North Country Dart League
Meeting Minutes

Location: Trail House Lounge **Date:** October 6th 2026 **Start Time:** 7:11PM **Adjourned:** 7:55PM

Attendance

Northland Interiors: Kevin Allain
Fagin's Pub: Dan Croteau
Jericho Outdoors: Tina Viens – Remote
Flight Risks: Greg Tabak
Northern Pounders: Kenny Nett
Just the Tip: Not in Attendance
Wizards: Logan Larocque
Misfits: Paul McKenzie
AE Sharp Shooters: Not in Attendance
BTA: Will Croteau
VCM Bookworms: Charlene Gallagher
Northway: Zuri Chambers

- On Sunday September 6th Dan Croteau received a phone call from Kenny Nett informing Dan that the VFW had their voting booths put up. Kenny was asking if we were aware of this and if we were still playing darts on the 7th.
    - Dan was not aware of this and called the VFW first thing Monday morning (September 7th 2026) to ask about this. The bartender who was extremely rude and refused to tell Dan who he was confirmed the voting booths were set up.
    - Dan later called Donna Demers at the VFW who also confirmed the banquet hall at the VFW was closed to darts due to voting (later found out this was for the primaries) and claimed she thought we knew about voting.
    - Dan had booked the venue back in May around the time of the banquet, has since been in there at least once a week, and even asked Monday September 1st if there were any days besides November 2nd that we needed to work around. He was told that was the only date to worry about.
    - A Facebook post was made explaining darts had to be cancelled and the reason why it was being cancelled. We did not have enough venue spots open since the Pub was also closed on September 7th.
        - On the Facebook post, Todd Demers (Commander at the VFW) went on to say that the VFW does not cater to just the dart league and if we didn't like it, we could get out of the VFW.

        - Donna Demers joined the facebook group just to go in and post that she thought we were made aware of voting and proceeded to state that the VFW does not charge the dart league to use the hall and they pay for the liquor license for us to be in there. She also stated that we could take down our boards and get out.
    - The team called Fagin's Pub which previously played out of the VFW has since pulled their team out of the VFW and are now based out of the American Legion.

- The White Mountain Chalet has mentioned that they would be willing to host teams out of their venue but they would need to have around 6 teams playing out of there to cover the costs of keeping the building heated.
    - Someone asked about using the Eagles Club.
        - Dan met with the some people from the board at the Eagles that showed him around. The way it stands, thigns would be too crowded to be able to comfortably put two teams in there due to a pool table being in the way. The eagles voted to not move the pool table so there is no room for us there.
    - Charlene Gallagher asked about the Trail House Lounge and the Millyard was brought up as well.
        - It was said that in the past, the owners at both venues had a tendency to just shut their venues down if things got slow or sometimes just didn't open.
        - Lisa Dubois did speak up and say that the owner of the Trail House has expressed interest in having some teams play there on Mondays and he is willing to work with us on that. Charlene expressed a possible interest in playing out of there next season. Dan encouraged any team that is interested to reach out to Lisa and then to let Dan and Lucien know for scheduling purposes.

- Lisa Dubois mentioned that The Trail House has new boards on order and that Laura Roy is in the process of getting a Women's Dart League going on Wednesday nights.

- Since Week 1's matches had to be skipped, we can either play them on November 2nd 2026 or play them after Week 15 which would extend the season to December 28th 2026.
    - It was mentioned by Lucien LeVeille that it might be best to utilize November 2nd for Week 1's matches in case we need to reschedule any other weeks just in case the VFW decides to completely kick us out of their venue.
    - Due to not having the banquet hall at the VFW, this means we will have to put 3 teams out of the Legion for the makeup date. We can also possibly utilize the Trail House for this night. This would require us to bring lights and boards to use for that match so the match between Fagin's Pub and Flight Risks would be the match played at the Trail House if it's agreed upon and the Trail House approves it.
    - Lucien reached out to Lisa Dubois asking if we could possibly have a match (Fagin's Pub Vs Flight Risks) play out of the Trail House so the Legion would not be as crowded. Lisa looked into this and confirmed it is okay for us to play there on Monday November 2nd. She also let Lucien know that the Trail House is looking into purchasing new boards so those might be available to use by then.
    - A Vote was held to determine if we should play our make up games on November 2nd 2026 or to push them out until after week 15
        - The vote was unanimous, play on November 2nd.

        - Lucien and Dan will have to move teams around to accommodate the VFW Banquet Hall not being available and will make a post on Facebook with updated venues as well as text captains to make sure they're informed.

- If the league were to put teams at the Chalet, we would need to get some portable boards and stands to play on. Something similar to what the T&C Uses for the White Mountain Shootout would be ideal. They fold up and use a raised Oche which is integrated into the stand so there is no need to measure the line every week.
    - Dan and Lucien have looked into this a little bit and have found some stands that will work.

- If any teams may be interested in changing their home court to the Chalet, please let Dan know well in advance of the Spring season so we can vote on the stands if we have enough teams interested.

- Late Match start times. North country Dart League matches are to start no later than 7:30pm.
    - Week 2 we had one match start at 7:40.
    - Week 3 we had one match start at 7:44pm and one at 7:49pm.
    - Week 4 we had 2 matches start at 7:42pm
    - Week 5 we had one match start at 7:41pm
    - The main reason for starting matches earlier was so they could finish earlier and prevent the venues from getting upset and closing down or kicking us out.
    - Overall, things are going better though we have had a few late finishes. Thank you to those starting on time and please continue to try and get those matches starting by 7:30pm.
    - Kenny Nett asked what we were seeing for late finish times. Lucien did not recall off the top of his head but knew at least one was around 11:00pm
        - Kenny said he felt this is better than what we were seeing the past few seasons and he is correct. The finishing times are a lot better than previous seasons.
        - Looking at things as I type out these minutes, the average end time seems to be between 10:00pm and 10:30pm for the American Division and 9:00pm – 9:30pm for the National Division.

- In the Week 5 match between the Misfits and VCM Bookworms, it was said that one of the Bookworms players asked the scorekeeper to not enter their score into the tablet until the turn was done because they found it distracting. Later in the match a Misfits player asked the scorekeeper what they had remaining and the scorekeeper gave the total and then proceeded to tell the player what to throw at. The player on the bookworms informed the scorekeeper that they were not allowed to do that. Tempers flared and the scorekeeper refused to continue keeping score after that 301 finished. The score keeper allegedly left the area and proceeded to loudly speak about the incident from another area of the bar but the Bookworms players were able to hear it clearly.
    - The bookworms player was well within her right to request the scorekeeper to wait until the end of her throw to enter in any scores.
        - From the sounds of things, after asked, the scorekeeper did honor this request.
        - It is very common for scorekeepers to enter a score after each dart is thrown once a player is at a finish (170 or less). In some leagues it is also a requirement. This is for a few reasons. First, to help the player know what they have left if their math skills are not as strong. Second, it's to help the scorekeeper know what the player has remaining in the event they ask the scorekeeper. Third, it's to help the scorekeeper be able to

correctly award the game if a finish is hit. The scorekeeper needs to be sure they just awarded the game correctly and that the player hit the proper out.

- Dan pointed out that the league lacks people that are willing to keep score, especially in the American Division. For this reason, the league will tend to side with scorekeepers when issues arise.
  - That being said, it is still important that scorekeepers act in a decent manner, try to remain as still as possible while scoring, and speak only when spoken to.
- In the matter of the scorekeeper telling the player "what to throw at", this is against the bylaws, the scorekeeper is aware of the mistake and admits it was on accident. A Scorekeeper can tell a player how many points they have remaining but are not supposed to suggest an out.
  - Dan did also reiterate that in this matter the scorekeeper happened to be a cocaptain and was helping a brand new player because the player's captain was engaged in his own match at the time so he couldn't help her.
- Dan went on to reiterate that this league is supposed to be a fun night out and we don't have to be so strict with the rules.

- Scorekeeping. We have had many teams complaining that they can not find a scorekeeper for their matches. Captains, please continue to encourage players to keep score. If they're nervous or new at it, please be kind and patient with them and help them out to feel more comfortable. Please also continue to show respect to the people that are willing to step up and keep score.

- Next Meeting: 7:00 PM Tuesday November 3rd 2026 at the Trail House Lounge