

WELSH PÉTANQUE ASSOCIATION: SAFE PÉTANQUE GUIDELINES

Guidance for Clubs – Provision of Playing Areas.

General:

- Clubs are not required to open their playing area and should decide on what best suits the club and its members.
- Clubs should check with their landlord, e.g. sports club, that they have permission to re-open the playing area.
- All clubs should undertake a risk assessment and share it with their members before allowing players to return. The WPA's Risk Assessment Form can be found [HERE](#).
- Clubs should also check if any additional requirements, as set out in the [COVID19: cleaning of non-healthcare settings](#), need to be applied.
- Clubs are responsible for ensuring the club and members comply with Welsh Government legislation and follow the guidance outlined in this document.
- Only the playing area should be opened. All other facilities, clubhouse, toilets etc, **MUST** remain closed.

Facilities:

- Clubs should ensure that all benches, seating and picnic tables within their facility are marked out of use.
- Clubs should ensure that all waste bins or ashtrays are either removed or marked out of use.
- Clubs must **NOT** provide any playing equipment, such as scoreboards, plastic circles, boules or any practice aids.
- Clubs should provide clear signage around their facility.
- Clubs must not organise any form of competition internally or with other clubs.
- Clubs should inform their members if their facility will open, the date when it will open and procedures for arranging to use the playing area.
- Clubs should make arrangements for players to book lanes for games and practice, start times should be staggered.
- Clubs should make arrangements for players to safely collect any personal equipment stored at their club for one time only.
- Clubs need to advise players on how to enter and exit the playing area and how to access lanes to ensure social distancing rules are maintained at all times.
- Clubs must make it clear which lanes are in use for play and which ones are not to be used.
- Clubs should mark the playing area into lanes with a minimum width of 3m. Alternate lanes should only be used for playing e.g. lanes 1, 3, 5 or 2, 4, 6.
- Spectators are **NOT** allowed.
- Club meetings should be held virtually.
- All other WPA policies and procedures must be adhered to.

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Guidance for Players

General

- Players who have COVID-19 symptoms, or is part of a household where someone has symptoms, should stay at home and follow [NHS Wales guidance](#).
- No one who is self-isolating should attend the club.
- Players who are shielding should not attend the club.
- Players who are in a high-risk group should not attend the club.
- Players should follow [Welsh Government guidelines](#) when travelling to the club. For the post lockdown – **RED** phase (outdoor sports courts to open) they recommend playing locally avoiding public transport, therefore you are encouraged to walk or cycle to the venue. You may also travel within 5 miles of your home.
- Players must follow the advice for COVID-19 hygiene at all times.
- Additional information can be found on the Welsh Government [Frequently Asked Questions](#) webpage.

Play:

- Players should check if the club is open and available for play.
- Players should only use the playing area and no other club facilities.
- Players must **NOT** use any shared facilities, such as scoreboards, benches or seating, waste bins or ashtrays.
- Singles Play, Shooting Practice & Personal Coaching are allowed.
- Players are only allowed to practice or participate in informal games.
- Singles Play can only be played against one person from another household each day.
- Players must book lanes for games and practice in advance with their club.
- Players must only use the lanes identified by their club.
- Players must only use their boules and jack.
- Players must only use their equipment, e.g. tape measures.
- Players must not share any of their equipment, e.g. measures, with others.
- If an invalid jack is thrown, then the placed jack should be the one belonging to the opposing player or team.
- Players must **NOT** moisten their hands with saliva, e.g. blowing or licking, before taking a shot.

Player Welfare:

- Players should ensure social distancing (2 meters) requirements are adhered to at all times.
- Players should **NOT** shake hands or greet other players in a way that would require physical contact or be within 2 metres of each other.
- Players must bring their own hand sanitiser and use this throughout the match.
- Players' personal belongings should be kept separate from others.
- Players should **NOT** consume any food or drink in the playing area.
- Players may wear face masks if they wish to.
- Players should leave the playing area immediately after the conclusion of play.
- Players should ensure they wash their hands and ensure all equipment is cleaned and disinfected after returning home

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Notes/further recommendations:

Singles, doubles or triples games are allowed but only if the game is played between a maximum of two households

One-to-one coaching is allowed but must be arranged in advance between the player and with the club (if using club facilities) and both coach and player must not exceed the recommended travel limitations. Social distancing rules should apply throughout the coaching session and no practice aids should be provided by the coach or the club.