



COMPETITION RULES 2011

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. OBJECTIVES

- 2.1. To improve the standard of play by promoting events at a high level of competitiveness.

3. GENERAL

- 3.1. The number, dates and venues of the events will be determined by the Management Committee and published in advance.
- 3.2. The EPA Management Committee will be responsible for the organisation of the competitions and will appoint an Organiser for each event.
- 3.3. The Chairman of the Umpires Commission will appoint a qualified umpire to adjudicate at each event.
- 3.4. The Organiser of each event will be the representative of the Management Committee and may, after consultation with the umpire, appoint a jury of at least three members should the need arise. The decision of such a jury will be final in the event of any dispute.
- 3.5. Regulations for play shall be the "Official International Rules of the Game of Pétanque" and any variations set out in these "Competition Rules".
- 3.6. Teams of 4 players may enter and participate in a triple event. A team may change no more than one player in a game and then only between two ends after notifying the umpire. Any infringement of these "Competition Rules" or of the "International Rules of the Game of Pétanque" may invalidate entry or cause disqualification and/or necessitate the forfeiture of any position or prizes previously awarded.
- 3.7. Any event may be cancelled at the discretion of the EPA Management Committee.

4. ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1. All EPA members holding a valid licence, which must include a recent photograph of the holder, are eligible to compete.
- 4.2. All players should produce their licence on registration at each event.
- 4.3. Any player failing to produce a valid licence will be fined £20 (juniors £5) at registration.
- 4.4. Players entering the Junior Championship must be aged 17 or less in the full calendar year of the event.
- 4.5. Players entering the Men's International Qualifiers must be male members and may be any age.
- 4.6. Players entering the Women's International Qualifiers must be female members and may be any age.
- 4.7. Players entering the Over 50's Championships must be aged 50 years or over at the time of the event.
- 4.8. Espoirs must hold an adult licence and be aged 22 years or less in the calendar year of the event.
- 4.9. 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.
- 4.10. Only the winners and runners up of each region's closed triples, doubles and shooting championships will be eligible to play in the EPA Champion of Champion events.

5. ENTRIES

- 5.1. National competitions should be entered in advance. Such entry will guarantee admittance to that competition.
- 5.2. Entry forms must be completed with the team captain's name, telephone number and an email address. All team players' names and licence numbers must be included. At all competitions, teams will be given a number by which they will be known throughout the competition or series.

- 5.3. Entries accompanied by a cheque, payable to the EPA, for the correct entry fee are to be sent to the address published on the entry form. No allowance will be made for delays in the postal service.
- 5.4. The last date for guaranteed entry to a competition is the preceding Monday as published on the entry form.
- 5.5. Teams requiring written confirmation of entry must include a self-addressed stamped postcard with their entry form.
- 5.6. Entry on the day to National Competitions is allowed, however preference is given to pre-entered teams.
- 5.7. The EPA retains the right to refuse entry into any of its competitions.

6. REGISTRATION and DRAW

- 6.1. Registration will open by 8.45 am and close promptly at 9.15 am.
- 6.2. All players will register 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. Replacement of a player may only be allowed under Article 33 – Official Rules of the Game of Pétanque.
- 6.3. The draw will take place in the presence of the umpire immediately after the close of registration.
- 6.4. Play will commence as soon as possible after the completion of the draw and announcements.

7. FINANCIAL

- 7.1. The entry fees per event are:

	£per player	
International Qualifiers Men's/Women's:	Pre Entry	£5
	On the Day	£8
Juniors':	Entry	Free
	Pre Entry	£3
Espoirs':	On the Day	£6
	Pre Entry	£5
Championships Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles, Triples & Over 50's:	On the Day	£8

8. COMPETITION ORGANISATION

- 8.1 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.
- 8.2 A lunch break may be held at the discretion of the Organiser and Umpire. 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 start of play.
- 8.3 The Inter-Regional Championship and Challenge Tournament will be conducted under the published rules issued specifically for this event.
- 8.4 The European Cup for Clubs Competition will be conducted under the published rules issued specifically for this event.
- 8.5 The Champion of Champions Doubles and Triples will be played under Snake and Knock Out system with teams from the same region seeded to avoid each other until after the first round of the knockout stage.
- 8.6 The EPA National Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles, Triples and Over 50's Doubles Championships format will be League and Knock-out (subject to entries each event will include a plate competition).
- 8.7 The Men's and Women's International Qualifying events will be held over 2 days.
Men - 3 events held on each of the 2 days
Women - 2 events on day 1 and 3 events on day 2.
The number of qualifying places to play for at each venue are allocated as follows:

Allocated Places – Day 1			Allocated Places – Day 2		
Region	Men's Top 32	Women's Top 16	Region	Men's Top 32	Women's Top 16
East Midlands	5	2	West Midlands	4	2
Devon	2	No event	Chiltern	6	4
Kent	7	4	Southern	8	4

- 8.8 The Men's and Women's International Qualifying events will be run using the following format:
- 6 teams entered – Round Robin.
 - 7 to 15 teams entered League/KO.
 - 16 + teams entered Swiss system using the Bhnn and fBhnn ranking formula to rank the teams.
- Note: Fewer than 6 teams pre-entered at a venue will result in that event being cancelled.
- Men's Top 32 Swiss System.
 - Men's and Women's Top 16 Barrage system (to find the top 8 in each category).
 - Men's, and Women's Top 8 Barrage System.
- 8.9 The Juniors' and Espoirs' International Qualifying will be run using the following format:
- 6 teams entered – Round Robin.
 - 7 to 15 teams entered League/KO.
 - 16 + teams entered Swiss system.
- Note: Fewer than 6 teams pre-entered at a venue will result in that event being cancelled.
- 8.10 The Home Nations Championship Qualifier format will be a 5 round Swiss system using the Bhnn and fBhnn ranking formula to rank the teams. In the unlikely event that 2 or more teams are tied the first criteria to decide their ranking will be the result of the game between them, if this does not resolve the issue or they have not played against each other there will be a play-off.

9 REPRESENTATION

- 9.1 The 1st placed team from the Men's International Qualifier Top 8 may be invited to represent the EPA at the 2011 European Championships and the 2012 World Championships.
- 9.2 The 1st placed team from the Women's International Qualifier Top 8 may be invited to represent the EPA at the 2011 Women's World Championships.
- 9.3 The 1st placed team from the Espoirs' International Qualifier may be invited to represent the EPA in a European competition.
- 9.4 The 1st placed team from the Juniors' International Qualifier may be invited to represent the EPA at the 2011 Junior World Championship
- 9.5 The top 8 placed teams from the Home Nations Qualifier may be invited to represent the EPA at the 2011 Home Nations Championship.

10. STANDARDS

- 10.1 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.
In the event of inclement weather, waterproof tops may be worn and will NOT have to be matching.
- 10.2 At the Champion of Champions (Doubles/Triples/Shooting) all teams must play in full Regional team kit comprising of clean and smart matching tops and bottoms.
- 10.3 All players are to wear enclosed footwear
- 10.4 Any player failing to comply with the standard of dress will be fined £10 and may be disqualified from the competition.
- 10.5 At all EPA Competitions drinking alcohol or smoking by participants is forbidden during play.

11 AUTHORITY

- 11.1 Where the competition is disrupted by teams or players being absent on the day or leaving before completing all of 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 must make a full report to the MC within 24 hours.
- 11.2 During any event the Organiser and Umpire of the day are responsible for the interpretation of these rules.