

# SOUTHERN COUNTIES PETANQUE ASSOCIATION

## 6-A-SIDE LEAGUE RULES

### FORMAT

1. A match will consist of a round of 2 triples games followed by a round of 3 doubles games giving a total of 5 games.

1st Round	-	Triple A v Triple A	2nd Round	-	Double A v Double A
		Triple B v Triple B			Double B v Double B
					Double C v Double C

2. The players used for the doubles round do not have to be the same as used for the triples round. A minimum of 6 and a maximum of 12 players can appear for a team in any one match. Substitute players cannot be introduced during a game e.g. teams of 4 are not permitted in the triples.
3. The home captain will enter the names of his players on the result sheet before the away captain.
4. If there are marked terrains the home team captain can nominate the terrains to be used or declare an open terrain. The visiting captain can then select which of the marked terrains each of the away teams will play on or the area of open terrain where each game will commence.
5. All league matches will be played to E.P.A. rules and all games shall be played to 13 points.

### PLAYERS

6. All league players must hold a current Southern Counties Membership Card (License).
7. Once a player has played for one 6-a-side league team he/she may not play for another 6-a-side team during that season. (Under special circumstances this rule may be waived by prior agreement with the Southern Counties Petanque Association (SCPA) Executive).

### MATCH ARRANGEMENTS

8. Prior to the start of the season, each league team will be required to nominate the day that they wish to play each of their home matches. A fixture list will be drawn up and circulated to all teams.
9. Clubs should give at least 5 days notice to the opposing club if they need to change a date on the fixture list. The League Fixtures Secretary must be informed by the club asking for the change and a valid reason given (e.g. a clash with another club event such as a twinning, or a re-arrangement to a weekend due to the long travelling distances involved).

If the two teams can agree on the match date being brought forward then this is acceptable. If the match has to be postponed then the rearranged match should be played within 4 weeks of the original match date. The team that **did not** instigate the postponement should submit 3 possible dates within those 4 weeks that do not clash with other league fixtures involving the clubs. If no agreement can be reached then the League Fixtures Secretary will arbitrate as per rule 21.

**All fixtures must be completed by October 31<sup>st</sup> 2009.**

10. If due to exceptionally inclement weather a league match has to be postponed then the home captain must inform the League Fixtures Secretary. The home captain will also be responsible for rearranging the match, which should be played within the following four weeks. If no agreement can be reached then the League Fixtures Secretary will arbitrate as per rule 21.
11. The captain of the home team should make contact with the opposing captain prior to the match day to agree a start time and to confirm the venue. If using email please ensure that the email is received and read. The captain of the away team is advised to confirm the fixture to avoid unnecessary travelling.

12. All matches must start within 15 minutes of the time agreed by the two opposing clubs after which time penalties will apply as follows :-
- the non-offending team can claim 1 game point for each 5 minutes of absence of the opposing team **or**
  - the opposing team can start play although the team is incomplete. In the case of an incomplete triples team the remaining players in the team can only play with 2 boules.

It will be the responsibility of the team captain (or a nominated player if the captain is not present) whose players are not present at the agreed time to decide which penalty sanction to accept, if asked to do so by the opposing team captain. Late arriving players may join their teams after an end has been completed.

## **RESULTS**

13. The captains will be responsible for agreeing to the game scores and the final match result.
14. The Home captain must forward the match result sheet to the League Fixtures Secretary within 3 days of the match date.
15. If a league match is unfinished, for whatever reason, complete and incomplete game scores must stand as at the time the match was stopped. When the match is completed at a later date a club may introduce substitute players if they so wish. A copy of the result sheet for the incomplete match should be forwarded to the League Fixtures Secretary.

## **LEAGUE POSITIONS**

16. One point will be given for each game won in the match, and an additional point awarded to the team winning most games within the match.
17. League positions will be decided by points won. If two or more teams have equal points and it is necessary to separate them a play-off will be arranged on a neutral ground. If teams are still on equal points at the end of the play-off matches then points difference in the play-off games will be used to determine final positions.

## **UNFULFILLED FIXTURES/ PENALTY SANCTIONS**

18. If a team is unable to fulfil a fixture then the following scores will be awarded:
- |                    |   |            |                              |
|--------------------|---|------------|------------------------------|
| Non-offending team | - | 3-0 Win    | (4 points)                   |
| Offending team     | - | 0-5 Defeat | <u>(2 points deducted)</u> . |

In the event of a team being unwilling or unable to fulfil a fixture, the matter will be referred to the SCPA Executive Committee who may impose further penalties if appropriate.

19. If a team is found to have fielded an ineligible player then the scores for the offending team as in rule 18 will apply. The non-offending team will either be given the score as in rule 18 or the match result allowed to stand whichever is the better score for that team.
20. If a team withdraws from the league during the season and they have played less than half of their matches - all their matches will be considered void. If they have played at least half of their matches then the results will stand and the remaining matches awarded to the opposition as in Rule 18.

## **DISPUTES**

21. If there is a dispute which the team captains cannot resolve it will be the responsibility of both captains to report the matter to the League Fixtures Secretary in the first instance. The ultimate decision of the League Fixtures Secretary shall be final, but he will confer with the SCPA Umpire and SCPA Executive Committee whenever necessary.