

## PETANQUE

Petanque (pronounced pe'tonk) is a French game played throughout the world. It is similar in many ways to lawn bowls (English) and bocce (Italian).

Petanque is normally played on a fairly level gravel surface, a piste, that imparts a degree of randomness to the play that means people of all ages and all levels of experience can compete and enjoy it.

The word petanque is often used to reflect the more formal nature of the sport; boules the more social form. Indeed, the hollow steel balls used in petanque are called boules, and the small coloured ball, the 'jack', is correctly referred to as the cochonette (French for 'small pig'). The modern game of petanque derives from the south of France and is well over 100 years old.

In Australia there are currently about 1600 licensed petanque players; and around 1000 of them reside in Victoria in 24 clubs affiliated with Petanque Federation Australia ([www.petanquefederationaustralia.com](http://www.petanquefederationaustralia.com)).

## PETANQUE IN VICTORIA

The 24 petanque clubs in Victoria have formed a State League referred to as Victoria Petanque Clubs Inc. ([www.petanquevictoria.com.au](http://www.petanquevictoria.com.au)). These clubs are grouped into 4 Regions and these are listed with contact details on the reverse side of this flyer.

Players meet regularly for social games and the occasional club and inter-club tournaments.

Generally the game of petanque is played as Triples with 3 players per team and each player using just 2 boules, or Doubles with 2 players per team and each player using 3 boules.

## THE GAME OF BOULES

Competition boules are hollow metal spheres with a mass between 650 - 800 gram and a diameter in the range 70.5 - 80.0 mm, and come with various patterns of external markings. A player in any game uses boules with exactly the same markings.

A petanque game commences with a circle marked on the ground. The team winning the toss starts the game by throwing the jack 6 to 10 m from the circle. A team member then throws their first boule. An opposition team player then throws their first boule. From then on the team with their boule not closest to the jack throws next. When it is their turn to throw a boule a player stands stationary inside this circle.

Once all 12 boules are thrown the team with the boule closest to the jack scores 1 point, plus an additional points for every other boule closer to the jack than the opposing team. The winning team then marks a new circle on the ground and throws the jack and first boule for the next end.

Social games are usually played to 11 or 13 points and can last from about 20 to 45 minutes. Tournament games are normally always played to 13 points and can be over just as quickly or can extend well beyond an hour.

Two basic throws are used, and usually the throw is 'back-handed'. The 'point' is a throw that aims to land the boule close to the jack, while the 'shoot' aims to strike an opponent's boule and remove it from its position close to the jack.

A perfect shoot is called a 'carreau' where the thrown boule hits a stationary boule and replaces it precisely, while removing the original boule well away from the jack.

January 2018

VICTORIA  
PÉTANQUE  
CLUBS INC.

**Pétanque**  
a great game  
with a funny name!

[www.petanquevictoria.com.au](http://www.petanquevictoria.com.au)

## METROPOLITAN REGION

### **Camberwell Petanque Club**

Venue: Lynden Park, Camberwell, 3124  
Secretary: Sue Gray, 0407 583 005  
Web: [www.onpisteup.com](http://www.onpisteup.com)

### **Caulfield Park Petanque Club**

Venue: Caulfield Park Sports Complex, 3161  
Secretary: Colin Buckley, 0417 548 528  
Web: [rotarygleneira.blogspot.com.au/2007/11/caulfield-park-petanque-club.html](http://rotarygleneira.blogspot.com.au/2007/11/caulfield-park-petanque-club.html)

### **Dove Petanque Club**

Venue: Eumemmerring Park, 3177  
Secretary: Rod Deakin, 9773 3760  
Email: [randm.deakin@gmail.com](mailto:randm.deakin@gmail.com)

### **Longbeach Petanque Club**

Venue: Mordialloc Bowling Club, 3195  
Contact: Terry Conway, 0428 278 707  
Web: [mordibowlsclub.org.au/cms/pages/petanque-section.php](http://mordibowlsclub.org.au/cms/pages/petanque-section.php)

### **Stella Calvisque Petanque Club**

Venue: Lois Twohig Reserve, Dandenong, 3182  
Secretary: Paul Lesur  
Email: [lesur.paul@gmail.com](mailto:lesur.paul@gmail.com)

### **St Kilda Petanque Club**

Venue: St Kilda Sports Club, 3182  
Secretary: Jean Claude Dufroux, 0409 174 778  
Web: [stkildasportsclub.com.au/](http://stkildasportsclub.com.au/)

### **Weird Entertainers & Petanque Club**

Venue: Sydney Pargeter Reserve, 3802  
President: Pierrot Lubin, 0419 882 311  
Web: [weirdentertainers.wordpress.com/](http://weirdentertainers.wordpress.com/)

## SOUTH-WEST REGION

### **Apollo Bay Petanque Club**

Venue: TBA  
Secretary: Gary Van Someren, 0418 550 049  
Email: [gary@gopapollobay.com.au](mailto:gary@gopapollobay.com.au)

### **Bellarine Peninsula Petanque Club**

Venue: (tba)  
Secretary: Bernard Reed, 0417 589 595  
Email: [breed1959@bigpond.com](mailto:breed1959@bigpond.com)

### **Grampians Petanque Club**

Venue: Community Sports Pavilion, Halls Gap  
Secretary: Maree Rudge, 5356 4334  
Email: [ghforster@bigpond.com](mailto:ghforster@bigpond.com)

### **Smythesdale Petanque Club**

Venue: Woody Yaloak Recreation Reserve  
President: Rory Langdon, 0413 634 478  
Web: [www.smythesdalepetanqueclub.net](http://www.smythesdalepetanqueclub.net)

## SOUTH-EAST REGION

### **Flinders Petanque Club**

Venue: B. A. Cairns Reserve, Flinders, 3929  
Secretary: John Righetti, 03 9822 9550  
Email: [jrighetti@ozemail.com.au](mailto:jrighetti@ozemail.com.au)

### **Mornington Petanque Club**

Venue: TBA  
Secretary: Eve Harrison, 0414 395 656  
Web: <http://www.mornpenpetanque.org.au>

### **Portsea Petanque Club**

Venue: Portsea Recreation Reserve, 3944  
Secretary: Neil Hewitt, 03 5984 1531  
Email: [neilhewitt@ozemail.com.au](mailto:neilhewitt@ozemail.com.au)

### **Main Ridge Petanque Club**

Venue: Main Ridge Bowls & Petanque Club, 3928  
Contact: Raelene Shearer, 0407 803 144  
Email: [raelene.shearer@gmail.com](mailto:raelene.shearer@gmail.com)

### **Somers Petanque Club**

Venue: TBA  
Secretary: Tony Duboudin, 0412 551 981  
Email: [tonyduboudin@bigpond.com](mailto:tonyduboudin@bigpond.com)

### **St Andrews Beach Petanque Club**

Venue: St Andrews Beach Recreation Club, 3941  
President: Andrea Bowles, 0409 413 416  
Email: [andreabowles@bigpond.com](mailto:andreabowles@bigpond.com)

## NORTH-WEST REGION

### **Benloch 'Boules of Steel' Petanque Club**

Venue: Lancefield, 3435  
Secretary: Ian Shennan, 0425 801 184  
Email: [ianshennan@live.com.au](mailto:ianshennan@live.com.au)

### **Maldon Petanque Club**

Venue: St Brigid's Church, Maldon, 3463  
Secretary: George Forster, 03 5472 1506  
Email: [ghforster@bigpond.com](mailto:ghforster@bigpond.com)

### **Mt Macedon Petanque Club**

Venue: (rear) Caltex Service Station, Gisborne, 3437  
Secretary: Doreen Green, 0417 552 481  
Email: [dordan@bigpond.com](mailto:dordan@bigpond.com)

### **Nagambie Petanque Club**

Venue: Buckley Park, Nagambie, 3608  
Secretary: Claire Sampson  
Email: [csampson@skymesh.com.au](mailto:csampson@skymesh.com.au)

### **Pyrenees Petanque Club**

Venue: Avoca Sports Reserve, Avoca, 3467  
Secretary: Jane Scheggia, 5465 3816  
Email: [pyreneespetanqueclub@gmail.com](mailto:pyreneespetanqueclub@gmail.com)

### **Sunbury Petanque Club**

Venue: Apex Park, Sunbury, 3429  
President: Chris O'Loughlin, 0413 477 867  
Email: [chrisosunbury@gmail.com](mailto:chrisosunbury@gmail.com)

### **Woodend Hanging Rock Petanque Club**

Venue: Hanging Rock Reserve, Woodend, 3442  
Secretary: Peter Wells, 0407 302 308  
Web: [www.petanqueattherock.com.au](http://www.petanqueattherock.com.au)