



**IN THE MATTER OF PROCEEDINGS BROUGHT UNDER THE RULES
OF THE DARTS REGULATION AUTHORITY**

BETWEEN:

DARTS REGULATION AUTHORITY

Regulatory Body for Darts

-and-

Billy Warriner and Leighton Bennett

Respondent

**DECISION
OF
THE DRA DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

INTRODUCTION

1. The Disciplinary Committee (the Committee) of the Darts Regulation Authority (DRA) convened for a hearing (the Hearing) on 18 November 2024 to consider a case involving Billy Warriner (Warriner) and Leighton Bennett (Bennett).
2. The case involves allegations of match fixing and other rule breaches by both. Bennett is a Professional Darts Corporation (PDC) Tour card holder and Warriner is a Professional Darts Players Association (PDPA) Associate member. They are therefore subject to DRA rules.
3. The principal allegations relate to the Modus Super Series event played in the week commencing 4 September 2023. In particular, four matches in which Bennett

played, resulted in the DRA being notified of suspicious betting activity. These being:

- Bennett v Mindaugas Barauskas on 6 September 2023 which Bennett lost 4-1;
 - Bennett v Benjamin Drue-Reus on 6 September 2023 which Bennett lost 4-0;
 - Bennett v Ryan Harrington on 8 September 2013 which Bennett lost 4-1; and
 - Bennett v Mindaugas Barauskas on 8 September 2023 which Bennett lost 4-0.
4. On 9 September 2024, the International Betting Integrity Association (IBIA) raised an alert in respect of these matches based on reports by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] This led to a DRA investigation.
 5. Whilst the majority of the suspicious betting took place online, some bets were placed at betting shops in Gainsborough and Retford. Warriner resides in Gainsborough and Bennett lives nearby in Lincoln.
 6. During the course of the subsequent DRA investigation other potential breaches of DRA rules were identified and these were also before the Committee at the Hearing.
 7. The DRA investigation involved a detailed analysis of the bets placed on the relevant matches, as well as of those placing the bets. These details are contained in the 364-page Exhibits Bundle for the case. In brief summary, the analysis indicates a pattern of the bets outside normal betting patterns.
 8. The DRA investigator, Steve Richardson, provided a statement dated 7 August 2024, which stated:

“In total there were 47 Online bets 30 of which were doubles. £3,096 was staked with £15,484.66 won, a profit of £12,579.46 which is a 500% return on the investment. Only one bet lost out of all those. Highly experienced gamblers expect a win to loss rate of around 40% betting on singles and dependent on the odds. The win to loss rate here for the online accounts is 98%. It should also be noted that the betting was highly targeted towards the four matches. If the betting was based on Bennetts poor form a more even spread would be expected across more of the 25 matches he played.”

On the Retail betting terminals 19 bets were placed with a total staked of £1,510. A return of £3,400 and a profit of £1,890.82, notwithstanding the payouts were suspended. A return of 225% on the investment, less than the online bets, but these were all single bets not the higher return doubles.”

9. The investigation identified that Warriner was linked to the majority of those who had placed bets on the relevant matches.
10. The investigation also involved interviews with both players, examination of their mobile phones, and relevant bank records. Transcripts of the interviews and documents relating to the phone and bank records are within the Exhibits Bundle.
11. During the course of the examination of Warriner’s phone, a number of issues were identified, including:
 - A contract between Warriner and Bennett to sponsor Bennett in return for a percentage of his winnings;
 - Evidence of betting on darts by Warriner, including Leighton Bennett matches, using a [REDACTED] account;
 - Evidence that WhatsApp messages between Warriner and four of the bettors had been cleared; and
 - Evidence that Warriner was seeking to act as an agent for another DRA regulated Player.
12. Several Interviews were conducted with both Players in the course of the investigation during which they continued to deny any involvement in match fixing.
13. Bennett’s play was reviewed by Ritchie Gardner, an experienced former professional Darts player, to give an independent assessment of Bennett’s performances. This concluded that Bennett’s level of performance was at times, well below that which he would have expected of him.
14. Additional evidence relating to the examination of both Players’ phones, Warriner’s bank account, and their interviews is contained with the statements of the DRA investigators and included within the DRA Report and Statements Bundle for the case.
15. On 12 August 2024, the DRA informed Bennett that he was being charged with ten breaches of DRA rules. Warriner was informed that he was charged with twenty-

one breaches of the rules. Full details of these charges are attached at Appendix One to this report. Both Players were provisionally suspended from all DRA regulated events at this time.

16. On 3 October 2024, the Committee provided the parties with an Order of Directions in respect of the case. These included a deadline for responses by Warriner and Bennet of 30 October 2024.

17. On 30 October 2024, Alan Warriner Little (AWL) of the PDPA provided an email, based on two WhatsApp messages he had received from Bennett, in which Bennett stated:

"I'm gonna have to go guilty just cause I'm sick of this I'm not guilty just cause it's really annoying me and ruining my head been going on for ages now this has so anything to get it just gone."

"yeah that's fine mate I just want it done if I'm honest with everything going on its too much for my head been doing heading getting me down etc I haven't done anything but just say it mate cause I've had enough with it tbh bud."

18. On 30 October 2024, AWL provided a response from Warriner by email which stated:

"I, Billy Warriner plead guilty for the twenty cases on appendix 1 schedule of charges.

Number 15. I have genuinely never spoke to [REDACTED] on WhatsApp I am not guilty for that case.

Number 14. I did not tell Leighton to not take his phone in to the meeting I had no contact with him before he entered the meeting. But yes I did speak to him on the phone that night.

The other nineteen cases I am guilty for which I severely regret, Now I am in recovery for my severe illness which is my gambling addiction, I am a different person now and looking forward to dealing with and concluding this situation. I felt at the time I had no other option but to do this to try win enough money to cover debts and bills. I can only deeply apologise for the problems I have caused. Spending 1 month in Rehab has been the toughest time of my life but made me

realise and accept I am powerless over gambling and my life had become unmanageable. It has also opened my eyes to the problems I have caused not just to you but also my family and friends.”

19. Following this, on 6 November 2024, Warriner provided a further statement. This included the following:

“I have been charged by the DRA with numerous breaches of the regulations, I have admitted the majority of them including the allegation that I fixed matches in the Modus Super Series with Leighton Bennett. I am making this statement after receiving treatment for my gambling illness and I now realise that telling the truth is the right thing to do. . .

. . . I approached Leighton Bennett and I asked him to match fix a darts match at the Modus series that he was playing in. At the time I felt I didn't have any option . . . I asked Leighton to do it and I messaged a few mates to say can you put this money on these games for me. . . I thought we had got away with it until in January Leighton had his phone taken off him at Q school, then I knew it was a problem.

I know I have made a mistake by being involved in match fixing, I have recently come out of rehab and I have learnt that I have an illness as a compulsive gambler. . . so I contacted Alan Warriner and said I wanted to come out guilty, because my recovery is more important than anything.

In the meetings we had before in Lincoln and when you came to my house I was panicking and thought I can't afford to get a DRA fine because I had all these debts so that why I went not guilty, it was never going to work and rehab made me realise to just come out and be honest, . . .

I first discussed fixing with Leighton on the Wednesday morning when he was at the Modus event, the games were on the Wednesday and Friday. All my debts had come to a head in September, Leighton was at the Modus, he couldn't qualify or get into Group B so I thought he's got nothing to lose its not going to affect him, I called him using snapchat and I said do you mind doing this and I would give him £2,000 cash. I feel really bad for it now because he was seventeen and he's not the cleverest of lads, I'm sure he would say that himself. I feel like I have ruined his career. I feel terrible because I have got a lot of time for Leighton and his mum and dad, they've always been good to me, they are nice people, but my recovery comes first.

Leighton wasn't sure about doing it at first, he said do you reckon I will get caught, I said no, obviously because I needed the money. I think I said do you fancy fixing a couple of matches, eventually he said yes, but he didn't take a lot of persuading I told him he was already out of the competition and couldn't get through anyway and he agreed to do it, then I contacted my mates and got them to put the bets on. There were no threats or coercion, it was only money offered to get him to do it. Leighton and I are friends and I am friends with the family.

To decide which matches I looked at Leighton's previous matches that week and he had lost by the same scoreline when he was trying, so I just got him to do it again. I said lose 4-0, 4-1 or 4-2 on a minus 1.5 handicap. I had no contact with Leighton during the event because they have their phones taken off them during the play. I think I also spoke to Leighton on the Wednesday night and said thanks.

I lost all the money I had won gambling very quickly, Leighton lost 5 out of 5 matches on the Thursday and that was when he was trying his best so on Thursday night I called him again and said you've lost 5 out of 5, you can't go through so have nothing to lose do you fancy doing it again and he said yeah. The agreement was the same a minus one handicap for £1,000 cash. So it was £1,000 each day, a total of £2,000. I paid Leighton because he came to my house and I gave him cash, he came to my father's house, I believe it was the weekend after but I can't remember. I sent him my fathers address on snapchat so that he could come and collect the money. It may have been the weekend straight after Modus or it might have been the weekend after at the Bridlington open, I can't remember.

The bettors are people who I know and I often used to give them tips because I know the players, I told them I had a tip and I was really confident in it, I asked them to put the bets on for me, I did not tell them the matches were fixed. The message that was put to me about a comment where I said 'that will defo flag up' was talking about the betting because an account had been limited. I deleted the chats with the bettors in case the DRA came to me and found proof of me messaging them about the bets, I didn't tell them to delete anything.

I never discussed with Leighton how we would avoid being caught during his matches or how he should play, I remember watching one of the games while I was at work, I said to [REDACTED] who I was with, what an idiot it was so

obvious. One leg he had to lose he scored 180 then 140 and missed 15 at the double, I knew from then he had blown it – it was so obvious. If I had wanted to, I could have said just hit steady 60s all the way down. I should add that [REDACTED] knew about the arrangement I had with Leighton, [REDACTED] knew as well, they both went into the betting shops with me.

I would like to say to the people who are going to decide on this case that I was very ill and I made a massive mistake, my life was a complete mess and I was a compulsive gambler. It is the biggest regret of my life, I understand I will get a ban and a fine which I'm worried about because I haven't got any money. I can only apologise for not admitting it earlier but my head wasn't in the right space. I also apologise for the hurt I have caused to you, my family and the PDC. I would like to help with players not getting involved in this going forward working with the PDPA."

HEARING

20. The Hearing was convened remotely to consider the matter. The following persons were present in addition to the Committee:

- Warriner;
- Nigel Mawer (DRA);
- Louis Weston (Counsel for the DRA);
- Steve Richardson (DRA investigator); and
- AWL (PDPA).

21. The Hearing had been provided with several documents that formed part of the Committee's consideration. These included:

- An Exhibits Bundle (364 pages);
- A Bundle of DRA reports and statements (58 pages);
- A Bundle of correspondence between the DRA and the Players (56 pages);
- An Order of Directions for the case;
- A Bundle of responses to charges made by Warriner and Bennett (12 pages); and
- An Opening Note for the case prepared by Mr Weston.

22. Bennett was expected to be in attendance but was absent. AWL made enquiries of Bennett and it was established that he had mistakenly thought the Hearing was scheduled for later in the day. Further efforts were made by AWL to secure his attendance and the Hearing was delayed giving him the opportunity to

attend. It was established that Bennett had been provided with the correct link to join the Hearing.

23. Despite repeated efforts by AWL and him being given the opportunity to attend, Bennett did not join the Hearing which went ahead in his absence.
24. His email of 30 October 2024 (paragraph 18) was then raised with Warriner who stated that his position remained unchanged. He accepted nineteen of the twenty-one charges but did not accept charges 14 and 15.
25. The DRA stated that it was prepared to accept Warriner's position and did not intend to proceed with charges 14 and 15.
26. The Committee formally noted charges 1 – 13 and 16 – 21 as listed in Appendix One as proven and charges 14 and 15 as not proven.
27. The DRA stated that it considered that Bennett had been duly served papers and given appropriate notice of the Hearing and that his messages of 30 October 2024 (paragraph 17) should be accepted as a plea of guilty to all charges.
28. In view of the ambiguous nature of Bennett's messages of 30 October 2024, the Committee then convened separately to consider the acceptance of his guilty plea. The Committee decided that it was able to accept the plea entered by Bennett, having taken account of the evidence contained in the documents referred to at paragraph 21 and submissions at the Hearing. The Committee took the view that there was nothing in Bennett's previous references of *"I'm not guilty"* and *"I haven't done anything"* that prevented the Committee from accepting a guilty plea by Bennett on the basis of his indication to the Hearing to accept the allegations.
29. Bennett had raised no challenge to the evidence provided by the DRA. The Committee therefore took the position that it did not require any additional evidence to be presented to the Hearing.
30. The Committee formally noted charges 1-10 as listed in Appendix One as proven.
31. The DRA stated that it wished to proceed with the additional charges against Warriner in order to allow him the opportunity to deal with all outstanding

matters. Warriner had previously been made aware of these matters (in a letter dated 28 June 2024 from the DRA).

32. The allegations here were that on 23 June 2024 at Development Tour 15 at Robin Park Tennis Centre, Wigan in his match with Jack Shire, in the fourth leg Warriner began muttering to himself and snatching his darts from the board. The match ended and he became abusive to the official and Jack Shire. He threatened Shire to “*smash his teeth in.*” When the official sought to intervene, Warriner became aggressive towards him, asking “*who the fuck do you think you are?*” on two occasions. Additionally, he threatened Leighton Molyneaux and grabbed him by the face. This amounted to breaches of the following DRA Rules:

No Player or other person bound by these rules shall make or cause to be made any statement or commit or cause to be committed any act which in the reasonable view of the DRA is likely to bring into disrepute the sport of Darts.

Contrary to Section 3.1 of the DRA Rules

A person bound by the DRA Rules shall, at all times (whether at a Darts Event or not), behave in a proper and correct manner consistent with their status as a sportsperson.

Contrary to Section 3.3 DRA Rules

33. These matters were formally put to Warriner who accepted them whilst disputing some facts. In particular, he stated that both Molyneaux and Shire had provoked him during the game. He accepted that he was abusive to all three and had pushed Molyneaux but he said that he had not grabbed his face.
34. The DRA stated that it was willing to accept Warriner’s plea to the additional matters on the basis of the version of events given by him.
35. The Committee therefore formally noted the charges in respect of Sections 3.1 and 3.3 of the DRA Rules were proven. The DRA did not pursue the allegation of failing to mark (also notified on 24 June 2024) and the Committee made no finding on it.

SANCTION SUBMISSIONS

36. The DRA was then able to deal with its position on sanctions, stating that Warriner had accepted that in September 2023 he was suffering from a gambling addiction, and instigated a plan to fix the four matches involving Bennett and using other individuals known to him to place bets.
37. The DRA stated that match fixing should be regarded in the most serious light due to its potential to damage the sport of Darts. The case of Kyle McKinstry was referenced as a guideline for sanction, McKinstry having received 6.5 years for fixing two matches and a consecutive sentence of 1.5 years failing to assist the investigation.
38. The DRA invited the Committee to consider making the sanctions for Warriner consecutive in respect of the match fixing and failing to assist offences, to reflect the seriousness of both categories of offence.
39. The DRA accepted that Warriner should be credited for providing a guilty plea and for the assistance he has provided the investigation since 6 November 2024 including the provision of an additional Statement.
40. His efforts to recognise and seek treatment for his gambling addiction were also recognised by the DRA as reflecting positively on him.
41. The DRA position, however, was that, unlike the McKinstry case, Warriner was the "*author of the plot*" and had effectively corrupted a player who would not otherwise have fixed a match. This case being more serious than the McKinstry case and relating to four matches, these points should be reflected in the sanction. A life ban in those broad circumstances would be appropriate. In a situation where, as here, he had made a clean breast of the case and assisted the process, the starting point in a contested case in those circumstances would be 15 years. Then, by giving him credit for his guilty plea this could be reduced by say a third to ten years globally for the [Appendix One] charges.
42. In view of the costs incurred as the result of the position taken by Warriner for the majority of the investigation, it was submitted that he should also pay half of the costs.
43. The Sections 3.1 and 3.3 offences (paragraph 32) should be dealt with by a suspension, concurrently imposed. In sanctioning, the Committee should look

at proportionality and a totality of ten years was appropriate including these matters.

44. AWL, on behalf of Warriner, emphasised the role of rehabilitation in bringing Warriner to the position he was now at. Sporting Chance had identified him at being at “rock bottom” in respect of his gambling addiction.
45. AWL stated that Warriner presented as an entirely different person on leaving rehabilitation and was determined to resolve his Darts disciplinary issues in order to move on with his life.
46. AWL invited the Committee to consider the case of Wessell Nyman, who had mitigated his sentence for match fixing by engaging in a player education programme.
47. Warriner himself then addressed the Hearing, stating that he had been addicted to gambling for five or six years. His father had paid for him to attend counselling which had not been a success. By September 2023, his debts and desperation were such that he saw match fixing as the only way he could make money.
48. Following his charges in August 2024, he had contacted AWL and then Sporting Chance in a moment of desperation. He believed that his 26 days in rehabilitation had changed his life, and he had now gone 55 days without making a bet.
49. Warriner stated that he wished to apologise to the PDC, DRA, and his family for his behaviour and accepted that he would be suspended from the sport.
50. Responding to AWL, Mr Weston stated that Nyman had been involved in fixing one match, McKinstry two. Here, Warriner had corrupted a player to make money for himself. Despite his chaotic lifestyle due to his gambling, he had still managed to organise a relatively complex match fixing scheme.
51. As regards Bennett, AWL stated that he had now received a message from Bennett which stated:

“yeah Al just go guilty then mate like I say it’s been an absolute head scambler for months now so be happy to get it over and done with.”

52. As to Bennett's sanction, the DRA's position was that he was not the prime mover in the scheme but that he nevertheless engaged in a plan to fix four matches knowing there would be betting on them. He had then lied about his involvement and failed to co-operate with the subsequent investigation by concealing his phone.
53. The DRA stated that any credit for his guilty plea should be limited because of the lateness of it and Bennett's failure to co-operate with the investigation. The Committee was invited to consider a suspension of between eight and 10 years as an appropriate sanction again taking into account proportionality and totality.
54. AWL stated that he had no specific instruction on behalf of Bennett and that he had faced challenges in engaging with him on this matter.
55. On the other hand, AWL stated that at the time of the offence Bennett was only 17 years of age and dealing with several issues. These included two separate DRA referrals and a dispute with his management. AWL believed that Bennett had become overwhelmed by the situation in which he had found himself.
56. The Committee stated that it wished to give Bennett a final opportunity to provide any written mitigation. He was therefore given until noon on 20 November to provide any such representation.

POST HEARING

57. On 19 November 2024, the DRA received an email from AWL containing a representation from Bennett. This stated:

"Firstly, apologies for the issue of not attending this hearing yesterday morning. Secondly, thank you for this last opportunity to give my view on this which I hope you take into consideration.

I will try and be brief, honest and precise. I was coerced into this by my so called manager at the time (BW) I am not that strong willed and went along with it as it seemed easier to do it that way. I obviously now regret those actions.

I was going through a very traumatic part of my career and life, I had two referrals to deal with, a major management issue and other problems. This doesn't excuse what I did even though I was coerced into it.

I have been informed that my guilty plea has now been accepted so I also hope this is taken into consideration when a sanction is being imposed. I have lost my job also from Monday so have no income at all coming in now either so really bad times at moment.

I will do anything in terms of education for other players to stop them going down the same route with the PDPA.

I hope this stupid decision doesn't end my career."

58. The DRA chose not to provide further submissions after this but on 19 November 2024, the DRA provided a schedule of costs, requesting that each Player should pay £8,100.23, excluding additional panel costs.

SANCTION CONSIDERATION

59. Having considered the evidence presented to the Hearing, it falls to the Committee to consider an appropriate sanction in respect of both Warriner and Bennett.

60. In determining this sanction, the Committee is cognisant of the need to protect the integrity, image, and reputation of the sport of Darts. To achieve this, it is considered that a sanction is required that:

- provides an appropriate level of punishment;
- deters others from engaging in such conduct;
- demonstrates an intolerance of such behaviour by its investigation, discovery, and sanction; and
- is proportionate to the seriousness of the breach and its circumstances.

61. At the outset, it is the Committee's clear position that offences involving match fixing can have no place in the sport of darts. It is a corrosive practice that undermines the integrity of the sport. It is unfair on players, spectators, and sponsors. Where it is identified, the Committee has a duty to impose sanctions that reflect the seriousness of the offence, as well as punishing offenders and deterring future offences. Put simply, there can be no place in the sport for such behaviour.

62. In respect of Warriner, he is by his own admission, the instigator of these offences. He approached Bennett to arrange the match fixing and then used friends to place the bets with a view to making money for himself.

63. It is fair to acknowledge his guilty plea, as well as the efforts he has made, and continues to make, to rehabilitate himself from his gambling addiction. He presented himself well at the Hearing and his efforts to address his personal problems are noted by the Committee.
64. He is also to be credited for his statement of 6 November 2024, in which he made a full admission and explained his actions.
65. His credit for his guilty plea is however limited by the fact that, for a lengthy period, he continued to deny these offences and be obstructive to the investigation. This both prolonged the investigation and incurred significant and unnecessary costs.
66. The Committee takes the view that Players have a duty to assist with DRA investigations in line with DRA rules. Where they fail to do so, it is important that this is highlighted and appropriate sanctions imposed to both punish and deter such conduct. Again, Warriner's eventual assistance is noted and he is given credit for this.
67. In respect of charges 20 and 21, there are good reasons for the regulation of managers and agents in the sport of darts. This case represents one such reason. It is important for the protection of Players and the sport that there is a basic level of scrutiny in respect of those who are able to exercise control and influence over Players.
68. The Committee takes the view that the most aggravating factor in Warriner's case is the fact that he instigated the plan and corrupted a young Player to take part in his scheme.
69. The Committee is not persuaded, on the evidence available to it, that Warriner coerced Bennett to fix the matches. However, it does appear that he used his influence over Bennett to engage him in the match fixing. The fact that he subsequently signed a contract to act as Bennett's agent, suggests such an influence was likely to exist at the time of the match fixing.
70. As the older and more experienced man, Warriner must bear responsibility, and accept the consequences, for his role in engaging Bennett in his scheme.
71. In respect of Bennett, the Committee accepts his guilty plea to the charges. Credit for doing so, however, is limited by the fact that he was reluctant to engage in the process, including failing to attend the Hearing. Additionally, he sought to mislead the investigation on several occasions over a prolonged period.

72. The Committee also acknowledges his message of 19 November and his expressions of regret at his actions. It is itself regrettable that such a statement did not come earlier in the process.
73. It is the view of the Committee, however, that Bennett engaged willingly in the match fixing scheme proposed by Warriner. He did so over four matches held on two separate days. The Committee is persuaded, on the evidence available to it, that he received £2,000 from Warriner for doing so. He then continued to lie about his involvement.
74. As stated, the Committee is not persuaded that Bennett was “coerced” but does accept that he was the “junior partner” in the scheme but that he was involved because of Warriner’s influence.
75. In respect of both Players, the issue has been raised of the possibility of them being involved in some form of player education in respect of match fixing. This has been implemented before in cases where Players made a full and frank confession at an early stage and then co-operated fully with the DRA investigation. That does not apply currently to either Warriner or Bennett in this case.
76. The idea is not without merit and the Committee would encourage either Player to assist the PDPA on a voluntary basis. However, in the circumstances of this case, the Committee does not consider it appropriate to link such engagement to the sanctions imposed.

DECISION

77. For the reasons set out above, Warriner is sanctioned as follows;

77.1 For charges 1 – 12 relating to the four fixed matches involving Bennett at the Modus Super Series and the betting related to them, Warriner is suspended for a period of eight years;

77.2 For charges 16 – 19 relating to his failure to co-operate with the DRA investigation, Warriner is suspended for a period of two years. This suspension will be consecutive to his other sanction;

77.3 For charge 13 relating to betting on darts events prior to 25 June 2024, Warriner is suspended for a period of six months. This suspension will be concurrent with his other sanctions;

77.4 For charges 20 – 21 related to signing a contract with Players whilst not registered with the DRA as an agent, Warriner is suspended for a period of one year. This suspension will be concurrent with his other sanctions;

77.5 For the breaches of sections 3.1 and 3.3 of the DRA Rules set out at paragraph 32, Warriner is suspended for a period of six months. This suspension will be concurrent with his other sanctions.

78. Additionally, Warriner is ordered to pay costs of £8,100.23.

79. Warriner's suspension is to start from 28 June 2024, the date of his first (unappealed) provisional suspension by the DRA, relating to the breaches set out in paragraph 77.5.

80. For the reasons set out above, Bennett is sanctioned as follows:

80.1 For charges 1 – 8 relating to the four fixed matches at the Modus Super Series, Bennett is suspended for a period of seven and a half years;

80.2 For charge 9 relating to his failure to co-operate with the DRA investigation, Bennett is suspended for a period of six months. This suspension will be consecutive to his other sanction; and

80.3 For charge 10 related to signing a contract with an unregistered agent, Bennett is suspended for a period of six months. This suspension will be concurrent with his other sanctions.

81. Additionally, Bennett is ordered to pay costs of £8,100.23.

82. Bennett's suspension is to start from 12 August 2024, the date of his provisional suspension by the DRA which had continued despite an Appeal, until the Hearing.

SUMMARY

83. For proven breaches of DRA rules relating to twelve allegations in connection with the fixing of the results of four matches, four related to failing to assist an investigation, two for acting as an unregistered agent and one of betting on darts matches, together with two related to behaviour at darts events. Warriner is suspended from playing in or being involved in any way in any DRA regulated events for a total period of 10 years and ordered to pay £8,100.23 costs, such suspension to end at 23:59 on 27 June 2034.

84. For proven breaches of DRA rules relating to eight allegations in connection with the fixing of the results of four matches, one related to failing to assist an investigation, and one for signing a contract with an unregistered agent, Bennett is suspended from playing in or being involved in any way in any DRA regulated events for a total period of eight years and ordered to pay £8,100.23 costs, such suspension to end at 23:59 on 11 August 2032.

85. The costs figures set out in Paragraphs 83 and 84 are payable by 31 December 2024 or such other date as the DRA may, in its discretion find acceptable.

Tim Ollerenshaw, Chair

Dave Jones

29 November 2024

APPENDIX ONE

Leighton Bennett Schedule of Charges

1. On or before 6 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you fixed the result of your match against Mindaugas Barauskas played on 6 September 2023 in breach of DRA Rule 2.1.2.

And/or

2. On or before 6 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you provided information to be used for betting purposes to Billy Warriner and that information included the fact that you would contrive the score and/or outcome of the Match played between yourself and Mindaugas Barauskas played on 6 September 2023, in breach of DRA rule 2.1.3.

3. On or before 6 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you fixed the result of your match against Benjamin Drue-Reus played on 6 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.2.

And/or

4. On or before 6 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you provided information to be used for betting purposes to Billy Warriner and that information included the fact that you would contrive the score and/or outcome of the Match played between yourself and Benjamin Drue-Reus played on 6 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.3.

5. On or before 8 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you fixed the result of your match against Ryan Harrington played on 8 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.2.

And/or

6. On or before 8 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you provided information to be used for betting purposes to Billy Warriner and that information included the fact that you would contrive the score and/or outcome of the Match played between yourself and Ryan Harrington played on 8 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.3.

7. On or before 8 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you fixed the result of your match against Mindaugas Barauskas played on 8 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.2.

And/or

8. On or before 8 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you provided information to be used for betting purposes to Billy Warriner and that information included the fact that you would contrive the score and/or outcome of the Match played between yourself and Mindaugas Barauskas played on 8 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.3.
9. On 25 June 2024 you failed to cooperate with a DRA investigation by deliberately concealing your mobile phone in breach of DRA rule 4.5.
10. On or before 3 April 2024 you signed a contract with Billy Warriner for him to act as your agent when he is not registered with the DRA as an agent, in breach of DRA rule 4.1.

The DRA and Billy Warriner Schedule of Charges

1. On or before 6 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you fixed or contrived or were a party to an effort to fix or contrive the result or score of the match between Leighton Bennett and Mindaugas Barauskas played on 6 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.2.

And/or

2. On or before 6 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you used information for betting purposes that Leighton Bennett provided to you including the fact that he would contrive the score and/or outcome of the Match played between him and Mindaugas Barauskas played on 6 September 2023, in breach of DRA rule 2.1.3.
3. On or before 6 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you fixed or contrived or were a party to an effort to fix or contrive the result or score of the match between Leighton Bennett and Benjamin Drue-Reus played on 6 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.2.

And /or

4. On or before 6 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you used information for betting purposes that Leighton Bennett provided to you including the fact that he would contrive the score and/or outcome of the Match played between him and Benjamin Drue-Reus played on 6 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.3 (1).
5. On or before 8 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you fixed or contrived or were a party to an effort to fix or contrive the result or score of the match between Leighton

Bennett and Ryan Harrington played on 8 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.2. (1)
And /or

6. On or before 8 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you used information for betting purposes that Leighton Bennett provided to you including the fact that he would contrive the score and/or outcome of the Match played between him and Ryan Harrington played on 8 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.3.

7. On or before 8 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you fixed or contrived or were a party to an effort to fix or contrive the result or score of the match between Leighton Bennett and Mindaugas Barauskas played on 8 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.2.

And/or

8. On or before 8 September 2023 at the Modus Super Series you used information for betting purposes that Leighton Bennett provided to you including the fact that he would contrive the score and/or outcome of the Match played between him and Mindaugas Barauskas played on 8 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.3.

9. On or before 6 September 2023 you placed bets or solicited, induced, enticed, instructed, encouraged, or facilitated other persons to place bets for your benefit on the outcome of the Modus Super series match between Leighton Bennett and Mindaugas Barauskas played on 6 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.1.

10. On or before 6 September 2023 you placed bets or solicited, induced, enticed, instructed, encouraged or facilitated other persons to place bets for your benefit on the outcome of the Modus Super series match between Leighton Bennett and Benjamin Drue-Reus played on 6 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.1.

11. On or before 8 September 2023 you placed bets or solicited, induced, enticed, instructed, encouraged or facilitated other persons to place bets for your benefit on the outcome of the Modus Super series match between Leighton Bennett and Ryan Harrington played on 8 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.1.

12. On or before 8 September 2023 you placed bets or solicited, induced, enticed, instructed, encouraged or facilitated other persons to place bets for your benefit on the outcome of the Modus Super series match between Leighton Bennett and Mindaugas Barauskas played on 8 September 2023 in breach of DRA rule 2.1.1.

13. On or before 25th June 2024 you have been regularly betting on Darts in breach of DRA Rule 2.1.1.

14. On or before 25 June 2024 you failed to cooperate with a DRA investigation by seeking to actively disrupt it by warning Leighton Bennett not to take his phone into an interview with the DRA to prevent it being examined, after the interview you had a call with 5 Leighton Bennett in breach of an instruction you had been given, in breach of DRA rule 4.5.
15. On or before 29 April 2024 you failed to cooperate with a DRA investigation by deleting WhatsApp messages with [REDACTED] from your phone thereby preventing investigators from examining them in breach of DRA rule 4.5.
16. On or before 29 April 2024 you failed to cooperate with a DRA investigation by deleting WhatsApp messages with [REDACTED] from your phone thereby preventing investigators from examining them in breach of DRA rule 4.5.
17. On or before 29 April 2024 you failed to cooperate with a DRA investigation by deleting WhatsApp messages with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] from your phone thereby preventing investigators from examining them in breach of DRA rule 4.5.
18. On 29 May 2024 you failed to cooperate with the DRA investigation by seeking to actively disrupt it by telling [REDACTED] not to respond to a DRA request for information about his betting activity in breach of DRA rule 4.5
19. On 29 May 2024 you failed to cooperate with the DRA investigation by seeking to actively disrupt it by telling [REDACTED] not to respond to a DRA request for information about his betting activity in breach of DRA rule 4.5
20. On or before 25 June 2024 you acted as an agent to PDC player Leighton Bennett while not registered with the DRA thereby creating an actual or apparent conflict of interest and or bringing the sport of darts into disrepute in breach of DRA rule 2.1.4.
21. On or before 25 June 2024 you acted as an agent to PDC player Reece Robinson while not registered with the DRA thereby creating an actual or apparent conflict of interest and or bringing the sport of darts into disrepute in breach of DRA rule 2.1.4