

Northern Ontario Darts Association 2019 -2020 Season Announcement from the Executive

The executive from Northern Ontario Darts Association (NODA) has had many discussions about the impact of the global pandemic and our darting program and current season. The impact has been felt in every program at every local, provincial, and national level.

The first step in the process was to announce the cancellation of the Provincial Championships that were to be held in Sault Ste. Marie (SSM). Throughout the time of the postponement until the most recent announcement, SSM intended to host the Provincial Championships as was their right. Unfortunately, Ontario had not progressed into Stage 3 of re-opening and too many variables made it difficult for any long-term planning. Therefore, on June 24, 2020, SSM confirmed they would not be able to host the event in the 2020 calendar year. SSM did confirm their intent to host the Provincial Championships in 2021. At this time, this is the only plans made for the 2020-2021 season. Unfortunately, the pandemic and government and health unit restrictions are still active with no end in sight.

Upon the Ontario government's announcement to move the province into Stage 3 of re-opening, the social distancing restrictions in place resulted in the Executive's decision to put any NODA ranked tournaments on hold. This effects 3 tournaments in Northern Ontario: Guy's Garage Open, Thunder Bay Open and Kids for Cancer. The NDFC had previously made a similar decision which affects 2 of our 3 tournaments.

The restrictions in place may affect the local district shoots for the upcoming season and should not be scheduled at this time. The executive is constantly monitoring the situation in our province and will provide updates and guidance when able.

The next step in the Executive process is the discussion regarding current year fees for the adult program. After considering mandatory annual fees, other monies already paid out and future impacts, the executive is providing two options for each event played. Some scenarios are included with different options. Please be aware that the scenarios are not an exhaustive list, not final and may be altered as required. And all options are only available for adult members of the 2019-2020 season.

Membership

Part of the annual event fees paid to participate in any local shoot and the Provincial Championships are allocated the membership fee. This fee is required each new season to be a member of NODA and the NDFC and participate in the Provincials and Nationals and to obtain ranking points. The membership portion of the event fee is non-refundable. This equates to \$50 for returning members and \$70 for new members. The membership season is from October 1 to September 30 annually.

Mixed Doubles

The mixed doubles event is a cash payout event at the Provincials. Every member who plays mixed doubles has paid \$60 each to play at three shoots and the Provincials (4 events). Each team is competing for approximately 65% of the total mixed doubles monies brought in. This calculates to approximately \$39 per player. There are no seeded or ranked players and there are no additional events for the mixed doubles beyond the Provincials.

Options for the members who played/paid for the 2019-2020 season for Mixed Doubles event:

Refund in cash = \$40 paid to the player requesting the refund.

No refund requested = \$50 credit towards next year's (2020-2021 season only) mixed doubles fee only.

Singles Event

1. District Shoot Participants

Regardless if a member played 1, 2 or 3 shoots, the portion of the event fee is considered to have been paid for all 3 shoots (or 75% of the events) once the member participates in 1 shoot. This applies to any seeded or ranked players that also participate at a local shoot. This category also includes the players in areas where a single member paid the shoot fee, but their district is not large enough to hold any kind of qualifying shoot.

Options for the members who played in a district shoot during the 2019-2020 season:

Refund in cash = \$25 paid to the player requesting the refund.

No refund requested = \$40 credit towards next year's (2020-2021 season only) singles fee only.

2. Seeded Player – no shoots played (Provincials Buy-In)

A seeded player has the option to forego the local district shoots and pay the event fee to play at the Provincials. We consider this a buy-in fee for the Provincials and it is a privilege they earned for representing NODA in the prior year. Therefore, with the Provincials cancelled, their buy-in fee should be refunded. This is only for the seeded players that did not participate in a local shoot.

Options for the members who were seeded but did not play a shoot during the 2019-2020 season:

Refund in cash = \$50 paid to the player requesting the refund.

No refund requested = \$50 credit towards next year's (2020-2021 season only) singles/seeded fee only.

3. Ranked Player – no shoots played (Provincials Buy-In)

A ranked player has the option to forego the local district shoots and pay the event fee to play at the Provincials. We consider this a buy-in fee for the Provincials and it is a privilege they earned for playing Provincial tournaments and accumulating points throughout the year. Therefore, with the Provincials cancelled, their buy-in fee should be refunded. This is only for the ranked players that did not participate in a local shoot.

Options for the ranked members who played no district shoots (bought-in) during the 2019-2020 season:

Refund in cash = \$50 paid to the player requesting the refund.

No refund requested = \$50 credit towards next year's (2020-2021 season only) fees.

4. Player – no shoots played (Provincials Buy-In)

Players have the option to forego the local district shoots (with valid reason and permission) and pay a higher fee to play at the Provincials. We consider this a buy-in fee for the Provincials event only. Therefore, with the Provincials cancelled, their buy-in fee should be refunded. This is only for the players that were excused from participating in a local shoot.

Options for the members who played no district shoots (bought-in) during the 2019-2020 season:

Refund in cash = \$100 paid to the player requesting the refund.

No refund requested = \$100 credit towards next year's (2020-2021 season only) fees.

Scenarios for both events played:

1. Member played singles and mixed doubles events:

Refund requested = \$65 No refund requested = \$90 towards both events fees for 2020-2021 season

2. Seeded player (did not play in local shoot) and mixed doubles event

Refund requested = \$90 No refund requested = \$100 towards both events fees for 2020-2021 season

Refund requests must be made by email to the Secretary Chris Arsenault (180king@personainternet.com) and the President, Christine Stark (czachary@tbaytel.net) by August 14, 2020. The list will be compiled and reviewed with the Treasurer for confirmation. Refunds will be issued by August 21, 2020 by Interac Etransfer to the email address of the submitted request, unless otherwise noted.

Should any player not request a refund, the credit will automatically be applied at the first shoot for the 2020-2021 season. The credit for the 2020-2021 season does not have to be taken, any member may decline the credit option also.

Please note the above options apply to the 2019-2020 season only and relate to the adult program only. The March 1, 2020 ranking list will remain as is until the next season played. If the current pandemic is not resolved and the next playing season is affected, further updates and its effects will be provided.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to navigate through these unprecedented times.

Sincerely,
NODA Executive