

 Pétanque Australia Ltd Affiliated With the F.I.P.J.P	Form No:	6.1.0.0		Umpire Policy		
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Umpire Policy

Part 1: Objectives

1 To standardise the officiating and playing standards of Petanque in Australia.

2 To provide guidelines and procedures for umpires to ensure consistency of the application of the F.I.P.J.P Rules of the Game of Petanque and Petanque Australia "Local rules" of the game.

Part II: Applicability

This policy applies to all affiliated clubs, licensed players, competition officials and administrators involved in Pétanque Australia sanctioned competitions held in Australia.

Part III: Definitions

- 1 **Level 4 Umpire:** An umpire qualified at International Level.
- 2 **Level 3 Umpire:** An umpire qualified at the National Level
- 3 **Level 2 Umpire:** An umpire qualified at the State Level
- 4 **Level 1 Umpire:** An umpire qualified at the Club Level.

Part IV: Principles

a. Sporting Principles

Pétanque Australia seeks to consistently apply sound its Sporting principles to Tournaments. Petanque Australia believes:

- 1 Fairness everyone should be given an opportunity to pursue their goals and aspirations. Fairness is:
 a not just a way of behaving, it is also a way of thinking,

- b is about operating within the letter and spirit of the rules, and
 - c is making informed and honourable decisions on and off the piste.
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- 2 Safety everyone has the right to work and participate in an environment that is physically and emotionally safe.
 - 3 Respect
Everyone should:
 - a recognise the contribution of every other person,
 - b treat everyone with dignity and courtesy, and
 - c take care of the environment, equipment and property.
 - 4 Responsibility
Everyone should take responsibility for their actions and be a positive role model on and off the field.

b. Umpiring Principles

Pétanque Australia believes that:

- 1 It is important to provide standard formats and practices in order to ensure that the quality of umpiring is nationally consistent.
- 2 Umpiring practices need to be regularly revisited and revised as necessary to reflect changes the development of the sport.
- 3 Umpires should receive practical training in order to support the organisation and manage pétanque competitions.
- 4 Respect of the rules and procedures is important for the equity of the players.

Part V: Policy Statement

- 1 Pétanque Australia is committed to provide a comprehensive set of guidelines and procedures to ensure effective and efficient umpiring of the sport of pétanque in Australia.
- 2 Umpiring standards must be consistent with the FIPJP Rules of the Game of Pétanque, Petanque Australia local rules and their rules and by laws.

Part VI: Provisions

1. **Umpire Classification and Requirements**

- 1 Umpires in Australia are to be classed as follows:
 - a Level 1, Club Umpire
 - b Level 2, State Umpire
 - c Level 3, National Umpire
 - d Level 4, International Umpire
 - e "Honorary" Umpire
- 2 Umpires must have:
 - a A valid Petanque Australia Player's Licence.
 - b An Umpire Licence issued by Pétanque Australia Ltd.

2. **Umpire Commission Structure and Responsibilities**

- 1 The Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission shall be composed of 3 to 5 members and consist only of National or International umpires.
 - a Chairperson appointed by Petanque Australia Executive
 - b Director of Umpiring
 - c 1 to 3 Supporting Members
- 2 This Commission shall;
 - a Communicate with Pétanque Australia through the chairperson of the commission.
 - b Assist Pétanque Australia in the interpretation and proposed amendment of Rules for the playing of Pétanque, Petanque Australia local rules and on all aspects of Pétanque play according to the rules of the F.I.P.J.P.
 - c Supervise and/or direct umpire examinations throughout Australia as per requirements of section 13
 - d Recommend to Petanque Australia executive, umpires for national and international tournaments as required
 - e Implement a system of training for new and current umpires
- 3 The Director of Umpiring (hereinafter referred to as the National Director) shall;
 - a Administrate and co-ordinate all qualified National, State and Club Umpires.

b Liaise with the Director in each State and oversee the establishment of rosters for umpires.

c Implement a reporting system as per Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission regulations. He/she shall also implement a payment system for expenses.

d Establish and maintain a “National Register of Incident” in order to accurately record infringements of the rules by players and identify “repeat offenders” All umpires regardless of Level shall comply with and abide by all directives and guidelines of the Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission or risk facing disciplinary action.

3. Expenses

- 1 All expenses incurred by an umpire when on National duty will need to be pre-approved by the National Director for payment of reimbursement.
- 2 At State level, this is the responsibility of the State Director.
- 3 All claims for expenses should be submitted along with the Umpire Report (No report / No payment).

4. State Umpire Structure and Responsibilities

- 1 The State Director of Umpiring (hereinafter referred to as the State Director) for each State/Territory League/Association (hereinafter referred to as the State League) will be appointed upon recommendation to Petanque Australia by the Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission.
- 2 The State Director will be a member of the State League Committee with no voting rights and will be responsible for the recommendation of umpires to the state league to officiate at all State League and Club run events in his/her State of Directorship.
- 3 The State Director shall;
 - a Make recommendations to the State League Executive on all aspects of Pétanque according to the rules of the F.I.P.J.P. and Petanque Australia local rules.
 - b Establish and maintain a “State Register of Incidents” to be forwarded to the National Director to facilitate update of the National Register.

5. Resignation of Office Bearers

Upon resignation of any official office bearer of the Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission or of a State Director, a replacement to the position is required within 30 days of the date of official notification in writing of said resignation.

6. Uniforms

Umpires will be issued by Pétanque Australia with one umpire uniform shirt. Umpires will be able to purchase additional shirts at cost price.

7. State-Organised Competitions and Tournaments

- 1 The State Director shall:
 - a Recommend umpires for tournaments or championships controlled by the State League in the State for which he/she is Director.
 - b With the State League, establish an umpire roster for competitions.
- 2 The Umpires officiating at any competition shall be responsible for administering the rules of play in accordance with the Official International Rules of Pétanque. All umpires should wear their badge whilst officiating.
- 3 Level 1 (Club) umpires shall be authorised to umpire in club events. In State or National events, they may be requested to officiate or assist under the supervision of a senior ranked umpire as applicable to the occasion.
- 4 Each nominated umpire will be permitted to act as "official Umpire" except in a game in which he/she is involved.
- 5 During the day, umpires no longer involved in the competition shall become the "official" umpires.
- 6 If no umpire is present due to unforeseen circumstances, the organising committee will name a committee member to officiate as the umpire of the day with full authority to refer matters of discipline to the Jury for decision.
- 7 All cases not provided for in the rules are put to the umpire who can refer them to the Tournament Jury, whose decisions are without appeal (refer Article 40 - F.I.P.J.P. Rules).
- 8 Officiating umpires are to send a written report for all competitions and tournaments at which they officiate to the State Director, with an information copy to the National Director.

8. Restrictions on Officiating

- 1 Umpires are bound to respect and apply F.I.P.J.P. and Pétanque Australia rules, regulations and policies.
- 2 No umpire, regardless of Level or position, is to officiate in any tournament or competition that has not been approved or recognised by, or run in accordance with the guidelines for competitions and tournaments of Pétanque Australia.
- 3 An officiating umpire is not permitted to undertake any other duty with regards to the competition/tournament for which he/she is officiating, for example; registration table, jury, tournament director, coach.

9. Tournament and Activity Reports

- 1 Competition/Tournament Reports must be completed for all official State League and Club Competitions or Tournaments by the Official Umpire of the day and if necessary for reason of incident or warning, assisting umpire(s) in attendance.

Incident reports and details of subsequent penalties and/or disciplinary decisions or actions must be forwarded to the State Director with an information copy to the National Director.

- 2 Active Duty Reports must be completed by all umpires regardless of Level and forwarded to their respective State Director.

A summary of "Active Status" should be forwarded by the State Director to the National Director on a quarterly basis (minimum).

- 3 Failure of umpires to fulfil responsibilities as detailed in the above paragraphs may result in disciplinary action being taken by the Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission.

10. Ongoing Training

The State Director is to hold workshops and meetings with all umpires in the state on a regular base. In situations where distance makes the holding of regular meetings impractical, "affairs of State" may be conducted by telephone, postal or electronic correspondence.

11. Conduct & Discipline

- 1 The National Director of Umpires is responsible for the performance of umpires throughout Australia.
- 2 Form PA-Frm 6.1.1.4 Umpire Code of Conduct outlines the standards of behaviour for Petanque Australia Umpires. All umpires are to sign a copy of this form and submit it to the National Director of Umpiring.
- 3 Any report or complaint regarding the behaviour or performance of an umpire is to be forwarded to the National Director of Umpires through the State Umpire Commission where appropriate.

- 4 In the case of poor Umpire performance, the National Director of Umpires is to investigate the matter, consult with the Petanque Australia Umpire Commission or the relevant State Umpire Commission and instigate corrective action. Sanctions may be applied for poor performance as contained in PA-Pro 2.5.1.0 Penalty Code Art. 7.
- 5 In the case of misconduct or violations of Petanque Australia Constitution, Policies, Procedures, or Codes of Conduct by an umpire, the National Director of Umpires is to investigate and refer the matter to the State Hearings Tribunal.

12. Downgrading or Suspension

- 1 As a result of poor performance or disciplinary action, an umpire could be downgraded, suspended or have his/her umpire license revoked. (See PA-Pro 2.5.1.0 Penalty Code Art. 7)
- 2 If seen to be inactive without valid reason for an extended period, an umpire may be downgraded to a lower level or be required to re-sit and pass an examination in order to retain status.
- 3 Any umpire, who willingly accepts to take on the role of official umpire in any event not run in accordance with the criteria as described, will be subject to immediate downgrading and/or suspension of umpire classification along with the possibility of further action being taken by the National Hearings Tribunal i.e. possible withdrawal of player licence.

13. Examinations

(Ref also: Document entitled "Pétanque Umpire Exam, Information and Conditions for Eligibility")

- 1 A State Director will, after authorisation from the Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission, conduct examinations for Club umpires and State umpires
- 2 It is the responsibility of the State Director to organise a course and workshop for existing umpires as deemed appropriate to the individual needs.
- 3 The State Umpire will set dates for examinations and be responsible for the compilation of written examination papers.
- 4 The State Director is required to conduct 1 or 2 examinations per year (subject to being the holder of a current minimum of Level 2 status for Club and Level 3 for State examinations).
- 5 National umpire examinations shall be conducted during the Easter Open tournament or at a convenient time as deemed appropriate and shall be supervised by a member of the Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission.

c. Examinations – Eligibility

- 1 Any Senior Licensed player can apply to become a club umpire providing he/she is a financial club member, by forwarding a written application to their respective State Director. After passing the Oral, Written and Practical exam, he/she will then be authorised (after ratification from Pétanque Australia on the recommendation from the Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission) to umpire within his/her respective State and assist in State League events.
- 2 After completing 1 full year as an active Probationary Level 1 (Club) umpire, the umpire may apply to sit for a Level 2 (State Umpire) examination to be conducted by the State Director subject to Annex F paragraph 2.1.
- 3 Upon recommendation from his/her State Director and after completing 1 year as an active Probationary Level 2 (State) Umpire, an umpire can apply to sit the exam for Level 3 (National).
- 4 Applicants must be physically fit and possess good eyesight as a prerequisite before applying to sit for a Club, State or National Umpire Examination.

Applicants must be under 55 years of age to be eligible to apply for an International Umpire Licence as per the F.I.P.J.P. rules.

14. Honorary Umpires

- 1 A National Umpire may apply for an Honorary Umpire licence once he/she is no longer able to umpire, providing he/she has actively held a National Umpire status for a minimum of 10 years. Honorary status may also be granted upon recommendation by the Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission.
 - 2 If appointed to officiate by the Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission, an Honorary Umpire shall have all powers and authorities associated with the position of National Umpire. An Honorary Umpire shall not be permitted to give umpire exams, nor be eligible for appointment to the Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission or as a State Director.
 - 3 An Honorary Umpire is not authorised to advise or liaise with clubs, the State League or Pétanque Australia on any matters relating to pétanque play unless granted authorisation in writing from the Pétanque Australia Umpire Commission or the National Director.
- Infringements of the above paragraph may result in disciplinary sanctions being imposed on the offending umpire by the National Hearings Tribunal, resulting in the withdrawal of Honorary Status.

Part VII: Sources and Acknowledgements

The following sources of information used in this document are acknowledged:

- 1 Petanque Australia Umpire Commission

Part VIII: Reviews And Approval

The National Umpire commission and the Petanque Australia Executive shall review this policy biennially.