



By Steve Brown

CHECK THIS OUT !

What to leave yourself from 179-195

HAVING finished with the outs (170 and below) themselves, it is now time to look at ways to set them up. The objective always is to leave yourself a possible out. It doesn't matter how high or how difficult it may first appear, a finish is still a finish. If you leave 170 a hundred times and get it once, that's one more time than you would have finished 168 or 169.

Actually, you will see that I frequently suggest leaving 170 versus 161, 164 or 167. It's not that I have some strange fetish; it's basic common sense. As it is the highest out, there are many players that regard it as the most difficult, or even impossible. But think about it. The fact that you can put two darts in the same triple makes it considerably easier than a finish such as 167.

Keeping it nice and simple, we start with situations where we have just the one dart left to throw. Always look for the results of a single in addition to a triple of the same number when setting up an out.

One hundred seventy-nine. Single 20 will only give you 159 and no out. Single 19 is best (to leave 160), although sbull leaves 154.

One hundred eighty. Stay on 20s.

One hundred eighty-one. A few options here. Single 20 (for 161), s17 (164), s11 (170) or even sbull (156). One other factor to take into account on a shot like this is discovering how much help a triple (should your dart find one) will provide. Let's take them one at a time. Triple 20 will give 121. No problem: t20, s20, dbull. Triple 17 sets up 130. Again, no problem: t20, s20, dbull. Triple 11 will leave 148. Unlike the first two, you will need *two* triples to have a dart at a double. So this is



not advisable. The same with the bull shot. Single bull will leave you with a beautiful 156, but double will still leave you looking at a two-triple out (131). If anything, 17s are the favorite then.

One hundred eighty-two. Single or triple 18 gets the nod (164 or 128), although s12 (170) and sbull (157) are both acceptable. One slight advantage with the latter is that dbull puts you on 132 (sbull, t19, dbull, or dbull, dbull, d16).

One hundred eighty-three. Single 19 for 164 gets the edge over s13 (170) because of the triple score (netting 126 versus 144). As a reminder, 164 is another two triples in the same bed finish (t19, t19, db).

One hundred eighty-four. Twenties are the best option again—don't even *think* about sbull (159, a *four*-dart finish).

One hundred eighty-five. The best shot here is single or double bull (160 or 135), although s18 (167) or s15 (170) will work.

One hundred eighty-six. Sixteens or 19s (170 or 167) will work, and maybe even sbull (161).

One hundred eighty-seven. Although s17 (170) is probably better than s20 (167),

the t20 is a far greater help than t17, leaving a one-triple-only finish of 127.

You will see that circumstances are different for each particular shot, and it's up to you to evaluate the pros and cons of each option.

One hundred eighty-eight. Only one shot here—s18 for 170.

One hundred eighty-nine. Single bull will leave a tidy 164, but 19s are advisable. Single for 170, and triple for 132.

One hundred ninety. Surprise, surprise! Single 20.

One hundred ninety-one. Now here's where a single score won't leave a finish. So a minimum of a triple is necessary to start your finish for the (hopefully) next turn. I'd opt for t19 here. The options from 134 are a bit nicer than from 131. For 193 I'd also shoot t19 (136) and for 194 the t20 leaves 134.

One hundred ninety-two. The only single number to leave an out here is the bull (167). This is also the only shot for...

One hundred ninety-five. Yes, sbull to leave 170.

Next time we'll look at situations where we have two darts left to throw. Before I sign off for this month, there is one last piece of advice I would like for you to heed. Since I started writing this column, a number of darters have asked me the best way to commit these shots to memory. The answer is quite simple: *chalk!* In England, before we can play in a pub, we have to chalk. It sounds like hard work, but you soon learn to count, and believe me, it really can help your game. Instead of standing at the line for five minutes between darts, trying to figure out the finish, your concentration and consistency will be improved by knowing exactly what to do.

