



MATCH RULES 2019

The THREE SHIRES PÉTANQUE LEAGUE shall abide by the rules of the game of Pétanque as approved by the Federation Internationale de Petanque et Jeu Provençal (F.I.P.J.P) on 7th October 2010 in Turkey & by the English Pétanque Association EPA Subject to the modifications and additions set out below.

The following rules apply to the Summer League Competition. Rules pertaining to the Winter League, League Cup Competition, Club 321 Competition and Open Doubles and Triples Competition are published on the Three Shires Website and are available by request from the Competition Secretary.

RULE 1 - LEAGUE FIXTURES:

- 1.1. The League fixture list will be drawn up on a weekly basis for the season. Matches must be played during the specified week (the week being from Monday to the following Sunday).
- 1.2. All teams will play each other on a home and away basis.
- 1.3. Matches will be played on the nominated "HOME" match night (all teams to notify the Competition Secretary of their "HOME" match nights). **The nominated home nights for the Three Shires League shall be Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays** and all team's home nights will be published annually with the List of Divisions.

1.4 POSTPONEMENTS & RE-ARRANGED MATCHES

Teams will only be allowed to re-arrange matches within the first four weeks of the season which will be determined by the date of the first league match of the season.

Any proposal to re-arrange a match in this period will need to be made in writing / email to the Divisional Organiser or the Competition Secretary before the original date of the match.

The new date for the match must be before 22nd July

The Divisional Organiser or Competition Secretary must be informed of the rearranged date within 3 weeks of the original fixture date.

The rearranged date must be agreed by the two team Captains and the Divisional Organiser must be informed in writing / email at info@threeshirespetanqueleague.com

If a team cannot fulfil a fixture outside of this period they will concede the match to the opposition.

In certain circumstances as outlined in the Code of Conduct the team captain will be able to lodge an appeal to the Competition Committee. The Competition Committee will make the final judgement on the matter.

A conceded match will result in **2 match points to the opposition but no games or game points.**

It is the Captains / Team responsibility to make sure that their squad can cover holidays / sickness for the complete league season. A team must consist of a minimum of 4 players or the game will automatically conceded to the opposition.

If a match has to be abandoned or cannot start because of force-majeure ie unforeseen circumstances such as flooding, flood light failure, act of god etc the Captains must inform the Divisional Organiser & committee by email / telephone. The fixture must then be rescheduled within 3 weeks.

- 1.5. It is the duty of the postponing team to notify the **DIVISIONAL ORGANISER** when the re-arranged date has been set.
- 1.6. Clubs with multiple teams playing in more than one League are required to check their fixture lists at the beginning of the season, for clashes and to rearrange these matches by reversing the fixture where necessary. The DIV ORGANISER must be notified of rearranged matches this in way

- 1.7 Failure to play or re-arrange the match will result in the team who postponed forfeiting the match and the team not at default will receive **2 match points only. But no games or game points.**
- 1.8 Any team can appeal to the Competition Secretary in writing or by email if a postponement has to be made outside of the first 4 weeks if "force majeure" intervenes and only in extreme circumstances. The committee will review the appeal and make a decision if the postponement will be granted.
- If upheld a date will be set on a Monday, Thursday or Friday and both teams will be notified. Failure to play on this date will result in the team or teams having 1 point deducted from their league score.
- If only one team appears on the set date then this team will win by default and receive the **2 match points only, but no games & games points.**
- 1.9 The cut off date for the League Season shall be **midnight on 15th October.** Any matches outstanding after this date shall be considered null and void.
- 1.10 Should a team concede a match to their opponents for whatever reason, their opponents will receive **2 match points but no games or game points.**

RULE 2 - MATCH COMPOSITION:

- 2.1. Each League match will consist of FIVE games:-
- TWO games of Triples, each player to throw only 2 boules.
- THREE games of Doubles, each player to throw only 3 boules.
- NOTE:** The number of boules each player may throw still applies even if a team has to play with players short.
- 2.2. The Triples games will normally be played first unless altered on the night with the agreement of both Captains. All games are played to THIRTEEN points.

RULE 3 - BOULES:

- 3.1. All Clubs and players will play with Authorised Match Boules approved by the F.I.P.J.P. unless it is their first season when unofficial ~DOG~ Boules will be permitted provided that they are commercially available steel or steel alloy ~DOG~ Boules. The use of unofficial ~DOG~ Boules will not be permitted by any player who registered and played with a Club in a previous season or by any Club who have played in The League for more than one season.
- 3.2. Any persons playing with ~DOG~ Boules do so at their own risk. All players are strongly advised to use Authorised Match Boules.

RULE 4 - BEFORE START OF PLAY:

- 4.1. Before the match starts, the HOME team must explain any local rules regarding boundaries, trees etc and advise the AWAY team of Piste numbers. The HOME Captain will advise the AWAY Captain which piste(s) the Triples/Doubles games will be played. They must also provide the Match Report Form to record all details of the Match before the start of play.
- 4.2. The **full names** of the sets of players to represent each team in the doubles and triples games must be entered legibly on the Match Report Form. Team Captains are responsible for ensuring that all named players are registered members of their Clubs.
- 4.3. The opposing sets of players to form each game will then be drawn "out of a hat" and play can start.

RULE 5 - SCORING:

- 5.1. The HOME team shall provide scoreboards such that the score of each match being played can be seen clearly at the opposite end of the piste(s).
- 5.2. The winning team will be awarded two match points. The scores will be recorded on the Match Report Form to show:-
 - a. The number of games won by each team.
 - b. The points scored by each team.
- 5.3. The **winning** team must enter the result on the Three Shires Website or send the match result to the Divisional Organiser/Competition Secretary **within 3 days** of the fixture date either by email / text / phone photograph. If the **website does not show the result** or the Divisional Organiser/Competition Secretary **has not received the result within 7 days of the match date**, the winning team shall forfeit **one Match Point**. The match result form must be retained by the winning team in case the Divisional Organiser wishes to see it in case of dispute.
- 5.4. The League positions will be determined by the Match points scored by each team. In the event of a tie, the number of games won by each team will determine the position. If a tie still exists the position will then be determined by the points difference of each team.

RULE 6 - NUMBER OF PLAYERS:

- 6.1. At any one fixture, each team shall have a maximum of TWELVE players. A player may not play more than ONE game of doubles and ONE game of triples.
- 6.2. Substitutes will not be allowed during a match, as per Article 1 & Article 33 of the Official Rules of Petanque. If a player has become ill, and the said team have a player to cover for this eventuality, he/she may be substituted with the agreement of both Captains. Triples will comprise of three players only and no subs and Doubles two players only.

RULE 7 - TIME OF MATCHES:

- 7.1. Both teams shall be at the match venue by 19.30 hrs. All players available shall start playing by 19.45 hrs, following Rules 2 and 6.
- 7.2. If, by mutual agreement, a match has to be played during the daytime, a starting time shall be agreed between the teams. Play shall then start within 15 minutes of this agreed time as above.
- 7.3. Players arriving late may join the game at the completion of the end in play.

RULE 8 - PENALTIES FOR LATE START OF PLAY:

- 8.1. If the start of a game is delayed because a team has no players available, Rule 8.2 will apply
- 8.2. This rule is amended in accordance with Rule 1.8 above. If the team has no players available after 20:15, according to Rules 2 and 6 they will be deemed to have lost the match and the Match Result Form will be so marked. The team that attended the event will be awarded 2 league points but no games or game points.

RULE 9 - FORCE MAJEURE:

- 9.1. In the event that the team Captains agree that "Force Majeure" prevents the completion of a match, it shall be reconvened within **three weeks**.
- 9.2. If the match is re-convened at a later time on the same day, the scores of all games completed or uncompleted will stand and the uncompleted games continue from the score at the time that they were stopped.
- 9.3. If the match is reconvened within **three** weeks the scores for the completed games will stand but uncompleted games will be restarted. The players involved in the original match shall, wherever possible, be used in the reconvened match. The home team Captain is to contact the Divisional Organiser as per Rule 1.

RULE 10 - UMPIRING:

- 10.1. Arbitration in any one game may be delegated to any player not involved in that game.
- 10.2. The HOME team is to ensure that suitable measuring equipment is available if arbitration is requested.

League Name Changed to Three Shires Petanque League – January 2003

Rules 1.4 to 9.3 Amended & Ratified at the Captains Meeting on 21st March 2016.

Rules 1.4 Amended & Ratified at the Captains Meeting on 26th March 2017.

Rules 1.4 and 8.2 Amended & Ratified at the Competition Committee Meeting on 4th February 2019.

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www.threeshirespetanqueleague.com