

Hotel Wifi & Tournament DartConnect

DartConnect is designed to run offline. When DC is online, it is sending very small amounts of data up to our servers. However tournaments are different beast: Each device is attempting to:

- Update and share a common tournament player roster
- Broadcast it's matches on DCTV
- Contribute match data to the player leaderboard

Device WIFI Indicator

Participants will often claim their device is showing they are on the internet but can't connect to DartConnect to log in, see the tournament listing or access the tournament player list. They point to the WIFI radio button indicator at the top of the screen to prove they are connected internet. This is MISLEADING: The radio indicator means you are connected to the WIFI only. It does not mean the router is letting on to the internet.

TEST: Open a browser and go to www.bing.com. This will bring you to the Internet or to the hotel wifi log in page.

NOTE: DC has an Internet indicator built into it. It is the Red/Yellow/Green bar above the Enter/Miss key. If it is RED, you are not reaching the DC serve.

WIFI Device capacity

How many devices can be on the WIFI at one time? "100" might seem like a lot, until you count attendees with tablets, various PC's and then EVERYONE'S cell phone. "WIFI Slots" can disappear quickly.

Password Requirements

At first glance, not having a password requirement might seem like a good idea. Then re-read above. Ideally there is a separate network for the tournament admins and vendors along with a public one. If there is a single network, with a password requirement, we should allow NOT give out the password but log in tablets only – NOT cell phones. This preserves the WIFI slots for tournament use.

24-Hour Limit

This is the norm for hotel meeting spaces. It is a pain if you have a dozen devices; it is a major pain with 30-50. Here is the REAL problem: We have been unable to figure out how to "reset" this clock first thing in the morning. Whatever

“cookie” or identifier they log with the device, you cannot end the clock early and start over –it must go the full 24 hours, often kicking devices off mid day. If we could, we would do this every morning. WORSE: Some wifis have a “grace period” after the timer ends, preventing you fro just logging right back in. Sometimes it takes 15 mins, to identify the network, other times it has been over an hour. If in the meantime, cell phones have taken the remaining device ID’s, we may not be able to get back in.

Bottom Line: We are competing for "wifi-slots" with everyone in the hotel. No one with a cell plan should be on the wifi when we are trying to get tablets on.

3 Solutions that Work:

- 1 Provide the tournament with a password-protected access, separate from the public, unprotected wifi. We log in any of our devices along with players who provide their tablets, but we do NOT share the log in with anyone, so they cannot use with their cell phones etc.
- 2 A separate network or passcode on the same network is provided that allows any associated device to have 72 hour access, not 24 hours.
- 3 We provide the service provider with a list of Device MAC addresses (also known as WIFI addresses) that are keyed into the network and are granted exceptional treatment as described above.

