



Welsh Pétanque Association

NATIONAL REPRESENTATION QUALIFICATION POLICY

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Author: WPA Executive

Owner: National Coach

Welsh Pétanque Association

NATIONAL REPRESENTATION QUALIFICATION POLICY



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Certified as a true copy of the National Representation Qualification Policy of the Welsh Pétanque Association as adopted by the Executive on 14th April 2023.

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1. Introduction

This policy sets out how players who want to represent Wales in World Championships (WC), European Championships (EC) and other representative competitions will be assessed on their playing ability.

The process covers the following competitions:

- WC Triples: Women
- EC Triples: Men
- EC Triples: Veterans +55 years (mixed gender teams allowed).

The assessment process will be run simultaneously for both men and women.

Implementing this policy within the WPA is the responsibility of the National Coach under the supervision of the WPA Executive.

2. Entry

All players wishing to represent Wales at the WC or EC must submit their intention to enter the qualifying process using the normal competition entry channels via the WPA website's online competition entry form, which can be accessed on the WPA website.

The player must specify which international event they wish to qualify for and their preferred position in the team if successful.

The Executive has published the preliminary assessment dates and venues on the WPA Playing Calendar.

3. Assessment Process

The assessment process comprises two rounds where players will be assessed at their preferred position during games. The results of the early expression of interest for the National Representation Assessment showed that a preliminary round was unnecessary for 2023.

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4. Assessment Rounds

Rounds 1 and 2 will determine those players representing Wales listed in section 1 above.

The 2023 Welsh Squad will comprise a minimum of 8 players and a maximum of 12 players based on their final ranking.

The EC: Triples for Veterans rules allow a mixed-gender team to participate. Therefore, a mixed-gender squad is expected to be formed in 2023.

It is anticipated that the top 2 pointers, middles and shooters will be required to create the 2023 Welsh Squad.

5. Assessment Content

5.1 Assessment Rounds – Rounds 1 & 2

Rounds 1 and 2 will comprise a minimum of 6 triple encounters, weather permitting.

Triple teams will be formed, and players will be assigned a position for each game to assess them at their preferred and secondary roles. All players will be allowed to play at their preferred position. However, players will be asked to play in an alternative position if playing positions are over-subscribed.

Each boule played will be recorded using a pro-format sheet already used by the WPA at European and World championships. The effectiveness of each boule will be documented. The recorded results for each player during each game will be expressed as a percentage of effective boules played for each position).

6. European Men Shooting Competition

One player will be required to represent Wales at the European Championship: Precision Shooting. After rounds 1 and 2, the best male shooter will be invited to represent Wales at this event.

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7. National Representation Teams

After rounds 1 and 2, the best score at the player's preferred position and the best total score will provide a final ranking.

Before publishing the player's final positions, the National Coach will submit the results to the Executive for validation. However, where a conflict of interest occurs, e.g. being part of the assessment process, the President and the National Coach will establish a Validation Committee to confirm the results. The Validation Committee will comprise the President and at least two senior members of the association.

Upon validation, the National Coach will invite the top 2 male pointers, middles and shooters (4 players and two reserve players) to form the EC Triples: Men's team.

Also, the top 2 pointers, middles and shooters (4 players and two reserve players) will form the EC Triples: Veterans team.

Each triples team will comprise four players, a specialist pointer, a specialist shooter and two middle players, one with a pointing ability and the second with a shooting ability.

However, with advice from the National Coach, the WPA Executive may adjust the final team selection to create a competitive and technically balanced team.

The Executive will publish the final results and international teams on the WPA website.

If one of the invited players cannot attend the competition, one of the reserve players will take that player's place.

By accepting the invitation to represent Wales, the selected players must attend any practice and training sessions stipulated by the Executive, Coaches and Team Managers, including all formal practice sessions at the competition venue.

In addition, players will be expected to practice their skills at every opportunity to improve their potential for success.

Failure to attend the event for which players have been selected without a valid reason will result in that player not being able to enter any competitions requiring Welsh representation outside of the UK and Ireland for two years.

8. Review

The WPA Executive Committee will review the process at the end of each season and may amend any or all of the stages used if it feels the process can be evolved and improved.

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WPA Executive Committee

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