

BDO British Gold Cup Series – Playing Rules and Format



B.D.O. MEMBER ONLY BRITISH GOLD CUP CHAMPIONSHIPS SERIES

CONTAINING

MEN'S BDO BRITISH GOLD CUP SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS LADIES BDO BRITISH GOLD CUP SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS MEN'S BDO BRITISH GOLD CUP PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS LADIES BDO BRITISH GOLD CUP PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS

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1.00 INTRODUCTION

1.01 CHAMPIONSHIPS OVERVIEW

- a. The BDO British Gold Cup Series is contested annually and comprises of FOUR Events namely:

Men's Singles	Ladies Singles
Men's Pairs	Ladies Pairs
- b. Subject to compliance with the laid down procedures contained herein then all BDO Member Counties [Full and Associate] may enter their member County Super League Singles and Pairs Qualifiers for participation in the BDO Gold Cup Series
- c. Subject to compliance with the age and eligibility rulings as laid down in Section 1.00 the British Gold Cup offers to the Men's and Ladies Singles and Pairs Champion players an invitation into the respective Lakeside World Professional International Play Offs and the Winmau World Championships Finals
- d. The Gold Cup Series will be conducted in Two Stages thus:

1.02 STAGE ONE – MEMBER COUNTY PLAY OFFS

- a. Each participating member County shall arrange within its Super Leagues to stage separate play offs designated to determining that Counties representatives in all or any of the following:

BDO Gold Cup Men's Singles Qualifier	BDO Gold Cup Men's Pairs Qualifiers,
BDO Gold Cup Ladies Singles Qualifier	BDO Gold Cup Ladies Pairs Qualifiers
- b. Entry Fees to be determined by the Member County /Member County Super League with consideration given to the fees that are payable to the BDO [See Section 3.02]
- c. The dates for County Play Off shall be arranged so as to avoid any clashes with events listed in the BDO Invitation Tables criteria and unless special dispensation is granted by the BDO must be staged at least 7 x days prior to the official closing date for entries as being 15th June in any playing season

1.03 STAGE TWO – BDO GOLD CUP GREAT BRITAIN FINALS

- a. These finals shall comprise of all Member County qualifying players in the respective Gold Cup Series Events
- b. The Great Britain Finals venue shall be determined by the BDO Board of Directors
- c. The date of the BDO Gold Cup Great Britain Finals shall be determined by the BDO Board of Directors to take place in the playing season following the season in which the County Play Offs were staged [i.e. after 1st July in any playing season]

2.00 ENTRY QUALIFYING CRITERIA

2.01 MEMBER COUNTY ELIGIBILITY

- a. Providing all BDO criteria is met with regard to the constitution and control of a Bona Fide Super League as detailed in BDO Documentation – 'Membership' then a Member County may submit for entry into the British Gold Cup Tournament its qualifying Men's & Ladies Singles and Pairs players up to a maximum number as follows:
 - Up to 4 x Men Singles
 - Up to 2 x Men's Pairs
 - Up to 2 x Ladies Singles
 - Up to 1 x Ladies Pair

2.02 PLAYER QUALIFYING CRITERIA

- a. Any Player entering the BDO British Gold Cup must be able to demonstrate that he/she has met the terms of commitment made when signing a Super League Registration Form

2.03 PLAYER AGE CRITERIA

- a. It is recognised that within certain member County Super League Rules there is no lower age limit for Super League membership and therefore subject to the following criteria there is no lower age limit for entry into the British Gold Cup
- b. Acceptance of 'Winners' Invitations to participate in the Lakeside World Professional International Play Offs and the Winmau World Championships is determined thus:

PLAYERS OVER THE AGE OF 18

- a. These are eligible to accept invitations into each of the Lakeside World Professional Invitation Play Offs and the Winmau World Championships Finals

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PLAYERS UNDER THE AGE OF 18

For players under the age of 18 the following eligibility rules apply for invitation acceptance:

- a. **Winmau World Championships** = Player under the age of 18 can only accept invitations into the relevant Boys and Girls Finals
- b. **Lakeside World Championships International Play Off** any players under the age of 18 will not be eligible to accept an invitation to play in the Lakeside World Professional International Play Offs or the Lakeside World Professional Championships Finals

2.04 GENERAL REGISTRATION CRITERIA

- a. If a Member County Super League Player is also officially registered by Agreement as a BDO Inter County Player for the respective season then that player may ONLY enter the British Gold Cup Play Offs in the Member County for which the Registration Agreement is signed
- b. If a Member County Super League Player is NOT officially registered to that County by Agreement as a BDO Inter County Player for the respective season BUT is also registered for another Member County's Super League then that player must choose as to which County he or she wishes to represent and submit his/her entry accordingly
- c. No player can enter more than once in any category of the BDO Gold Cup Championships

2.05 SINGLES REGISTRATION CRITERIA

- a. In the Singles Event the player shall be a registered Member of respective County Super League for the current season and as such must also be included in the current BDO database or registered Super League and County players for that County

2.06 PAIRS REGISTRATION CRITERIA

- a. In the Pairs Event both players shall be a registered Member of the same County Super League for the current season and as such must also be included in the current BDO database or registered Super League and County players for that County
- b. In the instance of having an 'odd' number of registered players then the County Super League may adopt a rule that allows for the registration of an additional player for the purpose of playing in the Gold Cup Pairs

3.00 ENTRY PROCEDURES

3.01 ENTRY FORMS

- a. Each Member County Full or Associate entering their Gold Cup Qualifying Singles and/or Pairs shall complete the official BDO Entry Form [See Page for a specimen entry Form]

3.02 ENTRY FEES

- a. The Entry Fee shall be set by the BDO Board of Directors and is subject to review in each playing season [See BDO Handbook - Volume 1 section 'H' Finance

3.03 SUBMISSION OF ENTRY FORMS & FEES

- a. All fees and completed forms shall be forwarded to the nominated BDO Executive Officer:
B.D.O. – Unit 4 Glan-y-Lyn Industrial Estate, Cardiff Road, Taffs Well, Cardiff CF5 7JD

3.04 VALIDATION OF ENTRIES

- a. Upon receipt by the BDO Executive Officer all players names will be checked against the BDO Database of currently registered Super League players
- b. Any irregularities as found may invalidate the respective players right of entry or participation at any stage of the BDO British Gold Cup

3.05 CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES

- a. The closing date for submission of Entry Fees and Documentation shall be **15th JUNE** in each playing season
- b. Late submissions are not eligible and will not be accepted
- c. A member County failing to meet the obligations of submission by the laid down closing date shall forfeit the right of its players to participate in the British Gold Cup for that particular season

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4.00 PLAYING VENUE & DATE

- a. The Playing Venue for the Great Britain Finals of the British Gold Cup shall be set by the BDO Board of Directors
- b. The Date for the Great Britain Finals of the British Gold Cup shall be set in the month of July each season by the BDO Board of Directors
- c. The Venue and date will be notified by the BDO to each participating Member County

5.00 DRESS CODES

5.01 PLAYING ATTIRE

- a. All the Rules of BDO Playing Rule No 25 shall apply to all matches played at the British Gold Cup Finals
- b. All Participating players in the Singles in the Singles & Pairs Events shall wear the Playing Attire or uniform which has been approved by their own Member County Organisation at all times whilst engaged in any matchplay, during any introductions to the stage and for any presentation ceremonies in the British Gold Cup Finals
- c. The definition of 'uniform' with regard to Pairs matches shall require both players in a Pairs Team to wear the same style/design/colour playing shirts and the same style/design/colour trousers or skirts
- d. Players are not permitted to wear Jeans, neither shall they wear trousers or skirts made with denim, or corduroy material which have been fashioned in a 'Jeans style. This restriction shall also apply to any form of track suit attire
- e. Any player in breach of the above rulings shall not be permitted to play in any match at the British Gold Cup Finals

6.00 VENUE ENTRY & REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

6.01 ADMISSION INTO THE VENUE

- a. Admission will be by Ticket only at the Gold Cup Finals playing venue
- b. Each participating Men's and Ladies Singles & Pairs players shall receive 1 x free admission
- c. There will be an allocation of 1 x free admission ticket for each Member County that is represented at the Gold Cup Finals for use by an official of that County

6.02 REGISTRATION TIMES

- a. All players to report to the designated control desk on arriving in the venue at the time indicated on the event schedule
- b. Late registrations will not be accepted
- c. Instructions as relevant to be taken from the control table officials

7.00 PLAYING FORMATS & DRAWS

7.01 THE MATCHPLAY FORMAT

- a. The BDO Playing Rules shall apply to all matches played in the BDO British Gold Cup Series
- b. All legs to be straight start – finish on a double

7.02 MEMBER COUNTY GOLD CUP PLAY OFF FORMATS

- a. Format for each of the Men's and Women's Gold Cup Singles and Pairs shall be at each County's discretion but must be set at a minimum of = Best of 5 x legs 501

7.03 BRITISH GOLD CUP FINALS FORMATS

Men's Singles

All Rounds up to and including the Quarter Finals = Best of 7 x Legs 501

Semi-Finals = Best of 9 x Legs 501

Final = Best of 11 x Legs 501

Men's Pairs

All Matches = Best of 7 x legs 501

Ladies Singles

All Matches = Best of 7 x legs 501

Ladies Pairs

All Matches = Best of 7 x legs 501

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7.04 THE MATCHPLAY DRAW

- a. The Draws for opponents in the Gold Cup Men's and Ladies Singles and Pairs events shall be conducted as soon as practicable after the closing date for the submission of entries
- b. The Draws shall be published on the BDO website at least 14 days prior to the Final
- c. The bracket system shall be adopted for each of the events as listed
- d. There will be no seeding in the BDO British Gold Cup Series
- e. With multiple qualifiers per county the draws will be conducted in order that in so far as is practical players from the same county will not meet until the later stages of the event

7.05 ORDER OF THROW

- a. The order of throw for each singles and pairs match shall be decided at the respective match board by throwing nearest to the bull
- b. The Player/Pair Team member listed uppermost on the Draw Sheet shall throw first for the bull
- c. The Player/Pair throwing nearest to the bull shall throw first in all odd numbered legs in that respective match
- d. The Player/Pair losing the bull shall throw first in all even numbered legs in that respective match
- e. In the Men's Singles Semi-Finals and Finals this procedure shall also apply in that the Player throwing nearest to the bull shall throw first in all odd numbered legs of the odd numbered sets and the player losing the bull shall throw first in all odd numbered legs of the even numbered sets
- f. Tie break rule shall not apply

7.06 MATCH MARKERS/REFEREES

- a. Markers/Referees will be nominated for the first rounds of each event
- b. In subsequent matches it will be the losing player or one of the losing pair who shall mark/referee the next match

8.00 PRIZES & PRESENTATIONS

8.01 PRIZES

- a. Solid Silver Gilded Challenge Trophies shall be presented to the Gold Cup Singles and Gold Cup Pairs Champions [Men and Ladies] and shall be held for one year
- b. Each player attaining the Winners and Runners Up positions in the Gold Cup Singles and Gold Cup Pairs [Men and Women] shall receive an individual Trophy for that players own retention
- c. Each Member County Qualifying player in the Gold Cup Singles and Pairs shall receive a memento in acknowledgement of participation
- d. Cash Prizes shall be awarded to players of amounts that will be specified in the respective British Gold Cup Singles and Pairs Finals official event schedule and on all promotional documentation
- e. A special achievement award of £1,000 shall be made by the BDO for any '9' Dart checkout made during the **STAGE** matches of the British Gold Cup Men's and Ladies **SINGLES** events only

8.02 PRIZE PRESENTATIONS

- a. Unless prior permission is granted then all players in Teams reaching the Knockout stage of the Gold Cup Finals must be present at the official presentation ceremony
- b. Failure to comply with the above shall forfeit the right to any prize monies and /or trophies won

9.00 GENERAL PROCEDURES

9.01 ADVERTISING

- a. All the Terms of BDO Playing Rules shall apply to all matches played in the British Gold Cup Finals
- b. Any Player found to be in breach of Playing Rules shall not be allowed to play in any match at the BDO British Gold Cup Finals

9.02 ANTI-DOPING POLICY

- a. The Terms and conditions laid down in the BDO Code of Practice – Anti-Doping Policy shall apply to all players and officials participating in the British Gold Cup

9.03 DRINKS CONSUMPTION

- a. No drinks shall be allowed to be consumed or introduced into the area designated for Matchplay
- b. Any breach of this Rule may lead to the player being disqualified from the British Gold Cup Finals

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9.04 PLAYERS & OFFICIALS CONDUCT

Any Players or Officials conduct which is considered to have brought the Sport of Darts into disrepute shall be liable to Disciplinary Action being taken against them

Such Disciplinary Action may be instigated by the Promoters or by the respective County Darts Body, whichever is more appropriate

Any Disciplinary Action taken shall be conducted in accordance with the BDO Code of Practice – Disciplinary Proceedings – as laid down in Volume One of the BDO Authorised Handbook

9.05 INTERPRETATIONS

The interpretation of the Playing Rules and Format for the BDO British Gold Cup Finals shall be determined by the BDO Director nominally in control of the Playing Venue and whose decision on any matter shall be final and binding

Information concerning such interpretations shall be forwarded to the BDO Board of Directors for consideration and possible inclusion in a revised version of the Playing Rules and Format of the BDO British Gold Cup

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10.00 SPECIMEN ENTRY FORMS

**BDO BRITISH GOLD CUP CHAMPIONSHIPS SERIES
ENTRY FORM**



County Name: _____

County Organiser: _____ Season: _____

Please enter your qualifiers full names and Super League Team for checking against the BDO Database:

<i>Event</i>		<i>Forename</i>	<i>Surname</i>	<i>Super League Team</i>
SINGLES	1			
SINGLES	2			
SINGLES	3			
SINGLES	4			
PAIRS	1			
	2			
PAIRS	1			
	2			

Entry Forms and Fee to be received at:

**British Darts Organisation
Unit 4 - Glan-y-Llyn Industrial Estate
Taffs Well
Cardiff CF15 7JD**

By Closing date:

15th June – LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Cheques/Orders to be made payable to:

BRITISH DARTS ORGANISATION ENTERPRISES Ltd

**NOTE ALL COUNTIES MAY SUBMIT FOR ENTRY INTO THE FINALS A MAXIMUM OF
4 x MEN'S SINGLES - 2 x MEN'S PAIRS - 2 x LADIES SINGLES - 1 x LADIES PAIR**

BDO BRITISH GOLD CUP CHAMPIONSHIPS SERIES PLAYER DETAILS FORM – _____ SINGLES

County Name: _____

Season: _____ Date: _____

County Organiser:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone No:



Player One

Forename: Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone No:

Player Two

Forename: Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone No:

Player Three

Forename: Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone No:

Player Four

Forename: Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone No:

BDO BRITISH GOLD CUP CHAMPIONSHIPS SERIES PLAYER DETAILS FORM – _____ PAIRS

County Name: _____

Season: _____ Date: _____

County Organiser:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone No:



Pair One

Forename: Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone No:

Forename: Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone No:

Pair Two

Forename: Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone No:

Forename: Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone No: