



European Cup Rules

Confédération Européenne de Pétanque
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Contents

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS	4
1. Scope of Application	4
2. Definitions	4
3. Frequency of the European Cup	4
4. Organisation	4
5. Registration	5
6. Participation	5
7. Insurance	5
8. Finances	5
II. FEDERATION CLUB TEAM	6
9. Eligibility of Players	6
10. Coaches	6
11. Team Clothing	6
12. Discipline	7
III. COMPETITION	7
13. Draw	7
14. Match	8
15. Scorecards	8
16. Replacement Players	8
17. Match Points	8
18. Qualification Stage	8
19. EuroCup and FedCup Elimination Stage	9
20. Awards	9
21. Implementing Provisions	10
22. Jury	10
23. Unforeseen Circumstances	10
24. Non-Compliance	10
25. Authoritative Version	10

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Scope of Application

- 1.01. The Confédération Européenne de Pétanque (CEP), recognised by the Fédération Internationale de Pétanque et Jeu Provençal (FIPJP), is the only organisation authorised to organise the European Cup and to award the title of European Cup Champion.
- 1.02. These rules govern the rights, duties and responsibilities of all parties participating and involved in the organisation of a European Cup.

2. Definitions

- 2.01. In the context of these rules, the following definitions apply:
 - CEP: Confédération Européenne de Pétanque.
 - Buchholz: The total number of matches won during the Qualification Stage by all opponents previously played by a team.
 - Coach: The person registered with a team who is responsible for representing and managing the team during the European Cup and who is not a player.
 - Control Table: The officials appointed by the CEP to administer and supervise the sporting operation of the European Cup.
 - Directors: The CEP Board of Directors.
 - Elimination Stage: The knock-out phase of the European Cup comprising the EuroCup and FedCup competitions.
 - European Cup: The annual club championship competition organised by the CEP, comprising a Qualification Stage and the EuroCup and FedCup Elimination Stages.
 - EuroCup: The primary elimination competition of the European Cup.
 - FedCup: The secondary elimination competition of the European Cup.
 - Fine Buchholz: The combined Buchholz score of all opponents previously played by a team during the Qualification Stage.
 - Host: The federation or other organisation designated by the CEP to organise the European Cup.
 - Match: An encounter between two opposing teams consisting of a Singles Round, a Doubles Round and a Triples Round.
 - Qualification Stage: The phase of the European Cup played using the Swiss System to determine the ranking of teams and qualification for the EuroCup and FedCup.
 - Swiss Round: A round of the Qualification Stage in which teams are paired in accordance with the Swiss System.
 - Team: A club team of a federation consisting of six (6) to nine (9) players as defined in these rules.
- 2.02. Unless expressly provided otherwise in writing, for the purpose of these rules, a year is a calendar year, beginning on 1 January and ending on 31 December.

3. Frequency of the European Cup

- 3.01. The Directors shall supervise the organisation of the European Cup each year during week 45.

4. Organisation

- 4.01. The Directors shall delegate the organisation to the Host but will remain fully responsible for the supervision, conduct and results of the European Cup.
- 4.02. The Host, having made all the necessary preparations for the European Cup in accordance with the CEP Specifications, shall submit a detailed programme to the CEP President or Secretary General for approval.
- 4.03. The CEP Secretary General shall inform all participating federations of the exact location of the European Cup and provide all practical information necessary for participation at least four months in advance in order to enable them to make the necessary travel arrangements.

- 4.04. The European Cup shall be played under cover unless otherwise agreed by the Directors.

5. Registration

- 5.01. Only CEP member federations, in good standing and having paid the applicable European Cup fees, have the right to register a team.
- 5.02. Pre-registration forms shall be sent to the federations by email at least four months before the date of the European Cup.
- 5.03. Federations must confirm their participation in the European Cup no later than three months before the date of the European Cup.
- 5.04. The composition of the federation team must be pre-registered two months before the date of the European Cup using the European Cup pre-registration form. Partial changes may be made up to the time of registering the team at the European Cup.
- 5.05. All forms issued for the European Cup must be sent to the specific email addresses indicated on each form and on the European Cup invitation.
- 5.06. The registration of the federation team will be finalised at the European Cup, where all registered players and the coach must be present and shall present their licences and other documents (passport or other official photo ID) required to verify their eligibility.

6. Participation

- 6.01. In order to participate in the European Cup, each federation shall ensure that its players, team officials or other team personnel comply with and observe the European Cup Rules, including the conditions of participation and the WADA Anti-Doping Code.
- 6.02. Each federation shall establish its own qualification or selection criteria to determine which club team will take part in the European Cup. The application of these criteria is the responsibility of the federations.
- 6.03. Players, team officials and other team personnel participating in the European Cup may allow their name, image or sporting achievements to be used for promotional purposes during the European Cup in accordance with the principles determined by the Directors.
- 6.04. The entry or participation of a team or players in the European Cup shall not be conditional upon any financial consideration.

7. Insurance

- 7.01. Federations are responsible for and undertake to arrange, at their own expense, all necessary and appropriate insurance cover for their team, including players, coaches and officials.
- 7.02. All insurances must cover the full period of the European Cup.

8. Finances

- 8.01. Participating federations are responsible for all expenses associated with their participation in the European Cup unless otherwise specified by the CEP.
- 8.02. Each participating federation shall pay a registration fee to the CEP within thirty (30) days of receipt of the invoice for the European Cup. The registration fee shall be based upon the number of members of the federation and shall be calculated as follows:

Members	Fee	Members	Fee	Members	Fee
up to 500	€ 250	3,001–5,000	€ 600	15,001–25,000	€ 2,400
501–1,000	€ 350	5,001–10,000	€ 1,200	more than 25,000	€ 3,000
1,001–3,000	€ 500	10,001–15,000	€ 2,000		

II. FEDERATION CLUB TEAM

9. Eligibility of Players

- 9.01. Each team shall consist of a minimum of six (6) and a maximum of nine (9) players as follows:
 - i. Team of 6 players – At least one (1) player must be of the opposite sex to the remainder of the team.
 - ii. Team of 7, 8 or 9 players – At least two (2) players must be of the opposite sex to the remainder of the team.
- 9.02. Each player must have been a member of the club and hold a valid licence issued by the federation they represent for at least six (6) months at the date of the European Cup.
- 9.03. The burden of proof in establishing whether a player is eligible rests with the federation and the individual concerned.
- 9.04. The federation must provide the CEP with valid and authenticated documentation of the player's eligibility and such other evidence as may be necessary to conclusively establish the individual's eligibility.
- 9.05. In accordance with these rules, the eligibility of a player shall at all times be guaranteed by the federation they represent.

10. Coaches

- 10.01. Each team must include a coach who, for the purposes of the European Cup, is not a player but who has held a valid licence issued by the federation they represent for at least six (6) months at the date of the European Cup.
- 10.02. The burden of proof in establishing whether a coach is eligible rests with the federation and the individual concerned.
- 10.03. The federation must provide the CEP with valid and authenticated documentation of the coach's eligibility and such other evidence as may be necessary to conclusively establish the individual's eligibility.
- 10.04. In accordance with these rules, the eligibility of a coach shall at all times be guaranteed by the federation they represent.
- 10.05. The coach is responsible for the team and in particular their good sportsmanship and appearance as described within these rules.
- 10.06. The coach shall respond to any appeal or request from the Control Table or Host Federation and participate in any random draw for their team.
- 10.07. During the European Cup, the coach shall be present with the team in the area assigned to them by the Control Table or the umpire.
- 10.08. During play, the coach shall conduct themselves in a manner that does not interfere with the game, distract the opposing team, spectators or officials, or bring the European Cup into disrepute.

The coach is not permitted on the terrain of play and must remain within the area allocated to their team by the Control Table or umpire.

At the request of the players, the coach may provide advice, provided that this does not result in an extension of the time allowed for throwing the jack or a boule.

11. Team Clothing

- 11.01. The rules concerning team clothing, which are common to all CEP Championships, also apply to the European Cup.
- 11.02. Throughout the European Cup, the players and coach shall wear clothing that is clean and designed and worn in such a way as not to be offensive.
- 11.03. The players and coach must wear matching team clothing. The tops (jackets, shirts, etc.) must have at least short sleeves and the bottoms (shorts, trousers, etc.) must be no shorter than the player's fingertips with the arms and fingers extended at the player's side. Where visible under-

shirts or other undergarments are worn by two or more players, they shall be identical in colour and appearance.

- 11.04. The name of the nation or club shall be displayed on the back of the tops.
- 11.05. The player's family name and first initial may appear on the back of the tops but must be smaller than the name of the nation or club.
- 11.06. Denim or jeans, regardless of colour, are not permitted.
- 11.07. Leggings are forbidden as an outer garment and may not be worn as the visible outer layer of team clothing.

Leggings may be worn underneath approved shorts or trousers, provided that the remainder of the team clothing complies with these Rules.

- 11.08. Federation teams may display a maximum of three (3) names or logos of commercial sponsors on their clothing for promotional purposes. Alcohol and tobacco advertising is prohibited.
- 11.09. These names or logos must be identical for each of the players and the coach and be displayed only on their tops. Each name or logo must be limited to 40 cm², maximum height 5 cm, and comply with the laws and regulations of the nation hosting the European Cup. The logo of the kit manufacturer is not considered advertising.
- 11.10. Any player or team who, after a warning from the umpire, fails to comply with these team clothing rules may be fined (maximum €100 per person) or disqualified from the European Cup.

Note: The CEP is neither responsible nor liable for any disputes which may arise from advertising contracts between CEP member federations or clubs on the one hand and advertising companies or sponsors on the other.

12. Discipline

- 12.01. In the event of a licence holder breaching the published rules and regulations, the CEP shall notify the licence holder's federation of the violation. The federation shall be responsible for considering and imposing any sanctions in accordance with its own rules and regulations.
- 12.02. Notwithstanding Article 12.01, the CEP reserves the right to impose sanctions directly in relation to the European Cup.

Such sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- Warning;
- Removal from a match;
- Disqualification from the current European Cup;
- Exclusion from future European Cups;
- Withdrawal of accreditation; or
- Any other measure considered appropriate by the Directors.

- 12.03. It is prohibited to smoke (including electronic smoking devices), consume alcohol or use mobile/smart phones in the area of play.
- 12.04. Doping controls and/or alcohol breath tests may be carried out during the European Cup.

III. COMPETITION

13. Draw

- 13.01. The draw shall take place in the presence of an umpire at a time and place determined by the Control Table.
- 13.02. The previous year's European Cup Champion shall be seeded 1, the runner-up seeded 2 and the two losing semi-finalists seeded 3 and 4.
- 13.03. All remaining teams shall be drawn randomly.
- 13.04. The draw shall determine the pairings for the first Swiss Round of the Qualification Stage only.

13.05. Pairings for subsequent rounds shall be generated in accordance with the Swiss System.

14. Match

14.01. Each match shall consist of three rounds played in the following order:

Singles Round - Six (6) individual players versus six (6) individual players, where one game must be between female players.

Doubles Round - One (1) Mixed Double versus one (1) Mixed Double and, at the same time, two (2) Open Doubles versus two (2) Open Doubles.

Triples Round - One (1) Mixed Triple versus one (1) Mixed Triple and, at the same time, one (1) Open Triple versus one (1) Open Triple.

15. Scorecards

15.01. All players for the match must have their name recorded on the scorecard. No additional players may be added to a scorecard once the match has commenced.

15.02. The coach shall enter the details of the players directly on the scorecard and, in order to safeguard the composition of the teams, the selection of players for Singles, Doubles and Triples shall take place before each round of the match.

15.03. The scorecard should be folded in half so that the team coach may complete their side before giving it to the opposing team's coach to complete their team selection.

16. Replacement Players

16.01. Teams with seven (7), eight (8) or nine (9) players recorded on the scorecard may replace one (1) player in each Doubles and Triples game.

For mixed Doubles and mixed Triples, the replacement player must preserve a mixed composition of the team.

For the purposes of this Article, a mixed team triples shall consist of either:

- one (1) female and two (2) male players; or
- two (2) female and one (1) male player.

16.02. A replacement may only be made after the last boule of an end has been played and before the jack for the next end is thrown. The replacement must be reported to the coach of the opposing team and recorded on the scorecard.

16.03. A player who has completed their game or who has been replaced may not play in any other team during the same round.

16.04. Registered players who are not participating in the current game shall not interfere with play, distract players, spectators or officials, or enter the terrain of play except with the permission of the umpire.

17. Match Points

17.01. For each game won, the team shall be awarded match points as follows:

Singles - 2 points per win

Doubles - 3 points per win

Triples - 5 points per win

The maximum number of match points available in any match is thirty-one (31).

17.02. The team with the greater number of match points at the conclusion of the three rounds of the match shall be declared the winner of the match.

18. Qualification Stage

18.01. The Qualification Stage shall be played using a four (4) round Swiss System in which all participating teams shall take part.

18.02. Following each Swiss Round, teams shall be ranked automatically by the approved competition software using the following criteria:

1. Matches Won
 2. Buchholz
 3. Fine Buchholz
 4. Direct Comparison if exactly two teams are even
 5. Achieved Game Points
 6. Boule Points Difference
 7. Achieved Boule Points
 8. Draw Number
- 18.03. A Bye is scored as 16:15 game points, 53:52 boule points, no BHP, no fBHP.
- 18.04. At the conclusion of the Qualification Stage:
- Teams ranked 1st to 16th shall qualify for the EuroCup Elimination Stage.
 - Teams ranked 17th to 32nd shall qualify for the FedCup Elimination Stage.
 - Teams ranked 33rd and below shall be eliminated from the competition.
- 18.05. Teams must complete all scheduled games within a match in the Qualification Stage, as the results form part of the ranking calculations used to determine qualification for the Elimination Stage.
- 18.06. The Directors reserve the right to modify the competition format, qualification criteria, seeding arrangements and the number of teams progressing to the EuroCup and FedCup where necessary due to the number of participating teams, venue limitations, operational requirements or other exceptional circumstances. Any such modification shall be communicated to the participating federations before the commencement of the competition.

19. EuroCup and FedCup Elimination Stage

- 19.01. The 1st Round of the EuroCup and FedCup elimination stage will be seeded as follows:

EuroCup		FedCup	
<i>Match</i>	<i>Teams</i>	<i>Match</i>	<i>Teams</i>
A	1 v 16	A	17 v 32
B	8 v 9	B	24 v 25
C	4 v 13	C	20 v 29
D	5 v 12	D	21 v 28
E	11 v 6	E	27 v 22
F	14 v 3	F	30 v 19
G	10 v 7	G	26 v 23
H	15 v 2	H	31 v 18

- 19.02. The Quarter-finals for the EuroCup and FedCup shall be:

Quarter-Final	Teams
QF1	Winner A v Winner B
QF2	Winner C v Winner D
QF3	Winner E v Winner F
QF4	Winner G v Winner H

- 19.03. The Semi-Finals for the EuroCup and FedCup shall be:

Winner QF1 v Winner QF2
 Winner QF3 v Winner QF4

- 19.04. The winner of the FedCup Semi-Finals shall contest the FedCup Final, and the winner of the EuroCup Semi-Finals shall contest the EuroCup Final.

The winner of those Finals shall be declared the FedCup Winner and the European Cup Champion respectively.

20. Awards

- 20.01. Players participating in the Semi-Finals and Finals of the EuroCup and FedCup must attend the award ceremony in accordance with the instructions issued by the CEP delegation, including, but not limited to, wearing the correct team clothing.
- 20.02. A maximum of ten (10) medals shall be presented to each of the top four teams in both the EuroCup and FedCup respectively:
- 1st Place – Gold
 - 2nd Place – Silver
 - Joint 3rd Place – Bronze
- 20.03. At the discretion of the Host Federation and with the approval of the Directors, cups or similar trophies may also be presented to the top four teams in the EuroCup.
- 20.04. The FedCup Winner shall be presented with the FedCup perpetual trophy.
- 20.05. The EuroCup Champion shall be presented with the European Cup perpetual trophy.
- 20.06. Each year, prize money, subject to the number of participating federations, shall be awarded by the CEP and allocated as follows:
- | EuroCup | FedCup |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| €700 – 1st | €250 – 1st |
| €500 – 2nd | €200 – 2nd |
| €400 each – Joint 3rd | €175 each – Joint 3rd |
| €300 each – Joint 5th | €150 each – Joint 5th |

IV. CLOSING PROVISIONS

21. Implementing Provisions

- 21.01. The CEP Directors appointed to the Control Table are responsible for the European Cup and are therefore authorised to take decisions and issue the guidelines necessary for the implementation of these rules.

22. Jury

- 22.01. The Jury shall be composed of:
- The official representative appointed by the CEP;
 - The Chief Umpire;
 - A member of the Host Federation (except the President);
 - A member of the Organising Committee.
- One of these persons shall be appointed as Jury President.
- 22.02. The Jury shall decide on matters not covered by these rules or not within the authority of the Control Table.
- 22.03. In the case of a split vote, the Jury President shall have the casting vote.
- 22.04. The decisions reached by the Jury are final and without appeal.

23. Unforeseen Circumstances

- 23.01. All matters not provided for in these rules, including cases of force majeure, shall be decided by the Control Table after consultation with the umpire and, where necessary, the Jury. Such decisions shall be final.

24. Non-Compliance

- 24.01. Any infringement of these rules may be penalised by the CEP in accordance with these rules and the CEP Statutes.

25. Authoritative Version

- 25.01. In the event of a difference in the interpretation of the English and French versions of these rules, the English version shall prevail.



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