



# Playing Format 2022

## 1. APPLICATION

- 1.1 This document applies to all competitions held under the auspices of Pétanque England (PE). Where the term “national” is used in these rules it applies to England.
- 1.2 This document should be read in conjunction with the “Competition Rules 2022”.

## 2. COMPETITION FORMAT

- 2.1 Unless stated otherwise, the format for all national events will be League and Knock out and may include secondary competitions (plate, consolation etc.), subject to the number of entries.
- 2.2 The Men’s and Women’s National Rankings Tournaments (SSE) playing format, held over two weekends, will be “Poules” followed by Elimination rounds.  
Points will be awarded for the final position at each tournament and all results from these competitions will count as the individual’s overall ranking score. Teams can only enter as a team of 3 for these events.
- 2.3 The Home Nations Championship Qualifier will over 5 rounds using the Swiss system to find the top 8 teams. Teams may consist of 4 players for this event.
- 2.4 The following competitions will be played with timed games:
  - All National events – (men, women and mixed) – League rounds
  - Home Nations Qualifier - all rounds (Swiss System).

## 3. ENTRIES

- 3.1 National competitions can only be entered in advance. Fees are £15 per person per event. Juniors free.
- 3.2 Entries and payment can only be made via your membership account on the PE Website membership portal available via <https://www.petanque-england.uk/member/>

## 4. ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 All PE members holding a valid licence are eligible to compete.
- 4.2 Junior and Espoir teams are selected through a series of assessment days lead by qualified coaches.
- 4.3 Players competing to represent PE in International events must be eligible to represent England, hold a UK passport at the time of selection, be able to travel and available to play. They will be required to produce evidence of eligibility/nationality and/or age to a designated member of the Events Group.
- 4.4 Only the winners and runners up of each Region’s Triples, Doubles, Singles and Shooting championships will be eligible to play in the Champion of Champion events.

## 5. SEEDING

- 5.1 Where Poules format is used in national competitions, a seeding system for the initial stages will be applied. This seeding will take into consideration a teams previous performance and/or current ranking positions.
- 5.2 Seeding will also be applied to the knock-out stages and shall be based on the teams performance in the earlier rounds.
- 5.3 Seeding for Poules will be carried out by the lead coach in conjunction with the Events Group or Competition Organiser.

## 6. RANKING POINTS

- 6.1 The top 16 places in ranking competitions will qualify for ranking points. In the case of Poules the allocation will be:

POSITION	POINTS	POSITION	POINTS
Winner	30	Runner-Up	24
Losing Semi-finalist	16	Losing Quarter-finalist	8
Losing round of 16	4	all others	0

## 7. REPRESENTATION

- 7.1 The objective of the Men's and Women's Ranking Tournaments is to identify the top 6 ranked players who will be considered for representation in national and international tournaments in 2022 or 2023.
- 7.2 Players, including Juniors, may enter each ranking tournament in the same, or a different team, as each tournament is a standalone competition and ranking points apply to the individual player. However, Junior players will need permission from the Junior squad manager to be included in the selection process for any senior representation.
- 7.3 The top 8 placed teams, from the Home Nations Qualifier, will be invited to represent PE at the 2022 Home Nations Championship. Should a top 8 team be unavailable, the next placed team will be invited to join the squad.SE

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### DATES: SSE Ranking Tournaments

25 June - Men's and Women's Triples  
26 June - Men's and Women's Triples  
30 July - Men's and Women's Triples  
31 July - Men's and Women's Triples

### Home Nations

15 May - Qualifier  
13-14 August - Championship (Scotland)

### International Women Day

6 August - Doubles (Champion of Champions)  
7 August - Triples

### Champion of Champions

17-18 September - Shooting  
2 October - Veterans Doubles  
15 October - Doubles  
16 October - Triples

### Veterans tournaments

23 July - Mixed Doubles  
24 July - Triples  
1 October - Doubles

### National Titles events

30 April - Singles (Men and Women)  
1 May - Doubles (Men and Women)  
2 May - Mixed Doubles  
27 August - Triples (Men and Women)  
29 August - Mixed Triples

## COMPETITION FORMATS - GENERAL EXPLANATION

There are quite a few different ways to run competitions or tournaments, but there are some which are more popular than the rest. Here is a brief description of the more popular types which are used by Petanque England.

## LEAGUE

League is one of the simplest combinations of formats to organise and is possibly the most commonly used.

Division 1 League					
Team	PI	W	GD	PD	Pts
1 France	18	13	24	144	26
2 Germany	18	12	26	199	24
3 Spain	18	12	14	114	24
4 Luxembourg	18	10	-2	40	20
5 Italy	18	9	-8	-81	18
6 Slovakia	18	8	0	23	16
7 Poland	18	8	-8	-57	16
8 Hungary	18	6	-10	-85	12
9 Lithuania	18	6	-10	-97	12
10 Ukraine	18	6	-26	-200	12

The league format is used as a preliminary or eliminator competition. It allows all teams (except in a league of three) to play three games before the tournament enters into its deciding "knockout" stage.

In the preliminary competition teams are drawn into leagues of 3, 4 or 6. Within these leagues they play off against each other to determine who will qualify for the main event.

Ideally leagues consist of 4 teams, as this will give all teams an equal number of games in this preliminary stage of the tournament. However, an odd number of entries or the need to limit the number of leagues to control entry into the subsequent knockout stage may require the use of leagues containing 3 or 6 teams.

Leagues of 6 teams, each team plays three games in the preliminary rounds, but obviously they do not play every team in their league.

Teams that do not qualify for the main event would normally go into a subsidiary competition such as the Plate or Nations Cup as it is referred to at International events.

## SWISS SYSTEM

The Swiss system is widely used across Continental Europe and as a “qualifying” stage at all World and European Championships. It is a non-eliminating format which has a predetermined number of rounds based on the number of entries.

Unlike a round robin, where every team will play every other team, in a Swiss tournament, teams are paired for the 1st round by seeding or a draw or a combination of both.

For the subsequent rounds each team plays an opponent with a similar score for example 1 win plays 1 win or 2 wins plays 2 wins and so on, teams will only play the same opponent once. If there is an odd number of teams, then a bye is allocated to the lowest ranked team, but no team will be allocated more than one bye.

It is difficult for players to “throw” a game, to provide advantage to another team, as to do so would affect who they play next.

Rank	Name	Club	Score	BHN	fBHN	Games
1	France	Triples-M	5	14	75	5:0
2	Norway	Triples-M	4	18	71	4:1
3	Netherlands	Triples-M	4	15	72	4:1
4	Spain	Triples-M	4	13	72	4:1
5	Luxembourg	Triples-M	4	13	72	4:1
6	Italy	Triples-M	4	13	70	4:1
7	Belgium	Triples-M	4	13	65	4:1
8	Switzerland	Triples-M	3	16	65	3:2
9	Monaco	Triples-M	3	16	62	3:2
10	Estonia	Triples-M	3	15	70	3:2
11	Poland	Triples-M	3	15	68	3:2
12	Denmark	Triples-M	3	15	63	3:2
13	Slovenia	Triples-M	3	14	69	3:2
14	Turkey	Triples-M	3	11	66	3:2
15	Slovakia	Triples-M	3	11		

While the Swiss format can be done manually, it is complex, time consuming and open to error. The CEP and FIPJP use a highly rated computer programme to operate the Swiss system and calculate the ranking (Buchholz).

The Buchholz (BHN) number system replaces using points difference to determine the final rankings. It produces a superior ranking because it takes into account the quality of the opposition played, which is important when teams are not playing every other team in the competition, by adding up the number of wins all your opponents have achieved. In effect you get a higher ranking by playing a stronger opposition (as opposed to points difference where you get a higher ranking by playing weaker opposition).

If after calculating team wins and BHN's two teams are still tied, another layer of tie breaking is required and Fine Buchholz (fBHN) is used. fBHN are the total Buchholz Numbers all your opponents earned added to your own BHN.

## POULES OR BARRAGE

Poules are a very aggressive preliminary or eliminator format. The only way a team can qualify from the Poules format is by winning.

Initially Poules looks like League with teams being divided into groups of 3 or 4 but the order of play is quite different. The objective of the Poules format is for teams to get two wins to qualify for the main event.

Poule	s.rk	Round 1	Round 2	Barrage	Qualified
A1	1	France 13	France 13	1st 2nd Switzerland 12 Monaco 13	1st 2nd France Monaco
	16	Jersey 3	Switzerland 4		
	9	Monaco 5	Jersey 1		
	8	Switzerland 13	Monaco 13		
A2	2	Norway 13	Norway 1	1st 2nd Norway 8 Estonia 13	1st 2nd Belgium Estonia
	15	Slovakia 0	Belgium 13		
	10	Estonia 2	Slovakia 9		
	7	Belgium 13	Estonia 13		
A3	3	Netherlands 13	Netherlands 5	1st 2nd Netherlands 13 Poland 11	1st 2nd Italy Netherlands
	14	Turkey 10	Italy 13		
	11	Poland 9	Turkey 10		
	6	Italy 13	Poland 13		
A4	4	Spain 13	Spain 13	1st 2nd Denmark 3 Luxembourg 13	1st 2nd Spain Luxembourg
	13	Slovenia 9	Denmark 2		
	12	Denmark 13	Slovenia 6		
	5	Luxembourg 3	Luxembourg 13		

**1st round** - Teams may be drawn or seeded into poules of 4 where A v B & C v D.

**2nd Round** - Winner A/B v Winner C/D & Loser A/B v Loser C/D

After the 2nd round one team will have recorded two wins so will have qualified, another team will have lost two games and will be eliminated.

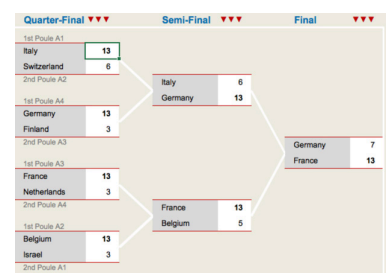
**3rd round (Barrage)** a play off between the two remaining teams that each have 1 win.

Normally, only the two teams with 2 wins each would qualify from a Poule but in some cases the top two will proceed to the main event and the bottom two teams to a secondary event, such as a playe.

## KNOCK-OUT

The knock-out, or sudden death tournament is an elimination event where the loser of each match is immediately eliminated from the tournament.

Each winner will play another in the next round, until the final match, when the winner becomes the tournament champion.





**Pétanque**  
**ENGLAND**



[www.petanque-england.uk](http://www.petanque-england.uk)