



Pétanque
ENGLAND

**INTERNATIONAL
QUALIFICATION & SELECTION
2021**

MEN, WOMEN AND VETERANS

International Representation – A Key Objective

One of the key objectives of Pétanque England (PE) as set out in our Articles of Association (2018) is: *“to select the representative teams to represent England in international events.”*

The principal international events in which we seek to participate are organised by the European Confederation of Pétanque (CEP) and the International Federation of Pétanque (FIPJP). PE is affiliated to both.

Age/gender categories

The age/gender categories of our international representative teams as defined by CEP and FIPJP have changed over recent years, leading to a much more extensive programme than existed historically. The age/gender categories for which we select are currently:

- **World Mixed Youth Triples** (FIPJP – tournaments normally take place in alternate years);
- **European Female Youth Triples** (CEP - tournaments normally take place in alternate years);
- **European Male Youth Triples** (CEP - tournaments normally take place in alternate years);
- **European Female Espoirs Triples** (CEP - tournaments normally take place every year);
- **European Male Espoirs Triples** (CEP - tournaments take place every year);
- **European Veteran Triples** (CEP – tournaments take place every other year);
- **World and European Senior Women Triples** (FIPJP & CEP - tournaments normally take place in alternate years);
- **World and European Senior Women Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles** (FIPJP & CEP - tournaments normally take place in alternate years) – this requires two senior women to be selected to play at the same time in the Singles and Mixed Doubles and then separately in the Doubles;
- **World and European Senior Men Triples** (FIPJP & CEP - tournaments normally take place in alternate years);
- **World and European Senior Men Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles** (FIPJP & CEP - tournaments normally take place in alternate years) – this requires two senior men to be selected to play at the same time in the Singles and Mixed Doubles and then separately in the Doubles.

Selection Processes

We use different approaches for finding our representative teams.

Our Youth and Espoirs are selected by a process undertaken by our Lead Members/Coaches which does not include competitions but structured assessment. The opportunity to be considered is open to all eligible PE members.

Our Senior Women, Senior Men and Veterans are selected following the use of competitions, rankings, formation of squads from the results of competitive play and selection according to our published criteria.

Players should refer to the separately published National Competition Rules which explain the key requirements which apply to all of PE's national competitions.

The opportunity to compete, become part of the squad and ultimately be considered for selection is open to all eligible PE members.

The processes we intend to follow in 2021/22 for our Senior Women, Senior Men and Veterans are set out in separate sections below.



Player Eligibility to Represent England

European Pétanque Confederation (CEP) - Eligibility

The CEP has adopted rules that prevents us from entering non-nationals as our players in any CEP tournaments. Any players seeking to represent England in European Championships must be UK nationals.

Due to the uncertainties of timing around pursuing applications for UK nationality, PE will only consider players for international selection or membership of a squad if they have UK nationality at the point when a competition or selection process commences. Non-UK nationals will not be allowed to enter competitions which are used to form international squads.

A player who has represented one country in a European Championship and who has changed their nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in the European Championship to represent their new country provided that at least three years have passed since the player last represented their former country.

This three-year rule applies to UK nationals who may have represented a UK Federation which is CEP affiliated, in this case, Wales, Scotland or Jersey.

International Pétanque Federation (FIPJP) - Eligibility

The FIPJP has the following eligibility rules:

Article 10:

The participating teams must only include players of the nationality of the country represented.

However, exemptions linked to international agreements between States or to the particular situation of some States may be granted by the Executive Committee which will set strict conditions concerning the duration of the holding of a license or equivalent title in the concerned federation.

For countries in which it is difficult to obtain nationality but where documents exist recognizing the lasting presence of people on their territory and granting practically the same rights as for nationals, the presentation of these documents, the list of which appears in the appendix, will be considered an equivalent to nationality.

For the Youth World Championship, those born in the country where they are a member of the federation may be selected provided, they have not already represented another country. The head of delegation must present an official document attesting to the place of birth.

Any selected player must have been a member for at least six months of the federation he/she represents.

This period is extended to five (5) years if players who have changed their nationality or who are dual nationals have already played for another country in an international competition such as the World Championship, Confederations World Cup, continental championships, World Games, multisport games. Then it will be impossible for them to represent their country of origin again.

PE will therefore apply the same rule to FIPJP representation as CEP representation.

Age restrictions

The following age restrictions are defined by the CEP:

- **Youth** – eligible players must be 17 years old or younger at some point within the calendar year that the tournament is organised;
- **Espoirs** - eligible players must be under 23 years old at some point within the calendar year that the tournament is organised;
- **Veterans** - eligible players must be 55 years old or older at some point within the calendar year that the tournament is organised.




PE's Response to COVID-19

The COVID-19 epidemic has provided major challenges to our sport both in terms of organising events and activities, but also in terms of ability to compete internationally given travel restrictions and the need to quarantine either as a precaution or as a result of a positive COVID-19 test.


PE's NPP has issued separate guidelines (12.2.21) which set out the conditions which need to be in place for participation in international events in 2021.

These are subject to constant review given the often rapid changes in the COVID-19 situation both at home and abroad.

As England's officially recognised National Governing Body for the sport of pétanque, we have also issued our Play Safe Guidelines which have been reviewed and accepted by the UK Government and updated in response to Government requirements.



The image shows two petanque players standing on a wooden platform. They are both wearing blue jackets and face masks. The player on the left is holding a medal, and the player on the right is holding a trophy. They are both holding a small white card with a pattern of dots. The background shows a wooden structure and some greenery.



COVID-19 GUIDANCE

**PLAY SAFE GUIDELINES -
RETURN TO RESTRICTED
PLAY**

APPLICABLE FROM 29TH MARCH 2021 - STEP 1B
Latest updates at www.petanque-england.uk

2021/2022 Scheduled International Events

2021	
July 15th to 18th – FIPJP Men’s Triples Championships, Lausanne, Switzerland.	1 x team of four players + coach. Deadline for decision on participation: April 15th.
September 19th to 21st – CEP Veterans Triples Championship, Albertville, France.	1 x team of four players + coach. Deadline for decision on participation: June 19th.
September 23rd to 26th – CEP Men’s Triples Championship, Albertville, France.	1 x team of four players + coach. Deadline for decision on participation: June 27 th .
October 7th to 10th - CEP Youth Triples (Male and Female) and Espoirs Triples (Male and Female Championships, Santa Susanna, Spain.	4 x teams of four players + 4 coaches. Deadline for decision on participation: July 7 th .
November 4th to 7th – FIPJP Youth Triples and Women’s Triples, Ayutthaya, Thailand.	PE has decided not to send teams outside of Europe in 2021.

2022	
June 3rd to 5th – CEP Women’s Triples Championships, Torrelavega, Spain.	1 x team of four players + coach.
July 13th to 17th – CEP Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles, 's-Hertogenbosch Holland.	1 x team comprised of two female players and two male players + two coaches.
September 29th to October 2nd – CEP Youth Triples (Male and Female) and Espoirs Triples (Male and Female Championships, Almerimar, Spain.	4 x teams of four players + 4 coaches.
Date unknown – Men’s World Triples Championship, Benin	1 x team of four players + coach.
Date unknown – FIPJP Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles, Denmark (this was originally planned to be held in New Caledonia and has recently been changed).	This recently changed from New Caledonia. 1 x team comprised of two female players and two male players + two coaches.



The Women's qualification and selection system in 2021 will be used to find the players that will comprise the squad that will be used for deciding selection 2022 European Championships, the 2022 European Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles Championships and the 2022 World Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles Championships.

Championship Teams will be selected by the Lead Member in accordance with the NPP terms of reference document.

We have decided that due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic PE will not be sending teams outside of Europe in 2021 and as a result we will not be participating in the Women's Triples World Championships in Thailand if it goes ahead as scheduled.

The qualification system for the Women's Squads in 2021 will be based on three triples tournaments, where players will be required to compete in the same team.

This system will apply to 2021 only and may be subject to change in 2022 where a multi-format system including Singles, Doubles and Triples will be considered for a calendar that will hopefully not face the same COVID-19 constraints. The 2022 system will be used to find a Women's Squad for preparation for the 2023 CEP/FIPJP international tournament schedule.

For the first time in recent years the women's and men's qualification systems will run independently of each other. This will allow the women's series to have a full use of the terrains at a venue and for it to run at its own pace. It will also mean that for any couples with children who both have aspirations of international representation, they are not forced to choose who can attend the competition days.

The precise format of these events will be dependent upon entries but will be group and knockout based, with teams receiving points based upon their finishing positions. The format including any seeding is determined by the Lead Member.

Unless numbers of entries dictate otherwise, points will be awarded as follows:

- Winner – 30 points
- Runner up – 24 points
- Losing semi-finalists – 16 points
- Losing quarter-finalists – 8 points
- Losing round of 16 – 4 points

Competition entry fees for the three-round series will be £45 per player, which will be payable prior to the first round. No prizes will feature as PE will allocate the entry fees received (after deduction of organisational expenses) to support women's international preparation and participation.

In order to represent England, the CEP and FIPJP has certain eligibility criteria. Players that cannot represent England will not be permitted to enter the Triples series.

Tournament	Date and venue
Women's Triples 1	26.6.21 – Oxshott PC
Women's Triples 2	25.7.21 – Leicester PC
Women's Triples 3	8.8.21 – Worthing PC

At the end of this 3 event series the top 4 teams will be invited to make up a squad of 12 players who will be eligible to represent England in the 3 championships for the following year. These players will be asked to attend multiple squad days where coaching and development routes will be provided.

The location of these squad days will be based on the squad members locations. On top of these squad days, the 12 players will also be asked to attend certain tournaments (travel permitting) which will be used in the selection process.

Any players who are not selected for a CEP/FIPJP championship will be given clear feedback on a one-to-one basis as to the reasons for non-selection and will be told the areas that need improvement to secure future selection.

Any members of the squad who are unable to provide the levels of commitment required will be removed from the squad and may be replaced if timings and conditions permit by reference to the finishing positions in the Rankings. It is also important for members of the squad to understand that although PE provides financial and logistical support (e.g. travel arrangements) for players, all CEP and FIPJP representation is subject to an individual player contribution of £250 per tournament.

On selection, players are expected to make immediate arrangements to pay these contributions either as a single payment or a series of staged payments which must be complete by the time of the tournament. Players unable or unwilling to make the necessary arrangements for their contributions will not be selected.

For any players who are struggling to find a team for the qualification series but would still like to enter, they should contact Rowland Jones, Lead Member/Coach for Women who may be able to match them up with other players also looking to form teams. All enquiries should be made to Rowlandjones56@gmail.com



The Men's qualification and selection system in 2021 will find the players who will comprise the squads that will be used for deciding selection not only for the 2021 CEP European Triples Championships but also the 2022 CEP European Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles Championships (two male players) and the 2022 FIPJP European Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles Championships (two male players).

Championship Teams will be selected by the Lead Member in accordance with the NPP terms of reference document.

The 2019/20 Men's Squad comprising Sam Blakey, Reece Gould, Jeremy Huntley, Ross Jones, Rowland Jones and Jason White will be used to decide selection for the FIPJP World Men's Championships currently scheduled for July 13th to 17th 2021.

Due to the constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic we have decided that the team will need to be selected by 13th April and have set certain conditions for our participation which have already been communicated by the National Performance Panel.

Should the FIPJP World Men's Championships be postponed to later in 2021, we will still select from the 2019/20 Squad no later than three months prior to the rescheduled date of the tournament.

If the FIPJP World Men's Triples Championships is postponed until 2022, we will select the team from the 2021/22 Men's Squad.

The qualification system for the Men's Squad in 2021 will be based on five separate multi-format competitions: three triples tournaments, one doubles tournament and one singles tournament. There is no requirement for players to compete in the same triples team. Ranking points are personal to each player regardless of who they choose to play with. The players in the 2019/20 Men's Squad will only play with fellow members of that Squad.

In order to represent England, the CEP and FIPJP have certain eligibility criteria. Players that cannot represent England will not be permitted to enter the 2021 Rankings.

Tournament	Date and venue
Men's Singles	12.6.21 - Worthing
Men's Doubles	13.6.21 - Worthing
Men's Triples 1	31.5.21 – Gravesend PC
Men's Triples 2	19.6.21 – Leicester PC
Men's Triples 3	27.6.21 – Oxshott PC

The precise format of these events will be dependent upon entries but will be group and knockout based, with teams receiving points based upon their finishing positions. The format including any seeding is determined by the Lead Member.

Points will be awarded as follows:

- Winner – 30 points
- Runner up – 24 points
- Losing semi-finalists – 16 points
- Losing quarter-finalists – 8 points
- Losing round of 16 – 4 points

Competition entry fees for the five-round series will be £15 per player per round. No prizes will feature as PE will allocate the entry fees received (after deduction of organisational expenses) to support men's international preparation and participation.

The Top 6 ranked players will be invited to join the 2021/22 Men's Squad. These players will be eligible for consideration for the 2021 CEP European Men's Triples Championships, the 2022 CEP Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles Championships (two male players required) and the 2022 CEP Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles Championships (two male players required).

Due to the constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic we have decided that the team for the 2021 CEP European Men's Triples Championships will need to be selected by 27th June and have set certain conditions for our participation which have already been communicated by the National Performance Panel.

The date of the 2022 FIPJP Men's World Triples Championships in Benin is yet to be confirmed. Dependent on the final date of this, we will advise on whether the 2021/22 Men's Squad will be used to determine English representation or whether the team will be selected from the 2022/23 Men's Squad which will be formed as a result of the 2022 Rankings series.

Membership of the Men's Squad requires certain commitments to play exclusively with fellow members of the squad in certain domestic and international competitions to prepare for international representation. Dependent on allocations within PE's budget, some financial support may be offered to squad players to fulfil participation in international competitions.

The squad programme is formulated and agreed with the members of the squad at the appropriate time. Performance at squad activities is assessed and used in making the final selection for representation, although the extent to which this can be carried out in 2021 will be affected by any restrictions caused by the COVID-19 epidemic including dates set for team notification and preparation.

Any members of the squad who are unable to provide the levels of commitment required will be removed from the squad and may be replaced if timings and conditions permit by reference to the finishing positions in the Rankings.

Any players who are not selected for a CEP/FIPJP championship will be given clear feedback on a one-to-one basis as to the reasons for non-selection and will be told the areas that need improvement to secure future selection.

It is also important for members of the squad to understand that although PE provides financial and logistical support (e.g. travel arrangements) for players, all CEP and FIPJP representation is subject to an individual player contribution of £250 per tournament.

On selection, players are expected to make immediate arrangements to pay these contributions either as a single payment or a series of staged payments which must be fully complete by the time of the tournament. Players unable or unwilling to make the necessary arrangements for their contributions will not be selected.

All enquiries relating to England men should be made to Martin Hughes vp@petanque-england.uk

England Veterans 2021/22



The Veterans qualification and selection system in 2021 will find the players that will comprise the team for the 2021 CEP European Veterans Triples Championships.

Due to the constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic we have decided that the team will need to be formed by 19th June and have set certain conditions for our participation which have already been communicated by the National Performance Panel.

Should the 2021 Championships be postponed to later in 2021 or 2022, we will still use the 2021 qualification and selection process to form the team no later than three months prior to the rescheduled date of the tournament.

In order to represent England, the CEP and FIPJP have certain eligibility criteria. Players that cannot represent England will not be permitted to enter the 2021 Rankings.

Tournament	Date and venue
Veterans Triples Day 1	5.6.21 – Leicester PC
Veterans Triples Day 2	6.6.21 – Leicester PC

The qualification and selection system in 2021 will be based on a two-day, single weekend triples tournament. Players are required to compete in the same triples team. The format of the weekend will be dependent on entries but will be based qualification stage on the first day and a group/knockout stage on the second day.

Competition entry fees for the weekend will be £30 per player. No prizes will feature as PE will allocate the entry fees received (after deduction of organisational expenses) to support veterans international preparation and participation.

The team that is ranked in first place at the conclusion of the weekend will be invited to represent England, whilst a fourth player to complete the team will be selected by the Lead Member for Veterans from the team that is ranked in second place. Selection will be made by the Lead Member in accordance with the NPP terms of reference document.

The team that is formed will be expected to fulfil certain preparatory obligations in advance of the European Championships. These obligations will be discussed with the team. Any members of the team who are unable to provide the levels of commitment required will be replaced by reference to the results of the Veterans weekend tournament.

The players in the top four teams at the weekend tournament may also be offered other representational opportunities which may be organised.

It is also important for members of the successful team to understand that although PE provides financial and logistical support (e.g. travel arrangements) for players, all CEP and FIPJP representation is subject to an individual player contribution of £250 per tournament.

On team formation, players are expected to make immediate arrangements to pay these contributions either as a single payment or a series of staged payments which must be fully complete by the time of the tournament. Players unable or unwilling to make the necessary arrangements for their contributions will not be selected.

All enquiries relating to England Veterans should be made to Clive de Silva
president@petanque-england.uk