition for all teams.

Equipment: The following items and upkeep are your responsibility.

 **Dartboard**

- These must be the standard English Dartboard. A bristle board with 20 point clock-face. The boards must be firmly anchored and placed so that it is readily available to the players without distraction to the throwers.
- These boards, if they are of quality manufacture, are very serviceable, and will withstand a lot of use. (Not to be confused with abuse.) On the other hand, they don't last forever and it will be necessary to replace a board after a period of time. This amount of time varies with use, but in most cases, twice a year is the average. Things to look for are: hard spots, worn-out areas, bent and loose wires, and warped boards.
- *Suggestions:*
 - Rotate the number ring occasionally since certain areas of the board are used more than others.
 - Keep a separate board for league night.
 - Almost new boards can normally be purchased from the league at reduced prices after a play-off tournament.
 - You can usually sell your used boards to darters.

 **Backboard**

- Backboards should be a minimum standard of 26 by 26 inches square.

 **Scoreboard**

- A scoreboard must be provided and located in such a position that the score may be easily read by players and spectators. (You'll be surprised with the number of dart "groupies".)
- The normal scoreboard has been a good quality chalkboard of a size at least 16" x 24". Again, these don't normally last forever. When you hang the board, keep in mind there will be a scorekeeper there and he should not be placed in a position of danger or be a distraction to the shooters.

Note: The SADA has a Rules and Grievance Committee, which will periodically check the above situations and will be glad to answer any questions you have.

Environment

- The SADA realizes that each establishment has its own environment and we do not want to dictate how you run your establishment. Please understand that while all members are out to have a good time, most are also very competitive and take this sport seriously.
- **Lighting**
 - The lighting on the board should be such that a thrower and spectator can easily see where the dart sticks. Shadows should be eliminated as much as possible. Most players prefer some light at the line. It does not have to be bright, just as long as they are not shooting in the dark.
- **Space**
 - There should be an adequate area provided to allow unimpeded competition and to avoid harm to your other patrons. Figure I illustrates the minimum area for a single player during competition. However, there will be as many as six players standing in the throwing area at one time during 601 competitions.
 - Visiting teams need to be seated in an area where they can be a part of the action. After all, they are potentially new customers. If they are treated well, they will return.
 - Suggestions; try to avoid areas which are in direct interference with heavy traffic flow, doorways, games, large screen TV's, cigarette machines, etc.
- **Noise**
 - Darting is a game of concentration and precise eye-hand coordination. Excessive noise can be detrimental to good play.
 - Try to avoid situations such as excessively loud jukeboxes and live bands.
 - If speakers are placed close to the dart range, please provide a volume control for those speakers.
 - At the same time, we ask our members not to make undue commotion.

Dues

- The Savannah Area Darting Association is registered with the state of Georgia as a non-profit organization.
- Funding for league activities is derived primarily from two sources: Individual Membership dues and Sponsorship dues.
- Sponsorship dues come from the Pub where a team plays.
- Membership dues come from the team members.
- Both membership and sponsor dues are collected prior to the beginning of each season.

Teams

- If you want to start a team or add another, please contact the SADA so proper arrangements can be made.

Suggestions for Success (and PROFITS!)

- Tournaments
 - Weekly or one of a kind. Normally SADA does not involve itself directly with the organization or operation of a private tournament. If you are thinking of having one, the best place to start is with your team captain(s). Also many SADA officials and members will be happy to give a helping hand.
- Special Incentives. These are to show your interest and attract more business.
- *Atta-Boy/Atta-Girl* Drinks. Many of the existing Pubs offer a reward in the form of a free drink (your choice), when a player shoots a special throw. (Ask your Captain)
- Reduced Rates
 - A special price on drinks is a nice way to tell the players you care and they generally stay longer.
- Team Shirts
 - This builds morale, spirit, and is a great way to advertise. Remember, your team will probably be in other Pubs throughout the season!

Questions?

- If you have any Questions or need Help, please contact an SADA official.