

Club Rules

***The Club Rules take precedent over any other rules governing the sport of Petanque.***

***(Any rule not covered by the “Club Rules” will be in accordance with FIPJP official rules)***

Section 1

Area of Play

a/ In the 1st Instance matches should be played on the main large terrain at the Weighbridge which will be divided up (separated by strings into terrains for matches).

b/ In the event that the terrains at the Weighbridge are unusable, due to weather or an event then the Millennium Park should be used, **if authorised by the committee.** No other terrains should be used without the prior authorisation of the club. **(Updated 28.03.18).**

c**/** If a Boule hits the side of the terrain (wood border) it is classed as being out of play.

d/ If the whole of the Boule / Coche crosses the string the boule / Coche is classed as being out of play. The string must be visible **(added 30.03.2012)**

e/ The cochonet must be a minimum of 50cm from either end of the terrain but can be upto but not over the side strings. **See Appendix 1 Graphic** **(Updated Winter 23/24 Season)**

Section 2

Weather

a/ Participants should expect to play in adverse weather conditions i.e. rain. It is not acceptable to cancel matches because of this. This applies equally to both Summer & Winter Seasons.

b/ A Member of the committee (or designated person) will decide if terrains are unplayable. (see Section 1c) **(added 17.10.2012)**



Club Rules

Section 3

League Scoring

a/ Each player/team plays the same person/team twice per match

b/ Games are played to 13 points

c/ The player/team who wins the toss of a coin gets to choose the 1st available terrain along with the choice to throw 1st, the other player/team will choose an available terrain for the 2nd game and go first.

d/ To gain a win a player/team must win both games

e/ If each player/team wins one game each the match is drawn

f/ If you lose both games this of course is a loss

g/ There will be 3 points for a win and 1 point for a draw

h/ All results should be recorded on the score cards provided and signed by both players. Score cards should be handed to the Competition Officer nominated on the evening

i/ If the match is re arranged and neither party has a score card, both parties must email the results to the required person (currently [Liberationpc@gmail.com](mailto:Liberationpc@gmail.com) ) **(added 17.10.2012)**



Club Rules

Section 4

Re-Scheduling Fixtures

The guiding principle of the club is that League matches should be played on Wednesday evening (6pm) in the Summer and 10am in the Winter (unless notified otherwise by the committee).

We understand however that sometimes matches are not able to be played on the scheduled date and time but these should be exceptions. A Player or Team may not move the majority of their matches without prior approval from the committee. **(Updated Summer 2025)**

If you are unable to play a match on its scheduled date then the following rules apply.

a/ If you are unable to play a scheduled match on any given day you must give your opponent a **minimum of 24 hours notice** (unless in extreme circumstances, at which point you will also have to notify the **Competitions Officer**) by emailing the club account [liberationpc@gmail.com](mailto:liberationpc@gmail.com). **If less than 24 hours notice is given without good cause penalties will be applied in line with 5c.**

b/ The following is examples of **good cause** when wishing to cancel and reschedule fixtures:

1. Off Island on Holiday or Hospital
2. Hospital appointment on Island or ill
3. Work commitment



c/ The following is examples of **not good cause** (not allowed) when wishing to cancel and reschedule fixtures:

1. To play a catch up or other match
2. Because your first fixture of the day is a bye or has been rescheduled.

This list of examples is not exhaustive and a referral to the **Competitions Officer** should be made for guidance if you are unclear by emailing the club account [liberationpc@gmail.com](mailto:liberationpc@gmail.com).

Any match cancelled by a player or team under c/ 4 and 5 will have all their related matches counted as a defeat. In addition the committee may decide to review the player or team’s membership.

d/ Section 4 (a) Also applies if you are unable to complete a match due to time constraints. If a player team fails to show for a game without notifying their opponents prior to the match being played please refer to (Section **5**). **(updated 28th March 2018).**

e/ The fixture must be **played** and the **score submitted** to the club no later than 4\* Weeks (Summer) and 6\* weeks (Winter) of the original date.

f/ Should a match still remain **un-played** or if the **score has not been submitted** in the time allowed (from original scheduled date, counting forward from the original date), this match will become void and count as a defeat for both players/teams. **In addition, penalties will be applied in line with 5c. (below) (updated 29th October 2020).**

**1.** 1 league point deduction for the first occurrence

2. 3 League point deduction for the second occurrence

3. 6 League point deduction will also apply.



The Committee may then review the player / team membership with a view to cancelling that player / team membership with NO refund of membership fees paid.

*\*Unless extreme circumstances apply, in which case a referral should be made to the committee for an extension,* ***before*** *the 6\* weeks has expired.*

g/ Additional penalties will be applied for multiple occurrences in line with Section 5c of the club rules.

h/ In addition, fixtures are not permitted to be played after the final date stated on the calendar for any specific season unless the committee has notified you of an extension to the season.

i/ Any fixture that has not been played at the end of the season will count as a defeat for both players/teams as per (**5c**), unless evidence has been provided as per (**4j**).

j/ **It is both parties responsibility to ensure fixtures are played, if fixture needs to be re arranged.**

**If a Player / Team believes this is the fault of the other then evidence will be required in order for a decision to be made by the committee in the event a fixture is not played within the given time.**



Club Rules

Section 5

Fixtures – None Attendance

a/ Following a number of instances whereby a player or team has shown up only for their opponents not to be there and a few cases of people turning up late the following rules apply.

b/ If a player team fails to show for a game without notifying their opponents prior to the match being played, **the player / team that did show up must telephone the player / team after 5 minutes to establish what the delay is.** If unable to contact the player / team then wait until 10.20 (in the Winter) or 6.20 (in the Summer) or 20 minutes from the time the match was arranged for.

The player / team who (who attended) should then notify the competitions officer that their opponent failed to attend. (Whether or not subsequent contact has been made by the offending player / team).

c/ The Competitions Officer will then contact the player / team (who failed to show). They will be issued with a 1 league point deduction for the first occurrence (unless good cause is shown - committee's discretion), and will be required to contact the opponent within 7 days (if not already done) to rearrange the match at a time convenient to their opponent.

For the second occurrence of this a 3 League point deduction will also apply (unless good cause is shown - committee's discretion).

For the third occurrence of this an additional 6 League point deduction will also apply. The Committee may then review the player / team membership with a view to cancelling that player / team membership with NO refund of membership fees paid.

\*Warnings issued are not for a specific season and will be rolled over to future seasons



Club Rules

Section 5- Continued

d/ Should a team be unable to complete a match (**that has started**) due to time constraints and have failed to give the required notice **(4a)** they will have the choice of playing or conceding the match (if the first game is incomplete) or second game. **(updated 28th March 2018)**

e/ If the committee for any reason decides to award a result to a player / team, this will be as follows:

13 to (Average points conceded per game so far), so if you have conceded an average of 6 points per game for games played so far this is the points conceded for each game (13 - 6 & 13 - 6).

If you are yet to play a match, then the score will be (13 - 6 & 13 - 6).

Note: If the player / team who is awarded the result has an average points conceded of 13, the score will be recorded as 13 – 12 win. **(updated 29th October 2020).**

The player / team who is awarded a defeat will have **their** average points scored awarded to them, if this is 13, then the score will be recorded as 13 – 12 loss on their record.

**(updated 29th October 2020).**

**The committee would like to point out though that it hope's that this scenario does not happen, in the fairness to everyone in the league, so please show respect to your fellow club members and make contact if you are unable to attend.**



Club Rules

Section 6

Fixtures – Time Penalties

a/ If a player or team is late their opponents will be award points as follows: (at the discretion of the opponent).  
  
Winter is 10.00am (Summer League is 6pm) so from 10.15 and for every 5 minutes after this time (or 15 minutes late) 1 point is awarded to the opposing team:   
**(altered 18.02.2015)**

**Example:** Player A shows up at 10.20, their opponent can claim / be awarded 2 points, as 10.15 is 1 point, 10.20 is another 1 point = 2 points. **(altered 18.02.2015)**

b/ So there are no arguments regarding the time on peoples watches, the Steam clock time will be used. (If broke the museums clock). If neither a committee members watch or both or yours if both then in attendance.



Club Rules

Section 7

Withdrawals

If a player / team withdraws from the league the following rules apply:

a/ If a player / team has played equal to or more than 50% of their matches, then the results to date will stand and any outstanding matches are awarded as per rule 5e.

b/ If a player / team has played less than 50% of their matches, then the results to date will be removed from the league tables.

c/ If the above includes (doubles) instances whereby the same team has played any matches with just one player then they will count as matches not played.



Club Rules

Section 8

Promotion & Relegation

a/ To ensure to leagues remain competitive the bottom 3 positions are relegated and the top 3 promoted (Singles and Doubles leagues). **(added 17.10.2012)**

The bottom **3 (Three)** teams in the Premier League are automatically replaced by **1st, 2nd, 3rd** place in Division 1**.** The same applies to Division 1 and 2 and so on depending on how many leagues there are. **(added 30.3.2012)**

Exception – in extreme cases due to a fluctuation in participants from one season to the next and the need to balance the number of players in each league/division the club aims to apply the following:

* + **Always promote**
  + **If structure (numbers of divisions is changed) the committee will split the leagues based on finishing positions. Example 28 teams will be split – top 14 and bottom 14 players.**
  + **This is an exception to the rules regarding relegation which will be upheld in all other circumstances.**

b/ In the event both league points and individual point’s difference are the same at the end of the season a 1 game playoff will be played to decide 1st 2nd or 3rd in the League or a relegation place.



Club Rules

Section 8 - Continued

c/ Promotions and relegation will be kept separate to the relevant season (Summer / Winter). A player / team who got promoted or relegated in the Summer of 2014 will keep their place for the Summer of 2015 season.

Player / Team in the Winter Season 2014/2015 will retain their places the following Winter 2015/2016.

d/ If you do not participate in a particular season (full or part) (Summer / Winter) you will rejoin the bottom league, whether or not you played in a higher league or were previously promoted.

**(If you played in the Summer 2013 but did not play Summer 2014, then you will start in the bottom league in Summer 2015, but it will not affect your Winter League position if applicable). (added 17.10.2012)**



Club Rules

Section 9

New Players / Teams

a/ Ordinarily all new players or teams will automatically start in the bottom league/division irrespective of ability, however should additional spaces become available in a higher league due to members not renewing the committee will decide who these places will go to. (**Ref 8a**)

Section 10

Committee

a/ If a matter arises that is not covered above the committee will make a decision on the matter in question and this will set a precedent going forward. (Any such decisions will be added to the rules).

b/ The committee reserve the right to alter the rules at any point.



Section 11

Appeals against decisions

Where a member has been notified that they are being penalised in accordance with the Club rules, they have a right to appear before the Committee to explain why, within the Club rules, the decision to penalise them was incorrect.

Any explanation that the penalty was incorrect must be based on the Club rules and be received by the Chairman within 7 days of being notified that they are being penalised. The member will have a right to have their explanation heard by the Committee but not to remain present whilst the Committee consider their decision.

References to the Committee in these rules in respect of decisions made to penalise members refers to at least 3 members of the elected Committee including the Chairman or Vice Chairman, Competitions Officer or his or her nominated deputy, and one other Committee member.

**Note to members:**

**Club rules override any other rules of the game of petanque.**

**APPENDIX 1**

A diagram of a game

Description automatically generated