



UDUK GOVERNANCE POLICY – DECEMBER 2023

INTRODUCTION

The purposes of this document are to set out the framework and guidelines in which UDUK is governed. It also sets out steps towards a full UDUK constitution and future organisational structure.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The committee consists of a mixture of named roles and generic advisory roles. People in advisory roles are typically veterans of university darts, and largely offer expertise across a number of topics.

All roles, bar President, are 1 academic year terms. President terms are for 3 academic years, unless the incumbent President wishes to step down prior to the completion of their term, thus triggering a presidential election. Ideally, the President should aim to bring one or more people onto the committee in the final year of the President's term, with the intention of one of them being a strong candidate to be the next president in the following academic year.

Other committee members may be chosen either by interview or by election, with the method of selection up to the President. It is expected that roles will become vacant each academic year, as previous committee members find work or are otherwise no longer able to commit fully. The President may vary their approach year-on-year, or even depending on interest in specific roles in a given year. In exceptional circumstances, it may be deemed necessary by the President to remove sitting committee members from their roles. If this were to occur, then it may be required to appoint a replacement committee member during the academic year.

For 2023/24, a 2-tiered committee structure was introduced, consisting of the "main" committee members and a separate group of "co-ordinators". The "main" committee roles encompass traditional positions needed to form a functioning executive body, whilst the "co-ordinators" are focused on regions or demographics that UDUK wish to develop further. The "co-ordinators" are not excluded from providing input to "main" committee matters, however they are by and large current students, and so typically are able to commit less time and resource to the cause.

The named roles (and an overview of their responsibilities) are as follows:

- **President:** General governance, safeguarding, development, event coordination and league management.
- **Treasurer:** Budgeting, financial controls, financial reporting and general governance.
- **Media Officer:** Promotion, marketing, growing publicity and image of university darts.
- **Events Officer:** Venue procurement, planning, event promotion and tournament directing. (May be multiple people)
- **Sponsorship:** Commercial partnerships, darting partnerships, publicity and community engagement.

Additionally, for 2023/24, the following “co-ordinator” roles exist:

- **Scottish Co-ordinator**
- **Welsh Co-ordinator**
- **Southern Co-ordinator**
- **Women’s Development Officer**
- **Emerging Regions Co-ordinator**

The current committee structure is intentionally large, so as to be able to support university darts as it grows. It is unlikely that additional roles will need to be created for 2024/25, however, this may be subject to change.

DISCIPLINARY PANEL

In addition to the aforementioned committee structure, there exists a 3 person panel for initially handling disciplinary matters. This panel consists of the President and 2 selected committee members, with a focus on choosing those who are unlikely to have a conflict of interest with the majority of reported issues.

In the case that wider committee discussion is required, or when one or more committee members pose a conflict of interest to the disciplinary matter at hand, then the matter may be opened up to other committee members.

The panel is responsible for investigating the facts of any incidents, discussing with involved parties in a sensitive and appropriate manner, and then compiling a report. As part of this report, appropriate and sensible sanctions or warnings will be considered, with all involved parties made aware of the outcomes in a timely manner. More details about this process can be found in the UDUK Disciplinary Policy.

EXPENSES

UDUK does not currently have a major financial sponsor. This means that any expenses currently paid are withdrawn from either the league fees budget or from the budget of a specific event. Until such time as a major financial sponsor comes on board, it is the position of the President that expenses should only be paid in rare circumstances, such as only 1 committee member being able to attend an event, and their attendance being mandatory to the event proceeding. To date, less than £50 of expenses have been paid out since September 2022.

LEGAL STATUS OF UNIVERSITY DARTS UK

Whilst UDUK is not currently a registered company, it instead operates as an entity with clubs and societies status. This is the category of organisation that UDUK is currently registered as with its banking provider. In the near future, it may be positive to explore becoming a registered company. This would involve the President becoming CEO and the Treasurer becoming CFO. This may open up a range of further opportunities for UDUK, and provide additional powers and protections in relation to event hosting and sponsorship.