

## Presidents Letter to the LDMDL Membership

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012

As my first year as President comes to a close, I found this experience, like every other life experience, quite enlightening to say the least! We had our normal Membership issues, feisty Executive meetings with a devoted team, and at the end of the day, I would have to say it was a successful year. The League can now boast of having a new LDMDL Singles Champ, Divisional Singles and Doubles winners and our players who go out to represent our League in many other cities/countries. We have increased our team numbers by 5 teams this year and are anticipating equal to more growth next year as we have increased our exposure to the general public. In addition to 2 radio interviews that were aired this year, we are putting together flyers to distribute this summer and looking into board advertising as well as other print media.

Next topic, my Executive! This is a tough group of individuals, dedicated to their jobs. They worked hard this year to provide you, the Membership, the darting experience you have come to expect. We have had our learning curves with a couple of late tournaments. We have adopted some new paperwork that we are now using that will expedite our registration and verify income at the same time. We will also be using a cap for the amount of games in round robin to ensure they end at a reasonable time. This hopefully will allow more teams to attend. There was also some confusion regarding registration of the Singles and Doubles however the Executive was able to sort it out and rectify the problem. Next year, a different member of the Executive will be handling the registration of both tournaments. Also, contradictions in the Rulebook caused the Spring Trophy night to be run without a handicap. This too is being remedied with an appropriate rule change this AGM.

We had to replace Howard Jamieson earlier in the season as he resigned and as per our Rulebook, he was replaced by Justin Ryan who has been a great help at tournaments, in the Board room and helping with the Banquet Committee. He has stuck around to finish late tournaments without even batting an eye. Good job Justin! Another new player to the Executive team is Brad Boylan. A new perspective is always on the table when Brads at the meeting! He brings fresh ideas and lots of shopping for the banquet and has contributed at many tournaments.

Unfortunately, Luc Jarry, our Webmaster/Scorekeeper has had to resign as well due to overwhelming demand at work and in his personal life. He has contributed much knowledge and insight at all meetings and his work on the stats and website were outstanding. He has offered his time to help transition the next person into the position. He will be replaced by another new member of our Board, Andrew Ferguson. He has been another great contributor in the board room with many questions and suggestions and has run tournaments this year as well. He is helping the Executive with researching advertising and other media venues for our promotions. We wish him good luck in his new position! Andrew will be replaced this summer before next season. The new position commences July 1, 2012.

The rest of the Executive has spent many hours on the phone with me outside our meetings debating and coming up with ideas to help promote and further the League. One poor Executive Member even received a phone call at 4:30 in the morning. He now stays offline after midnight! This is the dedication showed by this year's Executive towards our League.

Dan and I, along with another LDMDL member (TBD) will be going through the Rulebook over the next year to re-organize the rules with new headings and sections for a more easy read and finding information. None of the rules or wording will be changed just the headings and rule numbers. It will be presented later in the year and perhaps a special meeting made to accept the new rule book before the next years AGM so rule changes can be made to the new rule numbers. This cleanup will allow us to see contradictory rules, oversights, and outright errors in our current rule book. With new categories and headings, finding rules will be quick and easy.

The Audit Committee consisting of Brian Harris as the Chairman, Gus Collins and Rob Jones did a great job this year with verifying our income and expenditures. They also came up with some good suggestions for verifying income at tournaments that the Board has already put into effect. On behalf of the Membership, I would like to thank them for their time in assisting our League.

With all the new paperwork and processes in place, we may now be able to utilize Divisional Liaisons for tournaments and other League functions. This is something we will be looking into for the new year. We will also be looking at how we can advance our players towards being Canadian Champs or competing on a more competitive level. We have the players to accomplish such a feat, but they need to be promoted and recognized as LDMDL players to bring our League back to its large number of members like we once enjoyed before. The Executive will be exploring ways to bring our leagues numbers back up again to the 1000 plus players we once had. We will also be looking at how we can change up the banquet to make it more fun and enjoyable for the Membership as the numbers attending seem to be dropping off. There has been quite a lot of discussion among the members to have the banquet at one location and we will be investigating any other possibilities to hold our banquet in one night instead of two.

Overall, this has been a great year of darts, friendship and competition. We the Executive look forward to serving the Membership in the following year with new players, teams and great competition. If there is anything that you would like to contribute to our League, whether it is your time, ideas, financial or otherwise, contact any member of our Board to see how you can help. The League belongs to all of us, so any help or idea's can benefit us all.

Yours Truly,

Richard Duke  
President  
LDMDL