

NDA Team Dart Completes 33rd Edition at New Home in Vegas

Nearly 3,000 players from across the U.S., Canada and Europe participated in this year's NDA Team Dart International tournament at the Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino.

The week-long event was conducted at the hotel's Paradise Event Center. The tournament, sponsored and conducted by the AMOA-National Dart Association (NDA), featured 11 separate electronic soft-tip dart events during more than 115 hours of play.

"Our players, operators and manufacturers could not have asked for a better tournament than we experienced at Westgate this year," said NDA President Trevor Foster. "The program was well-run by both NDA and the facility, the competition was solid and the fun was non-stop. It was a great week of play."

What makes Team Dart special and unique is the range of players: from first-timers and novices to veteran, masters-level competitors. During the past 33 years, the event has served as the premier event in the soft-tip electronic darts marketplace. It was created early on in the evolution of NDA, which was formed by a group of coin-machine operators in 1986. Built on the concept of league play, Team Dart is open to sanctioned players who participate in NDA operator-run league programs.

For the first time in several years, Team Dart play was conducted in a single tournament hall. The Paradise Event Center at Westgate was able to accommodate the action on the 297 dart machines supplied by four manufacturers: **Arachnid 360, Gaelco Darts, Loewen Entertainment** and for the first time, **Phoenix Darts**.

Among the many highlights of the program was the International Challenge, an annual competition between the best players from around the world, who represent their countries during often-intense competition. In the mens' event, USA captured first place, while in womens' play, Team Germany finished on top.

In addition to near-continuous play during the seven-day tournament, NDA also conducted a business meeting for its members.

NDA's Foster provided an update on the association's programs and services and acknowledged the legion of volunteers who make the event such a smooth-running program.

Also during the meeting, a pair of industry executives were installed as the newest members of the NDA Hall of Fame, a prestigious group of now 26 individuals who have made an indelible mark in enhancing NDA and the sport:

- **Judy Mehle** of BMW Billiards, Loveland, CO, who served as NDA President in 2013; and
- **Leslie Murphy**, who served as NDA's Executive Director from 1998-2016.

During the meeting, Foster acknowledged the four dart board manufacturers and the Amusement & Music Operators Association (AMOA). Jim Marsh, president of AMOA, congratulated NDA on its achievements, noting that his father, Al Marsh, was president of AMOA when the NDA was in its infancy.

Finally, Foster announced next year's Team Dart will return to Westgate, with the dates set for April 18-24, 2019 back at the Paradise Event Center.

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The NDA is an international trade association of coin-operated companies representing approximately 255 members and 43,000 players worldwide. The NDA is the sanctioning body for the sport of electronic darting, and it is focused on the standardization, recognition, promotion and growth of competition worldwide.

For more information about membership in the NDA, its annual international Team Dart competition or biennial Dart SMART educational conference, contact Jack Kelleher, Executive Director at 708-326-7110 or visit the NDA website at www.NDAdarts.com