



COMPETITION RULES 2010

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 National Umpire 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 can 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 2009".
- 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 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 Grand Prix must be male members and may be any age.
- 4.6. Players entering the Women's Grand Prix 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 and available to play. Players may be required to produce evidence of eligibility, nationality and age to the EPA.
- 4.10. The winners and runners up only 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 player's 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 teams pre-entered.
- 5.7. The EPA retains the right to refuse entry into any of its competitions.

6. REGISTRATIONS and the 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 person
Pre Entry	£10.00
On the day	£15.00
Juniors	£5.00

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 (with Wales by invitation) will comprise two divisions.
- 8.4 The Inter Regional Challenge will be one division played by 4 teams from each Region on a round robin format.
- 8.5 The European Cup for Clubs Competition will be conducted under the published rules issued with the entry form.
- 8.6 The Champion of Champions Doubles and Triples will be played under League and Knock Out system with teams from the same region seeded to avoid each other in the leagues and the first round of the knockout stage.
- 8.7 The EPA National Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles and Triples Competitions will be organized using the League and Knock-out system and subject to entries a main and plate.
- 8.8 The Men's Qualifying Grand Prix will be run using the Swiss system with results aggregated over the 3 events to determine 16 qualifiers for one further top 16 tournament. The Top 16 will be run by using the barrage system split over two consecutive Sundays with a play off on the 2nd Sunday.
- 8.9 The Women's Qualifying Grand Prix will be run using the Swiss system with results aggregated over the 3 events to determine 8 qualifiers for one further top 8 tournament. The format for the top 8 tournament will be rolling barrage. The top 8 tournament will be seeded according to finishing position in the qualifying series.
- 8.10 The Junior's and Espoir's Qualifying Grand Prix will be run using the Swiss system with results aggregated over the 3 events to determine the final ranking.
- 8.11 The Over 50's Doubles Championship will be held as a league/Knock Out event.
- 8.12 The Home Nations Championship Qualifier will be run using the Swiss system over 5 rounds to rank the field. If teams are tied for the final qualifying place and the results of games between them is not decisive then there will be a play off.
- 8.13 Shooting Championship will be played to the FIPJP World Championship format

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. In the event of inclement weather, waterproof tops may be worn and will NOT have to be matching.
- 9.2 At the Champion of Champions (Doubles/Triples) and Inter-Regional Championship all teams must play in full Regional team kit comprising of clean and smart matching tops and bottoms.
- 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 National Competitions drinking alcohol or smoking by participants is forbidden 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 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.

10.2 During any event the Organiser and Umpire of the day are responsible for the interpretation of these rules.

Appendix 1 – Representation

1. The top 8 teams after the Home Nations Qualifier on 4th July may be invited to represent the EPA in the Home Nations Championship. If any team is unable to accept this invitation then the next team in the order may be invited.
2. The Grand Prix series (Men and Women) comprise of more than one qualifying day. Teams are restricted to a maximum of 4 players for the series.
3. The top male team after the top 16 event on the 27th June may be invited to represent the EPA at the 2010 Triples World Championships. If the top team is unable to accept this invitation then the next team in the order may be invited.
4. The top placed team after the Women's top 8 qualifier on 20th June may be invited to represent the EPA at the 2010 Women's Triples European Championships. If the top team is unable to accept this invitation then the next team in the order may be invited.
5. The top placed Junior team after qualifier 3 (final) may be invited to represent the EPA at the 2010 Junior Triples European Championships. The second and third placed team may be invited to represent the EPA at the 2010 Home Nations Championship (subject to a junior section being included in this event). If the top team is unable to accept this invitation then the next team in the order may be invited.
6. All representation invitations will be at the discretion of the Management Committee.
7. Teams representing the EPA will be required to meet part or all of their costs.