

Inter-Regional Qualifiers 2021 Rules

Entry

1. The number of entries will be limited to **16** teams of three players. All players must be members of Pétanque England and **registered with** the GWR region.
2. Entry fee is set at **£40 per team**. Team entries will be made only on a 'first come, first served' basis through the www.gwrpetanque.com website and each online team entry made by this process shall only be completed by payment therefor being made, in the following manner, within 24 hours of such online entry having been made.
3. 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 quoting the team captain's name
4. The closing date for entries is **Sunday 16 May 2021**, subject to the maximum having been reached before that date
5. Teams may register a 4th player at no additional cost. A maximum of four players may be registered per team for the qualifiers and for the Inter-Regional Championships, except that a fifth player may be registered for one of the three qualifying competitions. This is primarily but not exclusively intended to cover emergency circumstances such as injury or illness.
6. 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
7. In order to comply with current Covid-19 regulations, each venue may declare a maximum number of players and spectators that may attend at one time. Teams bringing more than three players to a match must ensure that they operate within these limits.
8. 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.
9. Organisation details for the Championships are not yet fully developed. After the full details have been published by PE, teams will be asked to reaffirm their intention to attend the Championships. If a team wishes to withdraw at that stage, no sanctions will be applied to it and its entry fee will be refunded.
10. After that point, the penalty for non-attendance at the Championships, unless a team is unable to do so on medical grounds or for any other reason which the committee in its absolute discretion considers to equate to force majeure, will be automatic disqualification from entry the next year in any such qualifying competitions
11. If a team decides not to go to the PE Inter-Regional Championships the next team in the ranking will automatically be promoted.
12. At least two players from those originally registered in each team must attend the Championships for the team's position in the squad to be maintained. Any replacement players who join the team will be accepted at the decision of the committee.
13. If sufficient teams enter, of the twelve teams which qualify for the Inter-Regional competitions and will be entered in, either the Championship (eight teams) or the

Challenge Division (four teams). If fewer teams enter, the Committee may enter eight teams for the Championship only, or in extremis none at all. In these cases, the entry fees of non-attending teams will be refunded. The Committee may also, at its absolute discretion, attempt to assemble additional teams to 'make up the numbers' to allow GWR to enter the Championships

14. The Committee reserves the right to refuse entries to the IRQs and hence the Championships.

Match Day Registration and Procedure

1. 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 at that venue for the day. Names will be checked against entries
2. The event will start with registration at 09:00 hrs for start of the day's play at 09:30 hrs.
3. In the event of non-appearance and registration of a team by 09.30 hrs, 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)
4. Games will not be timed, and strings will therefore be live (Pétanque England rules)
5. The maximum number of matches played at any venue / day's play will be five
6. The first venue will be Larkhall Sports Club. Subsequent venues will be arranged when entry numbers are known.
7. Each competing team will play all other teams over a period of three qualifying rounds. If the maximum of 16 teams enters then each round will consist of five games. Details of matches will be published before the first round.
8. 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.
9. In the unlikely event of cancellation of the series, by dint of H.M. Government regulations, on or before the series of fixtures has been completed, the Committee reserves the right to determine team rankings based upon the results from matches played so far.

COVID-19 Safety Rules

1. All teams must read and comply with the latest rules issued by the UK Government and Safe Play Guidelines issued by Pétanque England. These may be supplemented by venue-specific rules notified to teams at the initial safety briefing on match days.
2. As part of registration, players will sign in to signify that they have read and will comply with the Covid-19 safe play rules. Additionally, as part of the registration, each player may be required to submit to temperature testing by one of GWR's Non-contact Forehead Thermometers and any player whose temperature is recorded as 37.8C or greater will be required to leave the venue
3. **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**

4. Venue hosts will have full delegated authority to make decisions and apply immediate sanctions relating to safe play.

Fixture Dates

1. 23 May 2021 – IRQs Round 1 at Larkhall Sports Club
2. 13 June 2021 – IRQs Round 2 at Northey Arms
3. 20 June 2021 – IRQs Round 3 at Royal Wootton Bassett

