MILESTONE:

2,000 MEMBERS

The sky’s the limit...?
Who’s that Man in the Brochure?

Dear Fellow FPUSA members,

After serving on FPUSAs 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.”

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!

Frank Guzman, Jo Ella Manalan

Mid-America Regional Counselor (since 2014)
FPUSA Social Media Manager (since 2014)
Founders, Redwood Empire Boules Club

Thanks, Gentleman, for jobs well done!

SOUTHWEST

LA VISTA P.C. 22
Dakotah P.C. 30
La Boule du Desert 18
Figaro P.C. 84
La Boule de Petanque – San Diego 47
Los Angeles P.C. 101

NORTHWEST

SAN ANTONIO P.C. 19
Heart of Texas P.C. 45

CENTRAL

DALLAS P.C. 21
Mile High P.C. 22
The La Boule P.C. 13

SOUTHEAST

ORLANDO P.C. 16
Manasota B.K. 23
Apollo P.C. 18

EASTERN

AMELIA ISLAND B.C. 135
Boca 2000 25
Waco P.C. 12

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 gains 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!”

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

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

John Harris
FPUSA Treasurer (2014-15)
Southwestern Regional Counselor (2008-15)
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 (2014)
FPUSA Social Media Manager (since 2014)
FPUSA Umpire (since 2014)
Founder, Zanesfield Petanque Club

The short answer:
In 52 affiliated clubs.

New York P.C. 21
Boca 2000 25
Waco P.C. 12

The little stars on the map indicate “Independent Members.” These memberships are offered to individuals who live more the 100 miles from an affiliated club. There were seven such members in 2015. Independent members have the same privileges associated with club-affiliated members (as in the USA).
The Boule Sheet, Late Summer 2000 Edition, Frank Pipal, Editor

FPUSA Flashback: 2000

“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, Mainer 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 pists, covered in coarse gravel, defied predictable or consistent results. The plombière 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 relucant sun. Pointing was a tough task as chosen donnees became cruel jokes for perplexed tacticians.

The ground, this event's most formidable opponent, was an ever challenging one. It allowed for no glancing blow 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 “djhia 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 Kindschik and Mia Kanazawa), Bill Hughes and his D.C. boys, Mai Nguyen (”no money, no carreau”) all-Viet trios, the New York defenders, the Floridians (Brothers Canesse with Nguyen's (Mia Kanazawa), Bill Hughes and his D.C. boys, Mai Nguyen (”no money, no carreau”)), the New York defenders, the Floridians (Brothers Canesse with Nguyen's (Mia Kanazawa), Bill Hughes and his D.C. boys, Mai Nguyen (”no money, no carreau”)).

Pointing was a tough task as chosen donnees became cruel jokes for perplexed tacticians. The ground, this event's most formidable opponent, was an ever challenging one. It allowed for no glancing blow 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.

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

When Gerard/Felix/Pascal began their match against the defending champions, New York's Hans Jepson/Joannt Ruperti’Tir’ 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 Californians took control of the game against the New Yorkers, an intriguing development was unfoldling in the “other” match. The classy Worcester team of Albert, George and Jacques, with their consistent pointing and cool demeanor, were quietly turning the Nielsen/Nguyen/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 tenacious 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 formular 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

Nicolas Bienvenue, 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

Under their new club president, Nicolas Bienvenue, 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!

Augusta, Maine

Long cold winters and a lack of local player 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 2010 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

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 teaching 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 Ro John 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!

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

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Rolling up his sleeves and pounding the pavement for local support and funding, Ray formed the Mill Park Petanque Club in 2010 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.

Not only managed to solicit free donations of materials (crushed granite and limestone border rocks), 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!

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), 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!
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 all of 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!”

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 program.

* David serves as the FPUSA Sport Committee Chair.

A NATIONAL TOURNEY WITH A LOCAL TOUCH

For FPUSA 2015/16 Men’s and Women’s Singles and Mixed Doubles

Zanesfield Petanque Club

2015 NPL Top 26 Finishers

Mohammed Boulahoual  Zanesfield Petanque Club 114
Justin John  Zanesfield Petanque Club 104
Mike Stasack  Eugene Petanque Int’l Club 98
Shannon Hodge  Zanesfield Petanque Club 91
Chris Lopez  Agnesse Petanque Club 87
Annette Dupuis  Heart of Texas Petanque Club 85
Raj Paterson  Eugene Petanque Int’l Club 82
Todd Douty  La Mesa Petanque Club 81
Thomas Leuen  Amelia Island Boules Club 81
Stephen Lessard  Mile High Petanque Club 81
Steve Walker  Portland Petanque Club 79
Waanor Smith  Orlando Petanque Club 78
Richard Siemens  La Loa & Dracarys Petanque Club 78
Larry Cissey  Orlando Petanque Club 76
Michael Keil  Orlando Petanque Club 74
Charlie Otis  La Mesa Petanque Club 73
Shirley Jones  Carolina Petanque 72
Anne Eberlin  Orlando Petanque Club 68
David Koll  Mile High Petanque Club 67
Star Russo  Braids De Leon 64
Ryan Penny  Zanesfield Petanque Club 63
Charlotta Chambers  Club Tanka 62
Ridha Ben Hamouda  Oh-la-la Orlando Petanque 61
Jeed Chaiboonruang  Eugene Petanque Int’l Club 60
Anne Eberlin  Orlando Petanque Club 60
Ridha Ben Hammouda  Oh-la-la Orlando P.A. 60

The league will run 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 program. Nice work, David and Stephen!
Men’s & Women’s Singles
NICE, FRANCE • 1.23-25.15

FIPJP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Men’s & Women’s Triples
BANGKOK, THAILAND • 11.4-8.15
Women’s Triples

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 Chissy 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” Pomerio 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!

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!

USA SCORES & RESULTS

USA SCORES & RESULTS

WOMEN’S SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP (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

WOMEN’S NATIONS CUP (single elimination)

U.S.A. vs. Lithuania (16th final) 7 - 10

MEN’S SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP (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

MEN’S NATIONS CUP (single elimination)

U.S.A. vs. San Marino (16th final) 13 - 7
U.S.A. vs. Denmark (16th final) 11 - 7
U.S.A. vs. Andorra (1/4 final) 8 - 12

QUALIFYING ROUNDS: Swiss System

U.S.A. vs. Canada 7 - 13
U.S.A. vs. Bulgaria 9 - 6

QUALIFYING ROUNDS: Swiss System (continued)

U.S.A. vs. The Netherlands 9 - 10
U.S.A. vs. Estonia 13 - 9
U.S.A. vs. Japan 7 - 10

NATIONS CUP: Opening Round (single elimination)

U.S.A. vs. Czech Republic 8 - 10

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 reads himself for a play vs. Ukraine.

Welcome to Petanque: The roots of petanque extend back to an ancient French village, where it evolved into a modern sport. The sport has since spread around the world, now enjoyed by millions of players.

Chanchai Acadium, Bangkokthonburi University’s indoor sports arena.

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

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

Teams of gravel were laid down to construct a challenging surface for the games.
Other than the fact that the weather was hot, the skies were overcast and the air was0
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 Bissonnette.

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.)

**2015 National Title Tournaments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournament</th>
<th>Host</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Mixed Doubles</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 13, 2015 (39 teams)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Host: Portland Petanque Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold: Narin Garnett (Valley of the Moon PC), Jack Vij (Zanesfield Petanque Club)</td>
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<td>Silver: Mickey Coughlin, Nicole Coughlin (Redwood Empire Boules Club)</td>
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<td>Bronze: Paul Yang (Fresno Petanque Club), Tere Sirico (Petauma Valley PC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Men’s Doubles</td>
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<td>June 14, 2015 (31 teams)</td>
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<td>Host: Portland Petanque Club</td>
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<td>Gold: PJ Mallette (Valley of the Moon PC), Jack Vij (Zanesfield Petanque Club)</td>
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<td>Silver: John Harris (Oakhurst Petanque Club), Daniel Smith (Boules de Lune)</td>
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<td>Bronze: Peter Mathis (Valley of the Moon PC), Mickey Coughlin (Redwood Empire BC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Women’s Doubles</td>
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<td>June 14, 2015 (14 teams)</td>
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<td>Host: Portland Petanque Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold: Gina Dejoy (South Florida PC), Diana Jacobs (Los Angeles Petanque Club)</td>
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<td>Silver: Bekah Howe, Gendra Jorgenson (Port Townsend Petanque Alliance)</td>
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<td>Bronze: Holly Sammons (Valley of the Moon PC), Tere Sirico (Petauma Valley PC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Men’s Singles</td>
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<td>July 25, 2015 (23 players)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hosts: New York Petanque Club &amp; La Boule New Yorkaise</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold: Xavier Thibaud (New York Petanque Club)</td>
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<td>Silver: Jack Vij (Zanesfield Petanque Club)</td>
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<td>Bronze: Richard Moeas (La Boule New Yorkaise)</td>
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<td>Bronze: Jean-Pierre Subrenat (New York Petanque Club)</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Women’s Singles</td>
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<td>July 25, 2015 (10 players)</td>
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<td>Hosts: New York Petanque Club &amp; La Boule New Yorkaise</td>
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<td>Bronze: Michelle Holsky (San Antonio Petanque Club)</td>
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<td>National Mixed Triples</td>
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<td>Hosts: New York Petanque Club &amp; La Boule New Yorkaise</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold: Philippe Merier (LINY), Kaia Siz, Jean-Pierre Subrenat (NYPC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver: Katz Brindusa, Richard Moeas, Ernesto Santos (La Boule New Yorkaise)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bronze: Narin Garrett (VPWPC), Shannon Hodge, Jack Vij (Zanesfield PC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Confederations World Cup Qualification Tournament</td>
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<td>September 12, 2015 (6 teams)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Host: Fresno Petanque Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold: Gina Dejoy (South Florida Petanque Club), Tish Harris (Oakhurst Petanque Club)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver: Shannon Hodge (Zanesfield Petanque Club)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bronze: Stacey Link, Chrissy Lion, Karen Michie Bull (LAPC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bronze: Cynthia Donner, Deborah Lapp, Linda Mottekirkler, (Fresno PC)</td>
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</table>

**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

Please check petpart.weebly.com for more details and up-to-date listings of all 2015 FPUSA Regional Tournaments.
SE Inter-regional Select Triples
January 25, 2015 (18 teams)
Host: Oh-la-la Orlando Petanque Association
Gold: Christian Coti, Linda Coti, Jean-Michel Laufli (Boca Petanque 2000)
Silver: Jon Claessens, Corny Windly, Philippe Tripol (Oh-la-la Orlando PA)
Bronze: Claude Laufli, Bernard Martin, Eric Moutard (Boca Petanque 2000)

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

Mid-Amercia Inter-regional Select Doubles medalists.

Mid-America Inter-regional Junior Select Doubles
June 6, 2015 (12 teams)
Host: Caneelbeach Petanque Club
Gold: Taylor Holde, Maddie Stout (Caneelbeach Petanque Club)
Silver: Nick Heldman, Wesley McClain (Caneelbeach Petanque Club)
Bronze: Scott Cooke, Calo Hjorba (Caneelbeach Petanque Club)

Mid-America Inter-regional Singles August 8, 2015 (32 players)
Host: Caneelbeach Petanque Club
Gold: Mohamed Bouhalaou (Caneelbeach Petanque Club)
Silver: Danny Daniels (Carolina Petanque)
Bronze: Ziggie Keesauqua (Caneelbeach Petanque Club)

Central Inter-regional Women’s “Open” Singles May 16, 2015 (19 players)
Host: Heart of Texas Petanque Club
Gold: Aronc dupilti, Amine Najah (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)
Silver: William Sabella (Independend), Frosty Sabo (Valley of the Moon PC)
Bronze: Aronc Armstrong, Michael Kaufman (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)

Central Inter-regional Women’s Doubles May 17, 2015 (5 teams)
Host: Heart of Texas Petanque Club
Gold: Shirley Jones (Carolina Petanque)
Bronze: Mitzi Gimenez (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)

Mid-America Inter-regional Select Doubles medalists.

Mid-America Inter-regional Select Doubles March 29, 2015 (18 teams)
Host: Philadelphia Petanque Club
Gold: Christian Coti, Linda Coti, Jean-Michel Laufli (Boca Petanque 2000)
Silver: Jon Claessens, Corny Windly, Philippe Tripol (Oh-la-la Orlando PA)
Bronze: Claude Laufli, Bernard Martin, Eric Moutard (Boca Petanque 2000)

NorCal Inter-regional Select Doubles Mixed April 29, 2015 (26 teams)
Host: Valley of the Moon Petanque Club
Gold: Mia Li, By Yang (Fresno Petanque Club)
Silver: Chai 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, Wolle Kurz (Petaluma Valley Petanque Club)
Silver: Yuri Lee, Bee Moua, Chan Xiong (Club Francais de Sacramento)
Bronze: Alan Baumemmer, Narin Garrett, Peter Mathis (Valley of the Moon PC)

NorCal Inter-regional Select Doubles Mixed June 21, 2015 (14 teams)
Host: Valley of the Moon Petanque Club
Gold: Jes Thao, Chia Yang, Paul Yang (Fresno Petanque Club)
Silver: Alan Baumemmer (WOMP), Hans Kurz, Teri Sins (Petaluma Valley Petanque Club)
Bronze: Kevin Esony, Barbara Hall, Bill Miller (Valley of the Moon Petanque Club)

NorCal Inter-regional Men’s Doubles July 19, 2015 (20 players)
Host: Lameriches Petanque Club
Gold: Jer Thao, Paul Yang (Fresno Petanque Club)
Silver: Yuri Lee, Moon Lee (Club Francais de Sacramento)
Bronze: By Yang, Michel Yang (Fresno Petanque Club)

NorCal Inter-regional Women’s Singles July 19, 2015 (5 teams)
Host: Lameriches Petanque Club
Gold: Linda Motchebadze, May Yang (Fresno Petanque Club)
Silver: Teri Sins (Petaluma Valley PC), Chau 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: Laura Tacon (La Petanque Mariniere)
Bronze: Kevin Esony (Valley of the Moon Petanque Club)

NorCal Inter-regional Women’s Singles October 11, 2015 (11 players)
Host: La Petanque Mariniere
Gold: Holly Sammonds (Valley of the Moon Petanque Club)
Silver: Chia Yang (Valley of the Moon Petanque Club)
Bronze: Carolina Jones (Lameriches Petanque Club)

Mid-America Inter-regional Men’s and Women’s Singles medalists.

Mid-America Inter-regional Select Doubles medalists.

Mid-America Inter-regional Select Doubles medalists.

Mid-America Inter-regional Select Doubles medalists.

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: Matt 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 (Carolina Petanque)
Bronze: Mitzi Gimenez (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)

Central Inter-regional Men’s Doubles May 17, 2015 (10 teams)
Host: Heart of Texas Petanque Club
Gold: Aronc dupilti, Amine Najah (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)
Silver: William Sabella (Independend), Frosty Sabo (Valley of the Moon PC)
Bronze: Aronc Armstrong, Michael Kaufman (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)

Central Inter-regional Women’s Doubles May 17, 2015 (5 teams)
Host: Heart of Texas Petanque Club
Gold: Amy Biemeier, Jeannes Marie Browning (San Antonio Petanque Club)
Silver: Marsha Buron, Linda Schryver (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)
Bronze: Mitzi Gimenez, Marie Stratton (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)
Some translations for carreau:

Noun: tile; stone floor; window pane; pit head (mining); diamond (card games). Adjective: squared or checked (motif).

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 irritate a “true” carreau that is referenced in the third diagram.*

In the next sketch, also a fairly common situation, the aggressor boule does not pass through the target boule at all. The incoming boule strikes the target boule and the ground at about the same time. Note that the extended path of the incoming boule does pass through the target boule. 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.

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.

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. In the next sketch, also a fairly common situation, the aggressor boules do not pass through the target boules at all. This will be a successful shot, but not a carreau.

In Memoriam: A Tribute to Some Who Have Passed Away…

Pierre Josse
LA PETANQUE MARRIÈRE
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.

Jean-Jacques Baudo
SOUTH FLORIDA PETANQUE CLUB
1945-2005
A renowned player and a unique personality, Jean-Jacques brought joy and laughter to the game both in his club and in his life. He is greatly missed.

Christian Bousquet
MANASSAS BOULES CLUB
1983-2015
Members of SCF 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 with everyone.

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.

Steve Bush
LOS ANGELES PETANQUE CLUB
1930-2014
A long-time LAPC Board member and event organizer, Steve gave much of his time and energy to the game, his club and to FPUSA.

Tino Lofaro
LA PETANQUE MARRIÈRE
1922-2012
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.

Richard Wren
AMELIA ISLAND BOULES CLUB
1941-2014
Richard carried AABC’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.

On this page are some of the departed members of SFPC. Many thanks to those who contributed to this memorial.

* Editor’s note: Illustrations adapted by the Editor from those on www.beachmedia.com/epetcarr.html and from www.reverso.net

Cross Training… For Petanque?
Finding Complementary Activities to Help Your Game and Performance

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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_