

GWR 2023 Competitions – General Rules

Entry

1. The number of entries for each competition may be set by the GWR Committee based upon venue capacity and allowing for any PE Safe Play rules currently in force. All players must be members of Pétanque England and **registered with** the Great Western region.
2. Where entry numbers are restricted, team entries will be made only on a 'first come, first served' basis through the www.gwrpetanque.com website or as advised by GWR from time to time and each online team entry made by this process shall only be completed by payment therefor being made by bank transfer within 24 hours of such online entry having been made.
3. A closing date for entries will be set for each competition and advertised on the GWR website, subject to any maximum number of teams having been reached before that date. Any additional entry submissions will be held on a reserve list.
4. It is the responsibility of each team captain to ensure that any / all additional players are registered with GWR Committee before any such player plays in the competition. Entrants will not be required to submit PE numbers on application but must be ready to prove their current, valid PE membership for the GWR region if requested to by competition officials.
5. A player is tied to a team from the point where they throw their first boule for that team. From that point, they may not play competition games for any other team. They may change teams at any point before this by informing the competition organisers.
6. The GWR Committee reserves the right to refuse entries to any GWR Competition.

Entry Fees and Prizes

7. Entry fee is set at **£15 per player** (free entry for Juniors) or as otherwise advertised on the GWR website and event invitation emails.
8. All payments must be made by Faster Payments Transfer to the credit of the bank account of Great Western Pétanque EPA: Sort Code **30-94-80** Account Number **02616303**. or as advised by GWR from time to time, quoting the team captain's name.
9. The GWR Committee will retain a portion of the total entry fees collected in order to cover administration and other expenses, including a contribution towards expenses for related Champion of Champions events. The remaining money will be distributed back to contestants using a formula broadly in line with that use by PE, as determined by the GWR Committee.
10. The GWR Committee may, at its discretion, decide to award GWR-branded winners' shirts to a winning team. If provided, these must be worn by players whilst representing GWR in Champion of Champion events.

Match Day Registration and Procedure

11. A register of players will be kept at each venue by a GWR Committee member, or delegated appointee, who will be the de facto organiser of the series or competition at that venue for the day. Names will be checked against entries
12. The event will start with registration at the advertised time with the start of the day's play 30 minutes later. Before play the venue host will deliver a safety briefing highlighting general health & safety risks and any additional risks specific to the venue and prevailing conditions.

13. The format of each competition (e.g., number of rounds, method of scoring and ranking teams) will be advertised in the event invitation email sent to team captains. Salient details will be reiterated on the day.
14. Specific rules for each competition (e.g., games timed or not, strings live or dead) and venue will be notified beforehand in the event invitation email sent to team captains. Salient details will be reiterated on the day.
15. In the event of non-appearance and registration of a team by the advertised start-of-play time, a 13-7 win will be recorded in favour of that team's opponents (and so on in respect of its other fixtures that day if it doesn't turn up at all).
16. Events held at venues that are commercial, such as public houses and sports clubs, may only allow food and drink purchased at the venue to be consumed. All players are to respect this and comply with venue regulations or may be subject to an immediate disqualification from the event
17. Any failure of dress or decorum by players at a GWR event may result in sanctions being applied by the GWR Committee, including retention of some prize money where the GWR Committee deems this to be appropriate.
18. The GWR Committee reserves the right to alter or amend these rules in the light of any prevailing H.M. Government COVID regulations, or other at its discretion.

Champion of Champions Events

19. The following GWR regional competitions are selection events for related National Champion of Champions competitions:
 - Doubles
 - Triples
 - Veterans Doubles
 - ShootingThe winners of these events will represent GWR in the Champion of Champions events.
20. Winners and runners-up for relevant GWR events will be invited to attend the related Champion of Champions event. For 2023, the currently published dates for these events are:
 - Sunday, 1 October 2023: Champion of Champions Veterans Doubles at Rainworth
 - Saturday, 14 October 2023: Champion of Champions Doubles at Newcastle-under-Lyme
 - Sunday, 15 October 2023: Champion of Champions Triples at Newcastle-under-LymeGWR will make a reasonable contribution towards the expenses of teams attending Champion of Champions events. This allowance will be deducted from the takings for the event before any allocation of prize money and/or event expenses.
21. Teams selected to play at the Champion of Champions events are encouraged to attend these. If a selected team chooses not to take part in an event, they will not be substituted.
22. As representatives of GWR, all players at Champion of Champions events must wear GWR shirts and be dressed in accordance with the Standards section of PE Competition Rules (see <https://www.petanque-england.uk/rules/>).
23. Any failure of dress or decorum by players at a PE event may result in a fine being levied upon GWR that the offending players will be required to pay. GWR may at its absolute discretion retain all or part of players' winnings from GWR competition(s) until completion of the related Champion of Champions event(s) and may deduct fines from these winnings before paying any remaining balance to players.

Safe Play Rules and Codes of Conduct

24. A safety briefing will be held at the start of any GWR event. All players must take note of this and act in a safe manner, including complying with any in-force Safe Play Guidelines issued by Pétanque England. As part of registering his / her team for any GWR competition, every team captain will be required to sign on behalf of each team member that such team members have understood and will abide by current safe play guidance.
25. Player safety is of paramount importance. Any breach of the Safe Play Rules and or Local Risk Assessment will be reported to the Officer in Charge and the GWR Safeguarding Officer (or appointee) and an appropriate warning will be issued. A second or subsequent breach will lead to the disqualification of the whole team from the competition
26. Venue hosts, appointed by GWR, will have full delegated authority to make decisions and apply immediate sanctions relating to safe play.
27. All players at GWR events must comply with current PE rules, codes of conduct and equality & safety policies. In particular, people wishing to take general interest photographs at GWR events should inform the organisers beforehand, stating any purpose to which the photographs may be put. Where young children are included and may be recognised from photographs, explicit permission must be obtained beforehand from each child's parent/care

