



## LEAGUE PLAY-POOL and DARTS

### General Information:

Welcome to J&S Electronics Junior leagues! We have a great year planned for our young players. We have several mini tournament events throughout the season. On the pool side, we have singles playoffs for spots at Nationals, a Junior Adult doubles event so the parents can shoot with the kids, and other surprises in store. On the dart side, we will have fundraisers and we're still working on the overall plan as this league is still very new. We also have a couple major fundraising events for both sides, and truly hope you as parents become involved in them. We have been fortunate to have been able to afford to send the teams to Nationals as well as cover their attire for them the past three years in Erie PA and Nebraska, so we are going to need your support for these fundraisers as much as possible. Dart Players national event is in Waterloo IA this year. So let's talk about what to expect from our leagues and what your League managers expect from you and your junior players.

Valley/BCA/NAPA junior pool leagues and NDA junior dart leagues are set up as "Training" leagues. We show them fundamentals of stance, mechanics, and strategy play(at their skill level), as well as teach them the Rules of play for whichever program they are working. We impress upon them table/venue etiquette, sportsmanship issues and maintain focus during matches. We are setting them up to effectively transition into Adult leagues when the time comes. We are also training them to understand the competition process for league events and tournaments, including information on stamina, focus and emotional control.

The juniors will have a pre-determined play schedule. Dart leagues play one match per league week. In the event of a "bye" situation, they will not need to attend that day unless they want to work on specific skills. Pool leagues will have a skills drills session and play one scheduled singles or 1 team matches. In the event of a "bye" situation, we will have training drills to give them 2 days of play per league day. We do our best to schedule around certain major events, and we understand illness and emergencies. All games will need to be made up by the end of each particular module, otherwise they may not meet requirements for events. **Two consecutive weeks of no shows/no calls will be cause for removal from the current module.**

All players/family members will have access to J&S League System Rules, as well as specific format rules for each league. (VNEA or Valley, BCA, NAPA, NDA or darts). We will be working with the young players to understand these rules, so they may better play their games, and be able to spot rules infractions from opponents that will give them the advantage. The training drills may be in the form of competitive games, or specific skills evaluations and review.

We will be utilizing Compusport for the 8 ball and Team modules for the Minor (12-15) and Major (16-20) Pool league. Players will need to have the app on their phones and we will help them use it if needed. This is used at state and international level tournaments, so we want our players to become familiar with them. We want them to have the best advantage to make the events less stressful. We will still have paper score sheets available for the younger group so they learn/understand the scoring process. 8 Ball and Teams are required to attend the national event. Should a team/singles player from the youngest division want to attend the state or national event, they will be taught how to use the Compusport App.

We will be utilizing League Leader for the Dart league and will show the juniors how to set up match play and specific games for learning on the boards. Juniors and/or parents should have Compusport downloaded on their phone if they are attending the State or National event.

While we will use phones for scoring pool matches, we will not tolerate abuse of the device during scheduled match play on either side. Taking "seflies", texting, facetime, snapchatting, tik tok, blogging, posting, facebook live, and all other social media is a distraction from the game/learning environment and will be considered disruptive. Player(s) will be asked once to correct their behavior. If there is a second offense on the same day, they will be asked to put away their equipment and leave the league facility without further disruption. Games played and remaining games will not be counted towards their event requirements. Please make sure your junior players understand this need to focus on their league play for the short time we have each week.

A major goal of Junior Leagues is to prepare our young players for league sanctioned events. In order to do so we will have the players keep score, fill out payment envelopes or pay at the board and track their progress. Performing drills will assist in practice during leagues. We encourage parents to attend practice, but insist they remain in the designated seating areas and refrain from interfering with practice and game play. The players are learning to make decisions and to become independent in their skill mastery. The act of players making errors in both judgment and mechanics better enables us to hone in on areas where more focus and training is needed. We love our parents to be involved and may ask from time to time to step in as we're working on skills assessments.

We will require the juniors to set up their own team members. We will help place, but ultimately they will be forming their own teams. They will need to let us know by the Junior/Adult Doubles if they plan on attending either State or Nationals.

We have introduced the beginner workshop day. This will be geared toward players new to our league or who have not played prior to coming in. We encourage this for the young players (7-11) and any older player who is new to the game. This is not required for previously experienced players, although all are welcome.

We will have one makeup day at the end of the season where you may play up to two (2) matches to help if you were unable to attend league because of school sports obligations, or illness/emergencies. We will not allow all matches to be played in one day to qualify players. It is unfair to the others who have put in their time. Failing to make it to league because they play in a money tournament is not excused. If you know ahead of time you will be playing in a different event, you need to make arrangements to make up your games during the modules. We try to schedule around known major events (Valley/BCA state and Nationals) and some local league major events because we know the adults play in them. We do not schedule around JIC/BEF events. The juniors need to understand league commitment. We play every other week as a courtesy to other leagues in the area so the kids don't have to choose.

### **Ground Rules:**

**Respect** - Always. To other juniors, parents and training staff. We will not tolerate bullying or making fun of others. This also applies to playing someone of a lesser skill. It will happen. You need to remember they are probably nervous about playing you. Work to help them rather than discourage them from wanting to continue to play. WE ARE ALL A TEAM.

**Sportsmanship** - Whether you win or learn, you will acknowledge the other player respectfully. No slamming balls/racks/cues on the tables, hitting the dart boards, throwing equipment or making inappropriate remarks. Win and lose with **dignity**.

**Location Care** - No food or drinks inside the playing area or on the pool tables. Keep them on the team tables. When you're done with your match, remove your trash for the next player. Treat equipment with care. No slamming balls/racks/cues on the tables. Help us keep this a great facility for you!

**Etiquette** - Do not move in front of another table while a match is in progress. Use the outside lanes to get around the floor. Remove yourself from the line of sight while your opponent is shooting. If you are not at the table, you are to be standing or seated off to the side so as not to distract. Pay attention to your opponent so they don't have to constantly get your attention if they need to ask you something. This will also help you spot fouls to your advantage. No running in the building. No vulgar language.

**Training** - Be coachable. We will give you advice, show you correctly how to do shots and remind you of the other ground rules. Don't be rude or ignore the instructors. Stay in your assigned play area so as not to distract other players. If you do not want to learn, you may want to rethink if you truly want to play.

**Pictures/Videos** - We love to see our kids play. We have no issue with you taking pictures (as long as it does not disrupt or otherwise distract the players.) Be mindful of who you may capture in the background before posting any of your pictures

online. We suggest you speak to the other parent/guardian before doing so.

**Attire** - all attire must be appropriate. Shorts/skirts must be of an appropriate length (mid thigh) and jeans should be presentable. Leggings must be solid, not sheer. Shirts may not be cut off (whether arms or belly) and may not have inappropriate images/language. Low cut shirts will not be acceptable. League shirts are required for the junior pool side. There are many to choose from over the last 2 years of events. New league members must adhere to these policies until we are able to get them their league shirts. **There will not be "sponsor" attire** (shirts/hats/etc) worn on either side that are not J&S Electronics. No vulgar images/wording on hats.

**Self-Respect/Character** - Always conduct yourself as the young ladies and gentleman you are. Manners maketh the man (or woman). We want the players to have fun. Good natured ribbing and general joking make the day go faster. If you treat others as you want to be treated, the juniors will have a great year. If you treat others as you want to be treated and they treat you badly, it is a reflection of their character. Respect yourself enough to have good character and actions regardless of how others act.

## **DISCIPLINARY SITUATIONS**

### **Incidents:**

We understand there may be instances where there is friction or conflict between players/families. If there is an incident, staff will treat all parties with respect. We understand emotions can get in the way and will do our best to work through the situation with everyone.

### **ZERO TOLERANCE - PHYSICAL**

No player or family member may strike, attempt to strike, or otherwise assault with intent to physically harm, coerce or intimidate another person (staff, player, parent) regardless the situation.

Should this happen, the player and family will be immediately removed from the program. Depending on the severity of the situation, it may be for the remainder of the league year, or permanent removal. If a player/family is removed from the league, they will not be eligible to attend any VNEA/BCA/IAMOA/OCMA/NAPA/NDA sanctioned functions, including J&S Electronics functions, regional or international events. The money they have paid for league fees/events will remain property of the league and distributed as such to the remaining players/events. Both parties may be subject to this rule, and every effort will be made to review and follow up for the most fair resolution.

### **ZERO TOLERANCE - VERBAL ISSUES**

No player or family member may speak to or about staff, another player or family member with intent to threaten physical harm, coerce or intimidate another person (staff, player, parent) regardless the situation.

Should this happen, the player and family will be immediately removed from the program. Depending on the severity of the situation, it may be for the remainder of the league year, or permanent removal. If a player/family is removed from the league, they will not be eligible to attend any VNEA/BCA/IAMOA/OCMA/NAPA/NDA sanctioned functions, including J&S Electronics functions, regional or international events. The money they have paid for league fees/events will remain property of the league and distributed as such to the remaining players/events.

### **PERSONAL CONFLICT**

We understand there will be personality conflicts, and everyone has an off day. What we seek is a way to eliminate stressful situations for the junior players. Arguments, disrespectful comments and purposeful goading causes disruption for the juniors and will not be tolerated.

-If players/family have non-league related issues with the staff and vice versa, it will not be brought into the program.

-If two or more parents/guardians have a personal conflict outside the program, it will not be brought into the program.

-If two or more junior players have a personal conflict outside the program, it will not be brought into the program.

-Parents/guardians need to instruct their own juniors behavior and guide them through these situations. **In no instance should a player's adult family member strike, yell at, or otherwise try to intimidate, shame or coerce another junior player, adult family member/guardian or staff member.** This will fall under a **Zero Tolerance Policy** and the family/families may be removed from the program.

Should there be an instance where there is a conflict on the playing floor which causes disruption, it will be handled as follows:

1st incident - The player(s) will be asked to put away their equipment and leave the league facility without further disruption. Games played and remaining games will not be counted towards their event requirements. Depending on the severity, they may return the next scheduled league day. Continued disruption while exiting may be cause for complete removal from the program.

2nd incident - The player(s) will be asked to put away their equipment and leave the league facility without further disruption. Depending on the severity, they may be removed from the remainder of the current module. Continued disruption while exiting may be cause for complete removal from the program.

3rd incident - The player(s) will be asked to put away their equipment and leave the league facility without further disruption. Games played and remaining games will not be counted towards their event requirements. At this point, they will be removed from the program for the remainder of the season. They will not be eligible to attend any VNEA/BCA/IAMOA/OCMA/NAPA/NDA sanctioned functions, including J&S Electronics functions, regional or international events. The money they have paid for league fees/events will remain property of the league and distributed as such to the remaining players/events.

We will watch for instances where one party purposely/continuously tries to create a situation or reaction from another player.

### **Summary:**

We look forward to working with you this season. We are always updating OUR skills, equipment and training to help you have a better experience. We go through professional training that is focused on the best way to teach the juniors about league life. We study sports psychology to best understand your junior player and their needs so we can keep them motivated and not frustrated. We attend league/charter training seminars to best move forward within our league system and provide streamlined, consistent programs. We are a constant work in progress and always on the path of Continual Improvement. We have watched our junior leagues grow on both sides and want it to be fun, challenging and competitive for all players, in a clean, safe environment for the young players. We do have 2 major fundraisers (candy bar sales and a local tournament) that we expect families to help with. We are only two people, and much as we love "doing" for our players, we are unable to take on all the tasks of helping raise funds for YOUR player. All players in the dart leagues and 8 ball module pool leagues will be involved in the candy bar sales, and parents will be asked to volunteer to help with the tournaments, whether by selling raffle tickets, providing items for the bake sale, or helping procure raffle items from outside sources. We are always working to come up with other fundraising ideas that involve the community to help offset costs for the leagues. We appreciate your program support, and we want the local area businesses/people to help support the program as well.

If you have any questions, ALWAYS feel free to contact us! Good luck and have fun! Thank you for choosing J&S Electronics!

Jackie Mason  
PBIA/VNEA Certified Trainer  
VNEA Certified Referee

Sandi Brandt  
NDA Certified Referee