



Kent Regional Qualifying Series Rules 2026

1. All players must hold a current Pétanque England membership card issued by the Kent Pétanque Association, this will be checked electronically after pre-entry and must be a full licence. When a team completes pre-entry, they will enter with the email address of the team captain. This will be used for any future communication regarding the qualifying series. Any player failing to show a valid membership card when requested will be levied a fine of £5.
2. Based on the accumulated total of points, the top 8 teams will qualify to represent Kent at the Inter Regional Championships in September. Teams who finish in 9-12th places will qualify to represent Kent at the Inter Regional Championships in the Challenge Trophy. The KPA Playing Committee (PC) will decide the playing order of squads. In planning the strongest squad to represent Kent, teams may be invited to consider playing in the Challenge. Junior Teams will be selected from juniors who have competed throughout the regional qualifying series. Juniors will be selected by the PC, after consultation with the KPA Youth Development Officer and any relevant coach. Players who qualify to represent Kent at the Inter Regional Championships are expected to be available to play all day Saturday and Sunday. The Playing Committee reserves the right to add a 4th player to a team of 3. The ideal team composition is a team of 4 to cover any unforeseen emergency. However, in certain circumstances the Playing Committee will consider a team of 3 on the request of the team captain. Teams of 3 must be aware that the Playing Committee may reconsider the playing position of a team of 3 in the playing order.
3. All players in a team must wear matching shirts, although fleeces/sweatshirts do not have to be the same colour as the t shirt. In case of inclement weather, waterproof jackets do not need to match. Any current Kent kit must not be worn.

4. Teams of 3 or 4 players may enter and participate in triples events with a player only swapping into a team between the ends of a game having first notified the Umpire or Organiser.
5. Each team's best 3 results from a maximum of 4 qualifiers will count towards their total points. Whilst the Playing Committee are planning for 4 qualifiers, it may only be possible to run fewer qualifiers. In these circumstances, the ranking table will be used as it stands.
6. Teams with 1 or more players from a team of 3 or 2 or more players from a team of 4, who are unable to take part in 3 regional qualifiers because of a conflicting commitment arising from representing England or Kent elsewhere, may apply to be awarded the average number of points gained over the other Qualifiers for the missing Qualifier, on payment of the required entry fee.
7. Registration will be by pre-entry. Only teams who have properly pre-registered by the close of the pre-entry period, and paid their entry fee, will be permitted to play. Play will start at 9.30am. Three players from a team of four players must attend registration. Three players must be ready to play at the start time. A fourth member must be registered and paid for during registration and must report to the Organiser on arrival and may then participate from the start of the team's next game.
8. Play will commence as soon as possible after completion of the draw using a software programme. At least 1 team member must be present when the draw is announced. This is the responsibility of the team captain. The Organiser will time 5 minutes from when the draw starts to be announced. The absent team will be penalised, and their opponents awarded 1 point for every further 2 minutes of absence. The competition Organiser's decision is final.
9. Entry fee is £10 per adult player. Juniors can enter for free.
10. The format of each day will be three rounds of the Swiss system and then a seeded knockout with consolages. The top 8 teams after the Swiss will be in the gold competition, the remaining teams in the silver competition. If there is an odd number of teams, then a bye will be entered into the draw. A team drawn against the bye will be allocated a 13-7 win. Play will be on designated terrains. The Organiser will assign lanes for every round. Start times will be at the time designated by the Organiser. Using Swiss as a format without the perfect entry of 16, 32 or 64 teams, will lead to 'crossover games' where teams with different numbers of wins must play each other. This is considered and calculated by the draw software. Each team captain is responsible for signing to confirm the result of a game is correct. Once a result has been confirmed by both captains it will be entered into the software programme and cannot be changed. Software decisions are final.

11. Ranking points will be allocated as below:

Gold winner – 30 points	Gold consolage winner – 22 points
Gold runner up – 28 points	Gold consolage runner up – 20 points
Gold semi-finalists x2 – 26 points	Gold consolage semi-finalists x2 – 18 points
Silver winner – 14 points	Silver consolage winner – 6 points
Silver runner up – 12 points	Silver consolage runner up – 4 points
Silver semi-finalists x2 – 10 points	Silver consolage semi-finalists x2 – 2 points
12. The KPA have decided that circles will be compulsory for all Regional Qualifiers as this will be the case at the Inter Regional competition.
13. After playing for one team in the series, individuals cannot play for another team. However, members of teams that have disbanded during the series, could join existing teams as a 4th member or form completely new teams to take part in the remainder of the series, but only on condition that the original team consent to the arrangement and agree to forfeit any points accumulated.
14. Any player added to a Kent team for the Inter Regional Championships should have played in at least one qualifier in this year's Kent Qualifying series. If no players available, then consideration will be given to players who have played in previous Kent Qualifying series.
15. Any matters not covered by these rules will be played according to PE competition rules. Any disputes arising at a Qualifier will be dealt with by the PC or a Jury convened for that purpose. The decision of the jury will be final.
16. Guests who are not part of the KPA squad, that stay in accommodation provided by the KPA at the Inter Regional Championships will be required to make a financial contribution as determined by the KPA Management Committee.
17. Any player owing money to the KPA will not be able to register and enter KPA events until all outstanding monies owed to the KPA are paid in full. Players are expected to complete payments in full for the Inter Regional Competition at least 2 weeks before the event, preferably by bank transfer. Failure to do puts a team's place in jeopardy and the Management Committee reserves the right to replace the team owing money to the KPA with another team from the qualifiers. In this event the Playing Committee will be consulted for advice.