



Competition Rules 2015

1. APPLICATION

- 1.1 These Rules apply to all competitions held under the auspices of the English Pétanque Association (EPA). Where the term “national” is used in these rules it applies to England.

2. GENERAL

- 2.1 The number, dates, rules and venues of the events will be determined by the EPA Management Committee and published in advance.
- 2.2 The EPA Management Committee will be responsible for the organisation of the competitions and will appoint an Organiser for each event.
- 2.3 The Chair of the Umpires Commission will appoint a qualified Umpire for each event.
- 2.4 The Organiser of each event will be the representative of the EPA Management Committee and may, in the event of any dispute not covered by the rules, after consultation with the Umpire, appoint a Jury of at least three EPA members. The decision of such a Jury will be final in the event of a dispute.
- 2.5 Regulations for play shall be the "Official International Rules of the Game of Pétanque" and any variations set out in these "Competition Rules".
- 2.6 The Inter-Regional Championship and Challenge Tournament, the Club Team Tournament and Champion of Champions (Doubles, Triples, Shooting and Over 50's) will be conducted under the published rules issued specifically for each event.
- 2.7 Any event may be cancelled at the discretion of the EPA Management Committee.
- 2.8 Events held at venues that are commercial, such as public houses and sports clubs, may only allow food and drink purchased at the venue to be consumed. All players are to respect this and comply with venue regulations or may be subject to an immediate disqualification from the event.

3. ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 EPA members holding a valid licence, or a temporary EPA Licence (valid for one month from the date of the issuing email), are eligible to compete subject to the additional eligibility conditions.
- 3.2 The EPA Licence must not be defaced in any way and must include a recent photograph of the holder. A temporary EPA Licence will only be accepted when accompanied with a photo ID of the holder.
- 3.3 Players entering the Men's National Triples Championship must be male and adult licence holders.
- 3.4 Players entering the Women's National Triples Championship must be female and adult licence holders.
- 3.5 Players entering the Men's National Singles Championship must be male and adult licence holders.
- 3.6 Players entering the Women's National Singles Championship must be female and adult licence holders.
- 3.7 Players entering the Over 50's Doubles Championship must be aged 50 years or over at the time of the event.
- 3.8 All teams in the Men's and Women's Triples are to consist of the same registered 4 players in at least one of the qualifying rounds, and if successful the top 8 event.

- 3.9 A Triples team may change no more than one player in a game and then only between ends after notifying the Umpire. No additional player to a team will be allowed after registration has closed.
- 3.10 Players competing to represent the EPA in international events must be eligible to represent England, be able to travel, have a valid passport, and be available to play. Players may be required to produce evidence of eligibility, nationality and age to the EPA at any time.
4. ENTRIES
- 4.1 National competitions can only be entered in advance.
- 4.2 Entry forms must be completed with the team's contact details and all team players names and licence numbers must be included.
- 4.3 Entry forms and cheques, payable to the English Petanque Association, for the correct entry fee are to be sent to the address published on the entry form to arrive by the published closing date. No allowance will be made for delays in the postal service.
- 4.4 At all competitions, teams will be given a number by which they will be known throughout the competition or series.
- 4.5 The EPA retains the right to refuse entry into any of its competitions.
5. REGISTRATION and DRAW
- 5.1 Registration will open by 8.45 am and close promptly at 9.15 am.
- 5.2 All players will register, as a team, at the control desk by handing in their licence. Only players who have properly registered in this way by the close of registration will be permitted to take part in the competition.
- 5.3 Any player failing to produce a valid (see art. 3 Eligibility) licence will be fined £20 and may be refused entry to the event.
- 5.4 The draw will take place in the presence of the Umpire.
- 5.5 Play will commence as soon as possible after the completion of the draw and announcements.
6. FINANCIAL
- 6.1 Entry for each event is £10 per player.
7. COMPETITION ORGANISATION
- 7.1 The Organiser of the day, after consultation with the Umpire, has the right, subject to the number of entries, to alter the format of play, which may include timed games.
- 7.2 A lunch break may be held at the discretion of the Umpire and Organiser. In this case the Umpire will blow a whistle to start the break, which will be for approximately 30 minutes. The end in progress must be completed, with no players allowed on the terrain during this break. The Umpire blowing a whistle will indicate re-start of play.
- 7.3 The National Singles (Men's & Women's), Doubles, Mixed Doubles and Over 50's Doubles format will be, subject to the number of entries, League and Knock Out and may include a Plate competition.
- 7.4 The Men's and Women's National Triples championships will consist of 2 Qualifiers and a top 8 for each. The format for the 2 qualifiers in each category (subject to the number of entries) will be the Swiss System, the results combined to decide the top 8 who will then play on a 3rd day.
- 7.5 The format for the Top 8 (Men's and Women's) National Triples Championships will be a seeded Rolling Barrage (Poules). The final ranking and Champions will be decided by the results of the barrage rounds without play-off.
- 7.6 The Home Nations Championship Qualifier format will be a 5 round Swiss system to find the top 8 teams.

8 REPRESENTATION

- 8.1 The 1st placed team from the Men's National Triples Championship Top 8 may be invited to represent the EPA at the 2016 CEP Men's World Championships.
- 8.2 The 1st placed team from the Women's National Triples Championship Top 8 may be invited to represent the EPA at the 2016 CEP Women's European Championships.
- 8.3 The 2nd and 3rd placed teams from the Men's and Women's National Triples Championships may each be invited to represent the EPA at different nominated events in Europe. The EPA MC will make arrangements for the teams' entries and will provide a grant of £250 towards each team's costs.
- 8.4 The 1st placed players from the Men's and Women's National Singles Championships may be invited to represent the EPA at International Singles Championships organised by the CEP or FIPJP.
- 8.5 The top 8 placed teams from the Home Nations Qualifier may be invited to represent the EPA at the 2015 Home Nations Championship.

9. STANDARDS

- 9.1 In all competitions teams, will be required to wear clean and smart matching tops. A "top" may be a shirt, polo shirt, T-shirt, fleece, jacket, blouson, jumper or any similar garment. "Matching" is defined as of the same colour and design.

To further clarify this rule, it is not necessary, for example, for a polo shirt to be the same colour as a jumper: polo shirts within the team must match and jumpers (if worn) must also match but not necessarily with the polo shirts.

- 9.2 In the event of inclement weather, waterproof tops may be worn and will not need to be matching.
- 9.3 All players are to wear enclosed footwear
- 9.4 Any player failing to comply with the standard of dress will be fined £10 and may be disqualified from the competition.
- 9.5 At all EPA Competitions, drinking alcohol or smoking (including electronic smoking devices) by participants is forbidden during play.
- 9.6 Mobile phones must be turned off or switched to silent during play.

10 AUTHORITY

- 10.1 Where the competition is disrupted by teams or players being absent on the day or leaving before completing all their games, the Organiser, in consultation with the Umpire, may call the Jury and request a change of the format of the competition and these Rules as appropriate, and in any case the Umpire and Organiser must make a full report to the MC within 24 hours.
- 10.2 Any infringement of these Competition Rules or the Official International Rules of the Game of Pétanque will be reported to the EPA Management Committee and may invalidate entry, cause disqualification, may lead to disciplinary action and/or necessitate the forfeiture of any position or prizes previously awarded.
- 10.3 During any event, the Umpire and Organiser are responsible for the interpretation of these rules.