



Pétanque
ENGLAND

COVID-19 UPDATE: PLAY SAFE GUIDELINES - RETURN TO RESTRICTED PLAY

The Government has eased restrictions around some activities, and these have possible implications for our sport. We are not making recommendations as to whether any individual should or should not return to playing, everyone must make their own decision based on their particular circumstances and with reference to the guidance available please see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

Do not leave your home to play pétanque if Government advice means you should stay at home because you or someone you live with has or has had symptoms of COVID-19, or you are in the most vulnerable category and have been advised to shield from the coronavirus.

Additionally, there are a number of groups - those over 70, those with specific pre-existing conditions and pregnant women – who have been advised to minimise contact with others. We believe that playing pétanque does not minimise that contact, and we recommend that players in those categories should not play until restrictions are eased further.

Given the latest Government advice and also our review of measures taken by our sister federations in Europe to ensure that safety is our number one priority, our advice to our members that choose to play from **Wednesday 13th May 2020** is to follow the good practice guidance set out below.

GENERAL

- Contact your club or playing venue to ensure that pitches are available for use. It may be necessary for clubs to arrange some sort of booking system to avoid overcrowding as maintaining a 2m distance between persons from different households is imperative;
- Large gatherings at venues should not happen. No matches should take place on adjacent lanes;
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before leaving home and on return (or use an alcohol gel if washing hands is not possible);
- No gatherings or consumption together of food/drinks/alcohol should take place;
- No spectators should be present;

- Players may wish to consider wearing a face covering. The evidence suggests that wearing a face covering does not protect you but it may protect others if you are infected but have not developed symptoms.

TRAVELLING TO AND FROM THE VENUE

- Avoid using public transport;
- Avoid touching gates, fences, benches, etc. if you can;
- Do not congregate after playing. No extra-curricular or social activity should take place.

DURING PLAY

- Matches should be **singles only** except where there are sufficient numbers within a single household to play doubles or triples amongst themselves. A player from outside a single household should not join a doubles or triples team to make up the numbers;
- Each player should touch their own boules and equipment only;
- Each player should have their own jack to throw when it is their turn. If a jack is invalidly thrown, the other player should place his/her own jack, not pick up the jack that has been invalidly thrown;
- Plastic circles should not be used; instead players should mark circles with their feet or a marker which should be only used by them;
- Maintaining social distancing of 2m between players should be observed at all times. If possible you should stand side on, even at 2m distance, and avoid standing face to face;
- Clean your equipment before and after use;
- No static or club provided scoreboards should be used, pocket scorers should be used by one player.

PE Board, 12th May 2020