



FP 2015



USA / 16



ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE FEDERATION OF PETANQUE, USA

**MILESTONE:**

**2,000 MEMBERS**

*The sky's the limit..?*



# Who's that Man in the Brochure?

Our new President, **Frank Pipal** of Kenwood, California, *that's who!* Many members and every FPUSA club president has come to know Frank over his twenty-odd years of service to our organization. As newsletter man (back in the days of Xeroxing, label printing and postage stamps) but even more so as FPUSA Secretary, there is no doubt that Frank has left an indelible mark on petanque in the U.S.

Frank brings an impressive set of qualifications and knowledge to the office of President. As FPUSA's chief liaison with FIPJP and other federations and organizers during his thirteen years as Secretary, Frank has brought his language and communication skills to bear in a variety of situations. He has served as our Head of Delegation at a number of Senior and Junior FIPJP World Championships, but also has extensive board and presidential experience at the club level.

Going forward, Frank will remain in his position as Membership Secretary, ensuring the top flight service that our members have come to expect.

*Welcome to the office, Mr. President!*



Cover of FPUSA promotional brochure.

# Federation of PETANQUE U.S.A.

Established 1973



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**Photos** . . . . . George Bedrossian, Gina Dejoy, Shannon Hodge, and many members and clubs

### 2016 FPUSA Board of Directors

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**Vice President** . . . . . Christine Cragg  
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**Northwest** . . . Robert Force, Michael Stasack  
**Southeast** . . . . . Juan Garcia, Frank Guzman, Jo Ella Manalan  
**Southwest** . . . . . Linda Motshiedler

*Thanks to all who contribute their time and effort in serving the membership of FPUSA!*

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION

**John Harris**  
FPUSA Treasurer (2014-15)  
Southwest Regional Counselor (2008-13)  
FPUSA Club Benefits Administrator (2012-15)  
FPUSA Umpire (since 2006)

**Dan Feaster**  
Northwest Regional Counselor (2012-15)  
Discipline Committee (2014-15)  
FPUSA Smugmug Webmaster (since 2012)  
FPUSA Umpire (since 2011)  
Co-founder, Redwood Empire Boules Club

**Justin "Bo" Johns**  
Mid-America Regional Counselor (since 2014)  
FPUSA Social Media Manager (since 2014)  
FPUSA Umpire (since 2014)  
Founder, Zanesfield Petanque Club

*Thanks, Gentleman, for jobs well done!*

# Milestone: 2,000 — Just the Beginning?

Two thousand members... 2,141 as of December 1, 2015, to be exact — *and counting!* No small accomplishment for an volunteer organization that is scattered literally to the far corners of these United States.

As petanque grows in popularity, reaching a new milestone in FPUSA membership gives pause for us to consider successes, shortcomings, challenges and areas of untapped potential for growth. Accumulating membership is great, and the result of a lot of hard work by the clubs, but we still carry an attrition rate that makes for one step back for each two steps forward. New clubs are popping up with regularity in recent years, and some have experienced healthy growth, while some of our larger and older clubs are challenged to increase, or even maintain, the ample membership levels they enjoyed in the past.

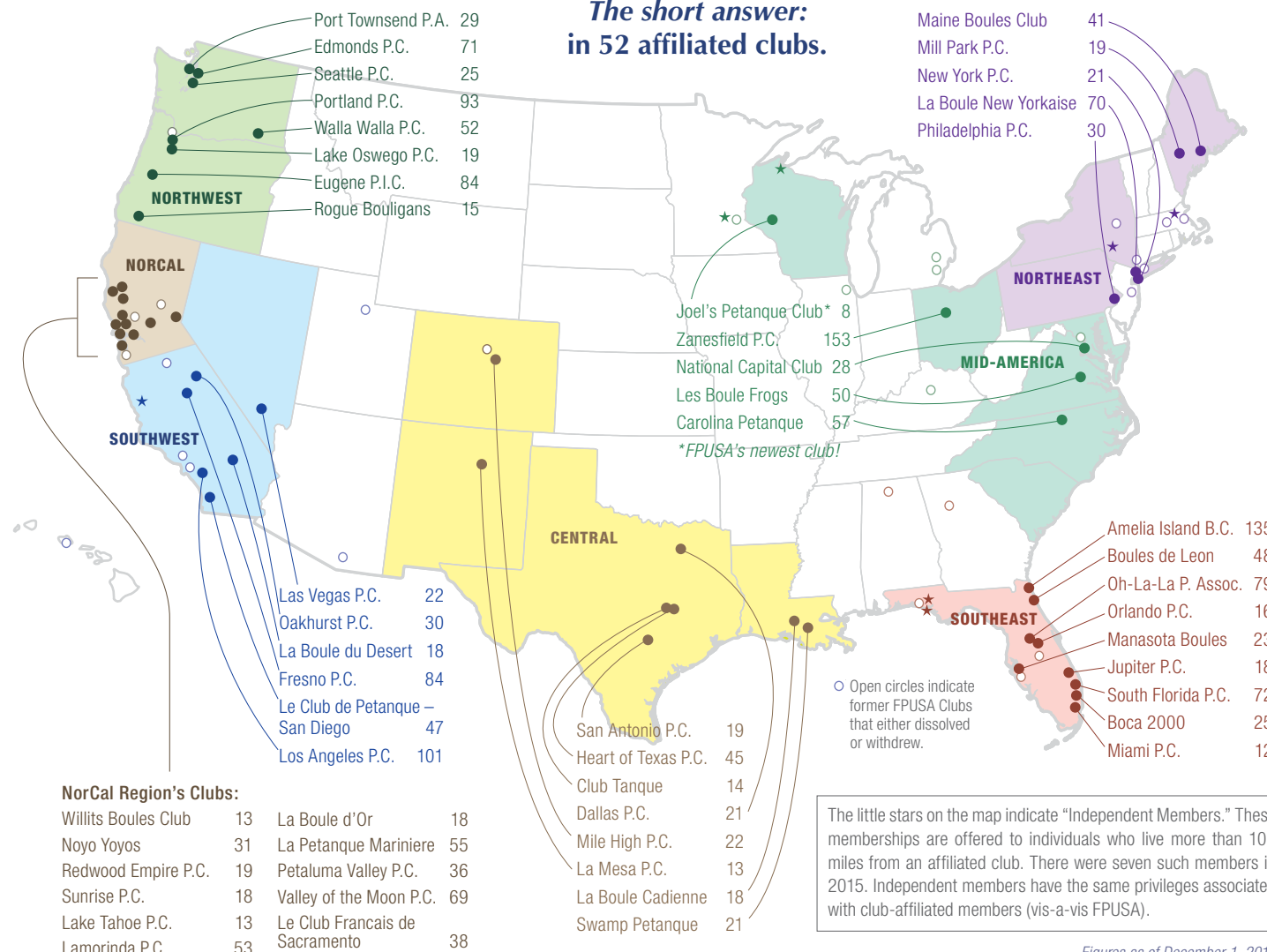
As "60 becomes the new 50," etc., FPUSA's membership

demographic has generally been "late middle age." Some recent strides have been made in junior development in some select locations, but how can the game's appeal be broadened to include more young adults? With most of our membership concentrated on the coasts, and with playing groups (and some former clubs) in isolated areas far from regular FPUSA activity, how can we bring the game, and organized play, to more people in "fly-over country?"

There are no easy answers to the questions above. More challenges than solutions, and it may seem — whether at the local or the FPUSA level — lots of work for elusive rewards. Patience is key, as is optimism, and a focus trained on a far horizon. Leadership must set long term goals, then develop strategies and short term goals to break out of our "chicken and egg" condition. But for those in it for the long haul, "the sky is the limit!"

# 2,141 Members? Where Is Everybody?

**The short answer: in 52 affiliated clubs.**



Figures as of December 1, 2015



## A note from the Editor...

Dear Fellow FPUSA members,

After serving on FPUSA's Board of Directors for eleven years (four years as President, five years as National Sport Director, preceded by two years as a Regional Counselor and Sport Committee member), I decided to take a break from the day to day running of our organization.

We, as a group, have accomplished much in the past decade or so. Growth in membership certainly has presented new challenges. New needs have arisen and new approaches have been tried in a constant quest to improve what we do. We have had some successes while other pursuits remain "works in progress."

But our organization is in good stead with the capable group of leaders listed above, and with the dedicated members who serve at the club level.

I hope to remain involved in my capacities as National Umpire and in the production of this humble publication. And, of course, I look forward to seeing many of you on the terrain in the new year and beyond.

*Best wishes and enjoy petanque!*



**"WHAT'S SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE IS SAUCE FOR THE GANDER IN WORCESTER..."**

As the rain turned cold at the close of the final match, it became clear that this year's great American Petanque Championship was a Cinderella story, a tale of underdogs making the grade and upending perennial favorites.

Into the cool Massachusetts summer came a wide array of hopefuls from across the country, lending credence to the event's official title, "The F.P.U.S.A. World Championship Qualification Tournament." The usual suspects from California, New York and Florida were met by others less known to the Big Game circuit – Washingtonians, Mainers and five teams from the host club in Worcester, *La Boule Mistral* – forming an ample field of sixty contestants.

The Friday warm-up games were harsh lessons in terrain negotiation and technique – a course of instruction which lasted all weekend and handed down many grades of "Incomplete." The spongy wet clay pistes, covered in coarse gravel, defied predictable or consistent results. The plombée quickly became the pointing style of choice, but yielded to the demi-portée and even some power-bowling as the weekend wore on and the ground dried under a reluctant sun. Pointing was a tough task as chosen données became cruel jokes for perplexed tacticians.

The ground, this event's most formidable opponent, was equally challenging for the shooters. It allowed for no glancing blows to a target ball, as partial hits on the clay and gravel dispensed the projectiles in random directions. Only clean shots on the metal made hay. As baffled players negotiated the terrain, the skill and composure of many a shooter were woefully exposed. Pointers ruled. And pointing, the basic skill of good petanque, carried the day.

The tournament format provided a degree of forgiveness as sixteen of the twenty teams made Sunday's pools. But for many, it was "déjà vu all over again." The eight teams who advanced were as diverse as the original field. All regions, ages, genders and playing styles were represented: the solid Maine pointers (Andre Strong, Mark Kindschi and Mia Kanazawa), Bill Hughes and his D.C. boys, Mai Nguyen's ("no money, no carreau") all-Viet trio, the New York defenders, the Floridians (Brothers Canesse with John Rolland), the "Dream Team" of Nielsen, Nguyen the Younger and Christian Triay, veterans Gerard Canabou and Felix Legrand with the cannoner Pascal Corchia — and one local team comprised of *Le Mistral* Club President Albert Kallanian, George Bogosian and Jacques Azadian.

Light rain began to fall as the quarterfinals got underway. The random pairings brought forward four worthy teams, two from the Northeast and two from California. As umbrellas were hoisted and plastic bags found their way onto heads and shoulders, spectators hunkered down to view the Semifinals. The match terrains were doubled in width and no side games were engaged. Though disappointed to be out of the chase, most players were content to tuck their



*Local winners!* (l. to r.) Albert Kallanian, Jacques Azadian and George Bogosian represented the USA at the FIPJP 2001 World Championship in Monaco.

boules away and watch others play on the unyielding piste, now remoistened with the persistent drizzle.

When Gerard/Felix/Pascal began their match against the defending champions, New York's Hans Jepson/Jeanot Ruperti/"Ti" Meas, most of the spectators – and both video cameras – were trained on this battle of titans. Some savvy onlookers, however, stood between the two Semifinals to keep an eye on all the contestants. And as the Californios took control of the game against the New Yorkers, an intriguing development was unfolding in the "other" match.

The crafty Worcester team of Albert, George and Jacques, with their consistent pointing and cool demeanor, were quietly turning the Nielsen/Ngyuen/Triay dream into a nightmare. As the visitors struggled against the terrain (and against themselves), the local gents pointed too many for this mighty team to shoot out. Nielsen, always a force to be reckoned with on the U.S. petanque circuit, became a picture of vehemence and determination. He desperately staved off defeat with two magnificent cochonnet shots in successive rounds, only to be outpointed in the end by the unflappable Albert, who casually rolled in the (13-10) game winner after taking one wayward shot at Raymond's well-placed last boule.

Buoyed by their tense victory over such a formidable trio, the home team got off to a fast start against their final opponents. After building up a 9-1 lead, their formulaic attack stalled and, as good competitors in any sport will do, Canabou, Legrand and Corchia took full advantage. They utilized the four-court wide terrain and tied the game at eleven-all. The late rounds saw boules with eyes for the cochonnet as points were won via routes that seemed to defy physics. When the last point was not shot out or beaten, the crowd cheered those good old boys (winners, 13-11) the sixteenth ranked entry to the pools, for games so well played and for an ending which warmed that chilly evening in Worcester, Massachusetts. – E.P.

**Developing the Game at the Grass Roots Level**

**SOME COMMENDABLE EFFORTS FROM SOME COMMENDABLE PEOPLE**

**San Antonio, Texas**



Under their new club president, **Nicolas Bienvenu**, San Antonio Petanque Club has given itself a new mission: to promote the game in its community and gain a permanent and public terrain.

The club held its first tournament last November on the grounds of the San Antonio Museum of Art, next to the famous San Antonio River Walk. Interested passersby were introduced to the game. *More to come in 2016!*

**Edmonds, Washington**



The Edmonds (WA) Petanque Club offered their local Boys and Girls Club an introductory summer petanque program, with great success. Meeting twice per week for six weeks, the kids were instructed in the fundamentals of play and, at the course's end, were awarded certificates of completion.

EPC's volunteers thoroughly enjoyed the experience, and were pleasantly surprised by the kid's interest in the history of the game and French culture. The plan is to expand the program regionally in the coming years.

**Bellefontaine, Ohio**



Over the past few years, **Shannon Hodge** of the Zanesfield Petanque Club has developed a juniors' petanque program at Bellefontaine High School where she teaches French. Using the game for context and as a learning tool, the students enjoy petanque while they speak French in an effective, informal setting. Roughly 100 students are currently registered with FPUSA.

Together with ZPC President **Bo Johns** and other involved members, juniors tournaments were organized the past couple of seasons at ZPC's terrain. Bellefontaine High and ZPC also hosted Marco Foyot for a stop on his tour of the USA in 2013. *Très bien!*

**Augusta, Maine**



Long cold winters and a lack of local players were no deterrent to **Ray Fecteau** in pursuing his vision of offering petanque in a welcoming environment to his community.

Rolling up his sleeves and pounding the pavement for local support and funding, Ray formed the Mill Park Petanque Club in 2011 and has overseen the development of the facility and his club ever since. MPC has been teaching the game through a local adult education program and the Monmouth Academy. Plans for 2016 include Boys and Girls Club and the University of Maine Seniors College.

**Port Townsend, Washington**



Plans are afoot for a multi-court petanque terrain at the Fort Worden Lifelong Learning Center in Port Townsend, Washington.

The "force" behind this proposed project is Port Townsend Petanque Alliance President **Robert Force**. Robert and his trusty club mates are raising funds and working with the Fort Worden Public Development Authority to make this new venue a reality in 2016.

**Austin, Texas**



This past summer, **Rudy Vallée** and **Christophe Chambers** of Austin Texas, along with local Eagle Scout candidate **Joseph Menna**, led a unique effort to build a petanque facility in the community of Cedar Park.

Joseph not only managed to solicit free donations of materials (crushed granite and limestone border rocks), but also coordinated the efforts of members of all the local petanque clubs to provide the labor to complete this project on two August weekends – *a year ahead of schedule!*

## Clubs Host with the Most...



Pierre Agnesse  
PPC



William Lawless  
FPC

Every year FPUSA Regional and National tournaments move to different locations around the country. Host clubs provide the venues that enable our players to pursue their competitive goals. A number of clubs consistently roll out the red carpet when it is their turn to host. Participants truly appreciate of all the work and effort that goes into meeting their needs, especially when traveling to the area from afar.

In 2015 two host clubs in particular met and exceeded all expectations: the **Portland Petanque Club** (National

Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles) and **Fresno Petanque Club** (Men's and Women's Qualification Tournaments and the Federation Cup).

Players were treated to superb hospitality, wonderful meals, fresh coffee and pastry in the mornings, homemade souvenirs and, of course, petanque courts that were prepared for weekends full of regulation games.

The efforts on the part of these stalwart clubs were nothing short of remarkable, with scores of volunteers doing their part to ensure success.

*A big Thanks to all who helped!*

## The Man for PanAm



Last spring **Xavier Thibaud** of the New York Petanque Club was elected President of FIPJP's Pan American Confederation.

A skilled and experienced petanque player, repeat U.S. Champion and a gentleman on and off the court, Xavier leads a group of representatives from the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Bermuda that will develop formats and structures for intra-confederation competition and collaboration, as well as new ways to help federations promote the sport.

*Let's all wish Xavier the very best!*



## National Petanque League

### A NEW APPROACH TO STRUCTURED COMPETITION ACROSS THE PETANQUE LANDSCAPE

This past year **David Keil\*** and **Stephen Lessard** (Mile High Petanque Club's President and Vice President, respectively) set about the task of creating a nationwide competition program. The idea for the National Petanque League (NPL) grew out of their long-running and popular "West Central Suburban League" held in and around Denver, Colorado.

The NPL offers petanque players an opportunity to compete and improve their skills in frequent competition over an extended period of time. While open to all FPUSA members, a particular target group was those in areas of the country that have limited access to organized tournaments.

The league ran its first pilot season from March until November. Its somewhat loose and informal structure (compared to that of tournament play) seemed to be a good starting point to

get interested players involved. The format was open singles — all ages and both genders. The Southeast region was the most active as several clubs vied for the top spot. The Northwest, Central, and Mid-America regions also had numerous competitors.

Long-term, the NPL founders hope to establish a basis for a national ranking system and to unite our nation's petanque players through club and inter-club play. The NPL welcomes volunteers interested in helping to create a successful and enduring league, as it expands to include a doubles format, with potential to develop an NPL tournament event.

*Nice work, David and Stephen!*



[www.nationalpetanqueleague.com](http://www.nationalpetanqueleague.com)

### 2015 NPL Top 26 Finishers\*

Mohammed Boulahoual	Zanesfield Petanque Club	114
Justin Bo Johns	Zanesfield Petanque Club	100
Mike Stasack	Eugene Petanque Int'l. Club	98
Shannon Hodge	Zanesfield Petanque Club	91
Cruz Lopez	Carolina Petanque	87
Arsene Dupin	Heart of Texas Petanque Club	85
Ray Peterson	Eugene Petanque Int'l. Club	82
Todd Haagenstad	La Mesa Petanque Club	81
Thomas Leon	Amelia Island Boules Club	81
Stephen Lessard	Mile High Petanque Club	81
Steve Walker	Portland Petanque Club	79
Warren Smith	Orlando Petanque Club	78
Richard Symanns	Oh-la-la Orlando Petanque	78
Larry Creasy	Boules De Leon	77
Michael Koontz	Orlando Petanque Club	74
Charlie Oboli	La Mesa Petanque Club	73
Shirley Jones	Carolina Petanque	72
Anne Eberlin	Orlando Petanque Club	68
Jeed Chaiboonruang	Eugene Petanque Int'l. Club	68
David Keil	Mile High Petanque Club	66
Stan Russo	Boules De Leon	64
Ryan Penny	Zanesfield Petanque Club	63
Christophe Chambers	Club Tanque	62
Ridha Ben Hammouda	Oh-la-la Orlando P.A.	61
Mark Watchman	Eugene Petanque Int'l. Club	60
Ted Cox	Walla Walla Petanque Club	60

\*174 more players had recorded scores.

*Thanks to all who participated!*



## Rules & Regs — New FPUSA Standards

### OFFICIAL INTERPRETATIONS FOR SOME RULES ARE STANDARDIZED

Pick up an unmarked playing circle before the end is finished? A jack gets moved past ten meters by the first played boule of an end? Play a boule when you thought the other team was holding the point? *What's the call?*

Some of us may have had an experience where one umpire made a ruling at one tournament, then, for a similar situation at another tournament, a different umpire ruled differently. This could be frustrating and, in some circumstances, even demoralizing.

Truth is, as with any set of regulations, the *International Rules of Petanque* are not perfect. A fair number of rules leave room for interpretation, over-interpretation or misinterpretation. And some situations (like those above) are not explicitly included. In addition, petanque play can be riddled with *phantom rules*, that is, "rules" that do not exist but come to be accepted by virtue of their roots in playing habits—habits that may develop in casual games or in isolated locales where the game is played without the benefit of experienced players, organizers and umpires.

Some might say that petanque's *International Rules* need rewriting (or even a major overhaul!) but that is not within the authority or mission of a national federation. What

some federations have attempted to do is to develop a reasonable set of interpretations and practices to augment the official rules. As you might imagine, there are some variations in approaches across the globe.

Well, after fielding comments, complaints and suggestions for some years, FPUSA, in the persons of Sport Committee members and National Umpires **Joe Martin** and **Gary Jones**, addressed the matter. The goal of their project was to produce a uniform set of rulings and interpretations across FPUSA so that members are assured consistency and fairness from our umpires at competitions.

All FPUSA Regional and National Umpires were invited to participate in the development process. Additionally, Joe and Gary researched international discussion groups, other federations' positions as well as translation nuances in the official rules. All in all, they did a great job of pulling a broad yet detailed range of topics together into a clear and usable tool for umpires and players alike.

The document, *Official Rules Interpretations for Umpires 2015*, has been distributed to all umpires and players. It will be updated periodically as needs arise.

*Thanks to Gary and Joe for a job well done!*



## 2016 Doubles Qualifier System in Place

### FOR FIPJP 2017 MEN'S & WOMEN'S SINGLES & DOUBLES/MIXED DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Over the years the idea of having a regional-to-national system for our national championships, so common in the world of amateur and professional sports, has been a topic of conversation around FPUSA. The impetus for a system like this was mainly to ensure that the country's best teams meet and play for a national title. Until very recently there had always been enough space at our host clubs to accommodate all interested teams, so a plan to pre-qualify teams for any of the nationals was never implemented.

In late 2015 FIPJP announced a new biannual multi-format championship, the first of which will be held in Ghent Belgium in 2017. Anticipating strong interest in representing the USA at this event, and in order to avoid a first-come/first-served registration process, a regional-to-national qualifying system was developed in order to select our player representatives (two men and two women) for this championship. *Here's how it will work...*

1. Men's and women's inter-regional doubles tournaments will be held in each FPUSA region by the middle of May.
2. The teams that reached the semifinals in any of the inter-regional doubles will earn a guaranteed position in the National Doubles Qualifier and be given one month to

make their commitment to travel to that tournament.

3. Depending on court space at the national venue and the number of qualified teams who "opt in," additional slots in the National Qualifier will be offered to teams who finished further down in their inter-regional's concours. Players will be given a time frame in which to make their travel commitments.

4. After all inter-regional concours participants have been placed, if any additional slots in the National Qualifier are still available, a first-come/first-served registration process will be open to all members (regardless of inter-regional placement or participation).

5. Players who don't have an interest in going to the national, still may play in the inter-regional doubles. Players are under no obligation to take a trip to the national.

6. The entry fees and prize purses for the inter-regionals will not be affected.

7. Players may participate in any inter-regional(s) that they wish. However, once s/he has qualified, s/he may not participate in another inter-regional doubles tournament.

8. FPUSA will follow any and all citizenship and residency requirements that will be announced in 2016 by FIPJP.

*Simple enough? No, but "the devil is always in the details."*



View of Nice, one of petanque's 'capital cities,' on a fine mid-winter day.



Celia plays for the point vs. her opponent from Mongolia.



Artem readies himself for a play vs. Ukraine.

Their odyssey began in Portland, Oregon on June 28, 2014 at FPUSA's National Singles Championship when **Artem Zuev** of Los Angeles Petanque Club and **Celia Crittenden** of the Portland Petanque Club outlasted a worthy field of contestants to claim their titles. In the ensuing months these two dedicated players trained and organized a support group in order to make a trip to Nice, France for the newly instituted FIPJP Singles World Championships.

The U.S. Delegation was led by FPUSA Central Regional Counselor **Arsene Dupin** of the Heart of Texas Petanque Club. **Mark Greenberg** of LAPC volunteered to coach Artem and **Ernesto Santos** of La Boule New Yorkaise did same for Celia. Supporters who made the trip included **Chrissy Lion** and **Karina Morgenstein** of LAPC, **Shannon Hodge** of the Zanesfield Petanque Club and **Jim Schwoebel** of Heart of Texas. Our players were also aided by two of our French friends, **Lionel "Yo" Pomiro** and **Richard Trani**, who lent their experience and support in practice sessions and from the sidelines.

Our players were treated to an experience of a lifetime as they competed solo against some of the world's best. We can be proud of the way they represented their country and FPUSA.

*Artem and Celia, thank you for job well done!*



USA SCORES & RESULTS	
<b>WOMEN'S SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP</b> (Swiss System Qualifying Rounds)	
U.S.A. vs. Estonia	7 - 13
U.S.A. vs. Andorra	7 - 13
U.S.A. vs. Austria	9 - 13
U.S.A. vs. Mongolia	13 - 7
<b>WOMEN'S NATIONS CUP</b> (single elimination)	
U.S.A. vs. Lithuania (16th final)	7 - 10
<b>MEN'S SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP</b> (Swiss System qualifying rounds)	
U.S.A. vs. Senegal	0 - 13
U.S.A. vs. Russia	8 - 13
U.S.A. vs. New Caledonia	5 - 13
U.S.A. vs. Belarus	10 - 13
U.S.A. vs. Ukraine	13 - 6
<b>MEN'S NATIONS CUP</b> (single elimination)	
U.S.A. vs. San Marino (16th final)	13 - 7
U.S.A. vs. Denmark (8th final)	11 - 7
U.S.A. vs. Andorra (1/4 final)	8 - 12

In November, our 2015 Women's Team USA traveled to Thailand to compete in the FIPJP Women's World Championship. The team was comprised of veteran captain **Diana Jacobs** (LAPC) and first-timers **Tish Harris** (Oakhurst PC), **Gina Dejoy** (South Florida PC) and **Shannon Hodge** (Zanesfield PC). They were led by Coach **Artem Zuev** (LAPC) and Head of Delegation, **John Harris** (Oakhurst PC).

After splitting their first four qualifying games, the women faced a "win and you're in" fifth game against Japan. With a slim 7-6 lead, Japan notched six points in an unfortunate penultimate end, and sent Team USA to the Nations Cup.

After falling behind 3-9 against the Czech Republic in the first round of the Cup, the team made a valiant comeback to 8-9, only to lose when time expired. A tough way to go out, no doubt. The Cup was eventually won by Estonia who had fallen to Team USA the day before. The championship was taken by Spain who prevailed in a well-played, close final against defending champion Thailand, 13-10.

To be sure, these championships are tough sledding. The best teams in the world give U.S. players more than enough to handle, but our women represented us well and competed with class and pride. *Thank you, Ladies!*



Our team poses prior to their game against The Netherlands.

USA SCORES & RESULTS	
<b>QUALIFYING ROUNDS: Swiss System</b>	
U.S.A. vs. Canada	7 - 13
U.S.A. vs. Bulgaria	9 - 6
<b>QUALIFYING ROUNDS: Swiss System (continued)</b>	
U.S.A. vs. The Netherlands	0 - 13
U.S.A. vs. Estonia	13 - 9
U.S.A. vs. Japan	7 - 13
<b>NATIONS CUP: Opening Round</b> (single elimination)	
U.S.A. vs. Czech Republic	8 - 10



Billboard promoting the Women's and Juniors' World Championships.



Chanchai Acadium, Bangkokkthonburi University's indoor sports arena.



A team in waiting — for the traditional Parade of Nations ceremony.



Tons of gravel were laid down to construct a challenging surface for the games.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S QUALIFICATION TOURNAMENTS, FRESNO CA, SEPTEMBER 12-13, 2015

Other than the fact that the weather was hot, the skies were overcast and the air was windless and thick from forest fires that were raging in the mountains to the east, conditions were perfect at Cary Park in Fresno for this year's Qualification Tournaments — all thanks to the good folks at the **Fresno Petanque Club!**

Sojourning players from all FPUSA's regions and ten states were treated to a plethora of amenities. The club also had some new and challenging terrain available in time for the event. Players enjoyed a "modern luxury" of untimed games throughout the entire competition which was masterfully run by FPC's **Ted Haynish** and **Janice Bissonette**.

The six women's teams played five "round robin"

qualifying games on Saturday. On Sunday a single pool of four teams was followed by the final match. On the men's side, 21 teams played four qualifying games each on Saturday. This yielded 12 teams placed in three Sunday pools. The format was forgiving, as eight teams advanced from the pools into the quarterfinals. All teams who did not make Sunday's pools were entered into the Federation Cup.

Unlike the women's tourney, whose winners rolled unimpeded to the title, the men were, well, a bit more dramatic. The eventual winners finished in the middle of the pack on Saturday, even dropped one game in Sunday's pools. But they saved their best effort for the final, and it paid off! (Please see results listed on page 10.)



National Umpire Antoine Lofaro measures the game point in a Men's semifinal.



Players take a break in the shade on Saturday. With temperatures surpassing 100° and the air thick from forest fires in the Southern Sierra, staying rested and hydrated was a must all weekend long.



(l. to r.) Familiar faces Tish Harris and Gina Dejoy were joined by up-and-comer Shannon Hodge. They ran the table en route to the gold, winning all their games over the tournament's two days.



Traveling from Florida with higher hopes, Roger Arpaia, Daniel Smith and Gilles Canesse (l. to r.) found their stride a bit late and took first place in the Federation Cup on Sunday.



Pride of Los Angeles! LAPC's Karen Bull, Chrissy Lion and Stacey Linh (l. to r.) were in it until the end. They played well on both days and took home silver medals for the effort.



Team shirts were *de rigueur* — and required for both qualification tournaments.



Sonoma County's "Team Modelo" showed grit, sportsmanship — and *dished up a few surprises!*



Men's Champs (l. to r.) Juan Garcia, Walt Elder and Pascal Corchia excelled as a team.

RESULTS

Inter-regionals results on pages 11-12.

**National Mixed Doubles** June 13, 2015 (39 teams)

Host: Portland Petanque Club

Gold: **Narin Garrett** (Valley of the Moon PC), **Jack Vijit** (Zanesfield Petanque Club)

Silver: Mickey Coughlin, Nicole Coughlin (Redwood Empire Boules Club)

Bronze: **Paul Yang** (Fresno Petanque Club), **Teri Sirico** (Petaluma Valley PC)

**National Men's Doubles** June 14, 2015 (31 teams)

Host: Portland Petanque Club

Gold: **PJ Mallette** (Valley of the Moon PC), **Jack Vijit** (Zanesfield Petanque Club)

Silver: John Harris (Oakhurst Petanque Club), Daniel Smith (Boules de Leon)

Bronze: **Peter Mathis** (Valley of the Moon PC), **Mickey Coughlin** (Redwood Empire BC)

**National Women's Doubles** June 14, 2015 (14 teams)

Host: Portland Petanque Club

Gold: **Gina Dejoy** (South Florida PC), **Diana Jacobs** (Los Angeles Petanque Club)

Silver: Bekah Howe, Gerda Jorgensen (Port Townsend Petanque Alliance)

Bronze: **Holly Sammons** (Valley of the Moon PC), **Teri Sirico** (Petaluma Valley PC)

**National Men's Singles** July 25, 2015 (23 players)

Hosts: New York Petanque Club & La Boule New Yorkaise

Gold: **Xavier Thibaud** (New York Petanque Club)

Silver: **Jack Vijit** (Zanesfield Petanque Club)

Bronze: **Richard Meas** (La Boule New Yorkaise)

Bronze: **Jean-Pierre Subrenat** (New York Petanque Club)

**National Women's Singles** July 25, 2015 (10 players)

Hosts: New York Petanque Club & La Boule New Yorkaise

Gold: **Kasia Sliz** (La Boule New Yorkaise)

Silver: **Gina Dejoy** (South Florida Petanque Club)

Bronze: **Kate Brideau** (La Boule New Yorkaise)

Bronze: **Michele Healy** (San Antonio Petanque Club)

**National Mixed Triples** July 26, 2015 (10 teams)

Hosts: New York Petanque Club & La Boule New Yorkaise

Gold: **Philippe Menier** (LBNY), **Kasia Sliz**, **Jean-Pierre Subrenat** (NYPC)

Silver: **Kate Brideau**, **Richard Meas**, **Ernesto Santos** (La Boule New Yorkaise)

Bronze: **Narin Garrett** (VOMPC), **Shannon Hodge**, **Jack Vijit** (Zanesfield PC)

**Women's Confederations World Cup Qualification Tournament**

September 12-13, 2015 (6 teams) Host: Fresno Petanque Club

Gold: **Gina Dejoy** (South Florida Petanque Club), **Tish Harris** (Oakhurst Petanque Club), **Shannon Hodge** (Zanesfield Petanque Club)

Silver: **Stacey Linh**, **Chrissy Lion**, **Karen-Michele Bull** (LAPC)

Bronze: **Cynthia Doerner**, **Deborah Lapp**, **Linda Mottschiedler**, (Fresno PC)

**Men's World Championship Qualification Tournament**

September 12-13, 2015 (21 teams) Host: Fresno Petanque Club

Gold: **Pascal Corchia** (La Boule du Desert), **Walt Elder** (Carolina Petanque), **Juan Garcia** (Miami Petanque Club)

Silver: **Houari Baba**, **Joseph Hassoune** (LBNY), **PJ Mallette** (VOMPC)

Bronze: **Phil Hemery**, **Richard Meas**, **Ernesto Santos** (La Boule New Yorkaise)

Bronze: **Malek Hfaiedh** (NYPC), **Georges Ruveyrol**, **Artem Zuev** (LAPC)

**Federation Cup** September 13, 2015 (16 teams)

Host: Fresno Petanque Club

Gold: **Roger Arpaia** (Oh-la-la Orlando PA), **Gilles Canesse** (Manasota Boules), **Daniel Smith** (Boules de Leon)

Silver: **Bob Cortright**, **Joe Cortright** (Portland PC), **Van Woolfe** (Walla Walla PC)

Bronze: **Bee Moua**, **Chan Xiong**, **Yor Lee** (Club Francais de Sacramento)



National Men's and Women's Doubles medalists.



National Mixed Triples Champions.

2016 FPUSA National Championships Calendar

**May 28 • Fresno, California**  
National Men's Singles Championship  
National Women's Singles Championship

Hosted by Fresno Petanque Club

**May 29 • Fresno, California**  
National Mixed Triples Championship

Hosted by Fresno Petanque Club

**September 10-11 • Blue Hill, Maine**  
National Women's Triples Championship/  
World Championship Qualification Tournament

Hosted by Maine Boules Club

**August 13-14 • Lafayette, California**  
National Men's Triples Championship/  
International Qualification Tournament

Hosted by Lamorinda Petanque Club

**November 5-6 • Orlando, Florida**  
National Men's Doubles Championship & Qualifier

Hosted by Oh-la-la Orlando Petanque Association

**November 5-6 • Orlando, Florida**  
National Women's Doubles Championship & Qualifier

Hosted by Oh-la-la Orlando Petanque Association

Please check [petpart.weebly.com](http://petpart.weebly.com) for more details and up-to-date listings of all 2015 FPUSA Regional Tournaments.

## SOUTHEAST

**SE Inter-regional Select Triples** January 25, 2015 (18 teams)  
 Host: Oh-la-la Orlando Petanque Association  
**Gold:** Christian Coté, Linda Coté, Jean-Michel Lauhé (Boca Petanque 2000)  
**Silver:** Jon Claessens, Corey Milliard, Philippe Tripoul (Oh-la-la Orlando PA)  
**Bronze:** Claude Lauhé, Bernard Martin, Eric Moutard (Boca Petanque 2000)

**SE Inter-regional "65 Over/Under" Mixed Doubles** February 8, 2015 (12 teams)  
 Host: South Florida Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Monique Peron, Jean-Pierre Touchard (South Florida Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Christian Coté, Jo Ella Manalan (South Florida Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** Gina Dejoy, José Gutierrez (South Florida Petanque Club)

**SE Inter-regional "60 + Over" Mixed Triples** February 22, 2015 (12 teams)  
 Host: South Florida Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Linda Coté (SFPC) Claude Lauhé, Bernard Martin (Boca Petanque 2000)  
**Silver:** Francis Cheru, Gina Dejoy, Marc Vedrines (South Florida Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** Roger Arpaia (Oh-la la), Doris Guenette, Gerard Galiano (Boca 2000)

**SE Inter-regional Men's Singles** March 29, 2015 (30 players)  
 Host: Oh-la-la Orlando Petanque Association  
**Gold:** Bernard Martin (BOCA Petanque 2000)  
**Silver:** Daniel Smith (Boules de Leon)  
**Bronze:** Philippe Tripoul (Oh-la-la Orlando Petanque Association)

**SE Inter-regional Women's Singles** March 29, 2015 (11 players)  
 Host: Oh-la-la Orlando Petanque Association  
**Gold:** Gina de Joy (South Florida Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Shirley Jones (Carolina Petanque)  
**Bronze:** Lori Creasy (Boules de Leon)

**SE Inter-regional Select Doubles** October 3, 2015 (24 teams)  
 Host: Oh-la-la Orlando Petanque Association  
**Gold:** Gilles Canesse (Manasota Boules), Philippe Tripoul (Oh-la-la Orlando PA)  
**Silver:** Jerome Nicolas, Stefan Nicolas (South Florida Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** Jon Claessens, Chubby Misra (Oh-la-la Orlando Petanque Association)

**SE Inter-regional Mixed Triples** October 31, 2015 (12 teams)  
 Host: Boules de Leon  
**Gold:** Hajasoa Bosela, Gilles Canesse, Eric Moutard (Manasota Boules Club)  
**Silver:** Suzanne Rouland, Stan Russo, Daniel Smith (Boules de Leon)  
**Bronze:** Larry Creasy, Lori Creasy, Dori Daugherty (Boules de Leon)

## NORTHEAST

**NE Inter-regional Select Doubles** October 18, 2015 (14 teams)  
 Hosts: Philadelphia Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Jean-Pierre Hemery, Richard Meas (La Boule New Yorkaise)  
**Silver:** Paul Kelly, Pharide Roufai (Philadelphia Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** Rafik Blida, Omar Chaqour (La Boule New Yorkaise)



Mid-America Inter-regional Select Doubles medalists.

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

**NorCal Inter-regional Mixed Doubles** April 26, 2015 (26 teams)  
 Host: Valley of the Moon Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Mai Li, By Vang (Fresno Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Chue Thao, Jer Thao (Fresno Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** Barbara Hall, Bill Miller (Valley of the Moon Petanque Club)

**NorCal Inter-regional Select Triples** May 30, 2015 (12 teams)  
 Host: Redwood Empire Boules Club  
**Gold:** Ed Porto, Hans Kurz, Wolfie Kurz (Petaluma Valley Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Yor Lee, Bee Moua, Chan Xiong (Club Francais de Sacramento)  
**Bronze:** Alan Bauermeister, Narin Garrett, Peter Mathis (Valley of the Moon PC)

**NorCal Inter-regional Mixed Triples** June 21, 2015 (14 teams)  
 Host: Valley of the Moon Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Jer Thao, Chia Vang, Paul Yang (Fresno Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Alan Bauermeister (VOMPC), Hans Kurz, Teri Sirico (Petaluma Valley PC)  
**Bronze:** Kevin Evoy, Barbara Hall, Bill Miller (Valley of the Moon Petanque Club)

**NorCal Inter-regional Men's Doubles** July 19, 2015 (20 teams)  
 Host: Lamorinda Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Jer Thao, Paul Yang (Fresno Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Yor Lee, Mone Lee (Club Francais de Sacramento)  
**Bronze:** By Vang, Michel Yang (Fresno Petanque Club)

**NorCal Inter-regional Women's Doubles** July 19, 2015 (6 teams)  
 Host: Lamorinda Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Linda Motschieder, May Vang (Fresno Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Teri Sirico (Petaluma Valley PC), Chue Thao (Fresno Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** Tish Harris (Oakhurst Petanque Club), Diana Jacobs (Los Angeles PC)

**NorCal Inter-regional Men's Singles** October 11, 2015 (25 players)  
 Host: La Petanque Mariniere  
**Gold:** Paul Yang (Fresno Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Louis Toulon (La Petanque Mariniere)  
**Bronze:** Kevin Evoy (Valley of the Moon Petanque Club)

**NorCal Inter-regional Women's Singles** October 11, 2015 (11 players)  
 Host: La Petanque Mariniere  
**Gold:** Holly Sammons (Valley of the Moon Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Chia Vang (Valley of the Moon Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** Carolina Jones (Lamorinda Petanque Club)



NorCal Inter-regional Men's and Women's Singles medalists.

# Tournaments Results

## MID-AMERICA

**Mid-America Inter-regional Junior Select Doubles** June 6, 2015 (12 teams)  
 Host: Zanesfield Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Taylor Hodge, Maddie Stout (Zanesfield Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Nick Holoman, Wesley McClain (Zanesfield Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** Scott Conover, Caleb Wykstra (Zanesfield Petanque Club)

**Mid-America Inter-regional Singles** August 8, 2015 (32 players)  
 Host: Zanesfield Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Mohamed Boulahoual (Zanesfield Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Danny Daniels (Carolina Petanque)  
**Bronze:** Ziggy Kessouagni (Zanesfield Petanque Club)

**Mid-America Inter-regional Select Doubles** August 9, 2015 (17 teams)  
 Host: Zanesfield Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Herinirina Ratanarivo, Falihery Raharinaivo (Zanesfield Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Justin Bo Johns, Ziggy Kessouagni (Zanesfield Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** Mohamed Boulahoual, Naoufal El Bensaidi (Zanesfield Petanque Club)

## CENTRAL

**Central Inter-regional Men's "Open" Singles** May 16, 2015 (19 players)  
 Host: Heart of Texas Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Rick Armstrong (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Walt Elder (Carolina Petanque)  
**Bronze:** Alain Gimenez (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)

**Central Inter-regional Women's "Open" Singles** May 16, 2015 (11 players)  
 Host: Heart of Texas Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Shirley Jones (Carolina Petanque)  
**Silver:** Shannon Hodge (Zanesfield Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** Mitzi Gimenez (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)



NorCal Inter-regional Mixed Doubles medalists.



Southeast Inter-regional Men's Singles medalists.



Southwest Inter-regional Select Doubles medalists.



Northeast Inter-regional Select Doubles medalists.



Central Inter-regional Men's Open Singles Champion

## SOUTHWEST

**SW Inter-regional "65 Over/Under" Select Doubles** March 29, 2015 (18 teams)  
 Host: Fresno Petanque Club  
**Gold:** George Bedrossian, By Vang (Fresno Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Tish Harris, George Lewis (Oakhurst Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** Paul Bissonnette, Jer Thao (Fresno Petanque Club)

**SW Inter-regional Select Triples** October 17, 2015 (6 teams)  
 Host: Fresno Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Phomenik Lee, Pao Ly (Club Francais de Sacramento), Van Thai Thom (LAPC)  
**Silver:** Jer Thao, Chung Xiong, Paul Yang (Fresno Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** John Harris, Tish Harris (Oakhurst PC), Ed Porto (Petaluma Valley PC)

**SW Inter-regional Select Doubles** October 18, 2015 (14 teams)  
 Host: Fresno Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Phomenik Lee (Club Francais de Sacramento), Van Thai Thom (LAPC)  
**Silver:** Mone Lee, Yor Lee (Club Francais de Sacramento)  
**Bronze:** Janice Bissonnette, Thomas Moua (Fresno Petanque Club)

**Central Inter-regional Men's Doubles** May 17, 2015 (10 teams)  
 Host: Heart of Texas Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Arsene Dupin, Amine Najah (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** William Sabella (Independent), Frosty Sabo (Valley of the Moon PC)  
**Bronze:** Rick Armstrong, Michael Kauffman (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)

**Central Inter-regional Women's Doubles** May 17, 2015 (5 teams)  
 Host: Heart of Texas Petanque Club  
**Gold:** Amy Bienvenu, Jeanne Marie Browning (San Antonio Petanque Club)  
**Silver:** Marion Bermondy, Linda Schryver (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)  
**Bronze:** Mitzi Gimenez, Marie Stratton (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)

# Physics of the Carreau

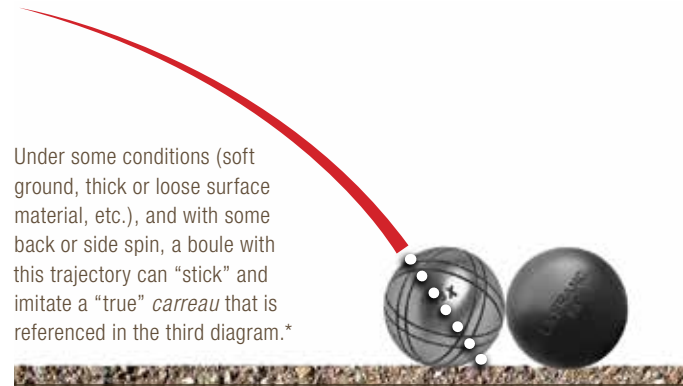
by STUART HARRIS — [www.beachmedia.com](http://www.beachmedia.com)

Some translations for *carreau* — Noun: tile; stone floor; window pane; pit head (mining); diamond (card games). Adjective: squared or checked (motif). Adverb: neglected; left out; stranded; left aside.†

Undoubtedly, the most spectacular shot in petanque is the *carreau*, a violent shot that not only knocks an opposing team's boule out of the game, but actually takes the place of the boule it displaced.

Have you ever wondered what exactly causes a *carreau* to happen, rather than just a typical shot, in which both boules end up out of the game? In terms of physics, the incoming boule has to transfer all of its momentum to the target boule.

Here, in the sketch below, is a fairly common situation. The incoming boule strikes the target boule and the ground at about the same time. Note that the extended path of the aggressor boule does not pass through the target boule at all. This will be a successful shot, but not a *carreau*.



Under some conditions (soft ground, thick or loose surface material, etc.), and with some back or side spin, a boule with this trajectory can "stick" and imitate a "true" *carreau* that is referenced in the third diagram.\*

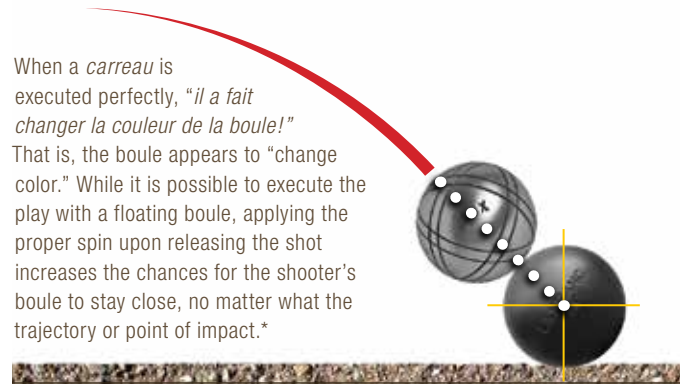
In the next sketch, also a fairly common situation, the target boule has been struck a little high (this type of shot is sometimes called a *casquette*, or helmet.) Although in this case the path of the incoming boule does pass through the target boule, this will not be a *carreau* either.



Une *casquette* — hitting the target boule on top. (A.K.A: giving your opponent a headache!)\*

The final sketch shows a true *carreau*. The point of contact is precisely on the path of the incoming boule. The target boule is struck "dead on," or squarely, and all of the momentum of the incoming boule is transferred.

Seeing how precise the conditions for a *carreau* are in terms of the physics, it's easy to understand why even the best shooters at the game cannot guarantee a *carreau* every time.



When a *carreau* is executed perfectly, "il a fait changer la couleur de la boule!" That is, the boule appears to "change color." While it is possible to execute the play with a floating boule, applying the proper spin upon releasing the shot increases the chances for the shooter's boule to stay close, no matter what the trajectory or point of impact.\*

\* Editor's notes. Illustrations adapted by the Editor from those on [www.beachmedia.com/epetcarr.html](http://www.beachmedia.com/epetcarr.html) † from [www.reverso.net](http://www.reverso.net)

# Cross Training... For Petanque?

## Finding Complementary Activities to Help Your Game and Performance



Bicycle riders share a celebratory smoke at the 1920 *Tour de France*.

The image to the left is famous for its portrayal of the world of sport from days gone by. Similarly, we have all seen images of a 'typical' *boulist* — one hand occupied with a glass of *pastis*, or with a cigarette dangling from the lips.

While that image may have some appeal to the casual player or observer, today's competitive players take the game more seriously, and look for ways to improve their performance, game in and game out.

Sustained practice is essential to improving one's petanque skills, but taking on activities to complement those skills can be beneficial to the competitor as well. And this goes double for those of the elder set.

Strength is not central to a player's performance but increasing flexibility and endurance, and keeping wrists, elbows and shoulders healthy can pay dividends on the piste, especially during those long days at the tournaments.

*Swimming? Yoga, anyone?*

# In Memoriam: A Tribute to Some Who Have Passed Away...

**Pierre Joske**  
LA PETANQUE  
MARINIERE & VOMPC  
1929-2011

A true mensch, Pierre helped found two clubs and was instrumental in developing their terrains. He also served FPUSA as an umpire and committee member.



Undoubtedly, all FPUSA members can think of that special player or friend who passed on to that big bouldrome in the sky.

On this page are some of our departed members as submitted by their clubs. Many thanks to those who contributed to this memorial.



**Alfred Lavigne**  
SOUTH FLORIDA  
PETANQUE CLUB  
1921-2012

Competitive yet warm-hearted, Alfred was a founding member and the first president of SFPC. He spent many hours teaching the game to students and adults.

**Jean-Jacques Baudo**  
SOUTH FLORIDA  
PETANQUE CLUB



1945-2005

A renowned hair stylist, avid player and a unique personality, Jean-Jacques brought joy and laughter to the game and to his club.

**Christian Bousquet**  
MANASOTA BOULES CLUB  
SARASOTA CLUB DE PETANQUE



1953-2015

Members of SCP enjoyed Christian's good spirit and good cooking at the club's events. Christian was also a club board member and FPUSA umpire.

**Dolores Bush**  
LOS ANGELES  
PETANQUE CLUB



1931-2008

A welcoming presence for years at the LAPC courts and a U.S. Champion, Dolores loved to teach and share the game to newcomers of all ages.

**Steve Bush**  
LOS ANGELES  
PETANQUE CLUB



1930-2014

A longtime LAPC Board member and event organizer, Steve gave much of his time and energy to the game, his club and to FPUSA.

**Emile Furlan**  
LE CLUB FRANCAIS  
DE SACRAMENTO



1920-2005

Memorialized by the continuation of the annual tournament that he and his family has hosted at their farm for three decades, Emile welcomed everyone and was loved by all.

**Narin Garrett**  
VALLEY OF THE MOON  
PETANQUE CLUB



1979-2015

Club President, competitor and U.S. Champion, Narin represented FPUSA at the 2013 FIPJP Women's World Championship. Sadly, she left her friends and family long before her time.

**Jean Lafont**  
DALLAS  
PETANQUE CLUB



1940-2012

A founding member of the DPC, Jean was a renowned chef who introduced the game of petanque to his community in the 1970s and gave much to his club.

**Tino Lofaro**  
LA PETANQUE MARINIERE  
VALLEY OF THE MOON P.C.



1954-2010

Known for his fiery competitive spirit and fun-loving nature, Tino enjoyed teaching the game that he loved. He urged players to do their best by calling out, "Easy Petanque!"

**Byron Mayo**  
VALLEY OF THE MOON  
PETANQUE CLUB



1922-2012

Club president, newsletter man and league organizer, Byron spent his 'Golden Years' in Sonoma, California enjoying that game that "I wished I had discovered 20 years sooner."

**Gordon Morse**  
FRESNO  
PETANQUE CLUB



1926-2015

One of FPC's original members, Gordon took fastidious care of the courts. Active both in his club and in his community, he played regularly as well and is sorely missed.

**Duong Minh Nguyen**  
SEATTLE PETANQUE CLUB  
LOS ANGELES PETANQUE CLUB



1941-2013

A respected player and cheerful friend to many, Duong left the SPC remembering and repeating some of his famous shouts, such as, "I shoot now... carreau for four!"

**Richard Wren**  
AMELIA ISLAND  
BOULES CLUB



1941-2014

Richard carried AIBC's good name abroad for months each year. He died tragically as a result of a bicycle accident in France and is missed by his club's members.



# FEDERATION OF PETANQUE, USA

P.O. Box 180  
Kenwood, CA 95452



Ray Fecteau,  
President  
of Mill Park  
Petanque,  
pushes the  
boundaries  
of what is  
normally  
considered  
“petanque  
weather!”

## Parting shot...

*by Jim Johnson,  
Petaluma Valley Petanque Club*

