



# NEWSLETTER

## Inter-Regional Championship 2012



I am very grateful to all the regions and members that gave us feedback in relation to Mill Rythe Holiday Village (Hayling Island).

Most of the comments or concerns raised were about

- the availability of the accommodation,
- the feasibility of being on more than one site,
- the size of the terrain,
- being able to feed 600 people in one session
- and of course the costs...

Armed with all the emails and comments John Thatcher, Adrian Thomas and I went to Mill Rythe Holiday Village to meet once again with IOW Tours Ltd.

Taking time away from work we could only stay the one night but spent two full days having a good look around.

We tried the food, timed the service, slept in recently refurbished chalets, measured the areas designated to become terrains, discussed all your concerns and even found some time for a beer and a couple of frames of snooker!

The apartments/chalets were very clean and a tour of them showed us that it was not just the ones we were staying in that were like that.

The staff on site were polite, always to hand and very willing to help and there is no doubt that IOW Tours Managing Director, Shirley Winn and Sales Manager Geoff Holt are very keen to work with the EPA Management Committee to ensure we have a successful competition at this new venue.

The site director confirmed they would build a terrain of over 50 lanes which, added to the main car park, would give us plenty of room to play.

With loW Tours Ltd help we have looked at a variety of venues and we have considered staying with Pontins at Brean, yet despite some very promising venues we came to the conclusion that the best option for our members and prestigious event is Mill Rythe Holiday Village.

So the decision has been made and contracts signed, our Inter-Regional Championship & Challenge Tournament will be held at Mill Rythe Holiday Village on the 15th and 16th September 2012.

Brochures and booking forms for accommodation will be issued in the new year by our new partners Isle of Wight Tours Ltd.

### Risk Assessments

*Yes we are required to have a Risk Assessment for every event.*

*That said once a template form has been completed for a venue that same assessment can be used for other events.*

*All we then need do is review and if necessary update the Risk Assessment.*

*You can download a sample form from our website [www.englishpetanque.org.uk](http://www.englishpetanque.org.uk)*

### UMPIRES CORNER

***Do you have a candidate for an umpires course?***

***Is your Regional Umpire in need of a refresher course?***

*Now is the time to act...*

*John Thatcher is planning to hold more umpire courses in 2012, contact him now and book a place for your candidate or umpire.*

*John can be reached by email at [johnthatcher@talktalk.net](mailto:johnthatcher@talktalk.net)*

### INSURANCE

For the past 12 months I have been seeking an alternative source for our insurance cover.

I have talked with the FIPJP and other European nations about the type of cover they carry and the insurance companies they are with.

I'm sure you all understand the expression of "a blind man walking in a mine field" well that just about sums up what it has been like for me...

But now there is a glimmer of light, no it's not some distant star!!

**mannBroadbent** 

Richard Baker and I met with Sports and Leisure Insurance brokers Mann Broadbent a couple of months ago.

After lengthy discussions and numerous emails we finally have a quote for all our insurance requirements which looks very favourable.

There is also a possibility that we can once again include an Accident Insurance cover for our members.

More news on this soon.....

### Home Nations Championship

*The WPA have just announced the Home Nations Championship will be held on the 28/29th July, this will mean a change to our published calendar which is listed below and will be announced on our website.*

## *Presidents Meeting*

*At the Inter-Regional Championships I discussed with you my concerns that our current structure was weakening our Association.*

*Some years ago we would have four "Council" meetings each year, this was when the Regional Presidents and Officers of our Association would meet to discuss ideas, the operational issues of the Association and playing matters including the format and rules of competitions.*

*A lot of very good work was done in preparation for and during the meetings.*

*I believe we need to get back around the table to discuss not only what we are doing but what you are doing as well.*

*I am sure that these meetings will ensure our organisation remains transparent and will dispel any mystery or confusion there may be about what a National Officer is required to do.*

*I am now inviting all Regional Presidents to meet with our Associations National Officers.*

*The first of these two meeting will be held on the 24th March 2012.*

*Our new National Secretary, Tony Mann will be contacting you soon with the time and venue - please make every effort to attend the meeting and grasp this opportunity to work with us for the future of our Association.*

## The Management Committee

### National Officers

**President:** Mike Pegg - mike.pegg@fipjp.com

**Secretary:** Tony Mann - tonymann@ntlworld.com

**Treasurer:** Adrian Thomas - thomas.adrian@btinternet.com

**Membership Secretary:** Ang Gaughan - ang.gaughan@hotmail.com

**Dir. of Promotions:** Richard Baker - wrecclesham2@btopenworld.com

### Appointed Officers

**Chair, Umpires Commission:** John Thatcher - johnthatcher@talktalk.net

**Chair, Coaching Commission:** Brian Stote - brianstote@gmail.com

### MC County Region

Chris Barron - chris.barron@hotmail.co.uk

David Baxter - david1baxter@ntlworld.com

Debbie Elcome - debbie\_elcome@msn.com

Graham Elcome - graham244182@hotmail.co.uk

Don Grimes - don@grimes.org.uk

Gareth Sullivan - garff1e@yahoo.co.uk

### MC Affiliated League

Ken Buchan - ken.buchan@btinternet.com

## Calendar 2012

### January 21

EPA Management Committee Meeting

### January 28

EPA Membership Database Course

### February 26

EPA EuroCup Round 4 (groups A & B)

### March 4

EPA EuroCup Round 4 (groups C & D)

### March 18

EPA EuroCup Finals

### March 24

National Officers/Regional Presidents Meeting

### April 1

Home Nations Championship Qualifier

### April 29

Triples Championship (Day 1)

Womens Triples Championship (Day 1)

### May 6

Veterans Championship (Day 1)

Junior Triples Championship (Finals)

### May 13

Triples Championship (Day 2)

Womens Triples Championship (Day 2)

### June 2

Singles Championship

### June 3

Doubles Championship

### June 4

Mixed Doubles Championship

### July 1

EPA Veterans Championship (Top 8)

### July 8

Triples Championship & Womens

Triples Championship (Top 16's)

### July 14

Congress of County Regions

### July 15

Espoirs Championship (Day 1)

England v Wales Junior Championship

### July 28/29

CEP EuroCup 1st Round

### July 28/29

Home Nations Championship

further details of these and other competitions can be found on our website [www.englishpetanque.org.uk](http://www.englishpetanque.org.uk)