Petanque in the Olympics?
In December 1985, the Confédération Mondiale des Sports de Boules (CMSB) was formed by the Confédération Boccistica Internazionale (CBI), the Fédération Internationale de Boules (FIB) and the Fédération Internationale de Pétanque et Jeu Provençal (FIPJP) which is FPUSA’s parent organization. CBI governs the sport of Raffa which is an internationally recognized format of the game of bocce with which most Americans are familiar. FIB governs Boule Lyonnaise, or “Violette,” a form of bocce that is played with bronze bouches and has specific rules about, among other things, shooting “au trois.” A major goal is to have one or more of these games accepted into the 2024 Olympics. CMSB has embarked on a promotional campaign. Its President, Claude Azema (also the current President of FIPJP), has set on a number of occasions of members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in order to lay the groundwork for a formal proposal to the 2024 organizing committee. This committee will submit sports to the IOC at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo for proposed inclusion.

To be sure, the challenges facing CMSB’s mission are formidable — IOC gets flooded with proposals from the various international sports groups for inclusion; criteria to include sports are multi-faceted; and boulle sports do not receive much exposure in both sport and general media outlets. And then there is funding.

In its favor CMSB can point to a number of factors. Boules sports are precision games – comparable to archery, curling and marksmanship. They are played by over 200 million players in 165 countries via 262 national federations by both genders and across all ages and socioeconomic groups. As of 2016, 67 countries have won medals in at least one world championship. Boule sports are relatively ‘host-friendly’ compared to other sports that require large playing areas, large team sizes or specialized equipment. And boulle sports are nearly risk free with respect to injury. For FIPJP’s part, the trend to comply with IOC standards began about a decade ago, most notably with the introduction of substance-abuse testing at its various world championships. There have been other efforts to raise standards of play, behavior and officiating. And importantly, changes have been underway to improve the presentation and exposure of the game to the general public. A few examples are the introduction of playing circles at the 2006 World Championship, the one-minute display clock and dark vs. light boules for opposing teams.

Most petanque enthusiasts are rooting for a favorable outcome and a chance to see their beloved game on the biggest of all sport stages. 2024 may seem like a long way off but, in Olympic planning terms, the train is just pulling out of the station.

CMSB has asked all supporters to get involved in the effort. Players can help the cause by going to www.boules-sport.org and registering as an official supporter of Sport Boules’ candidacy. Just type in your info and click “JE SOUTIENS!”

One of the remaining proposed sites, Budapest, Los Angeles or Paris, will be announced in September 2017.
Rare Gems: Club Youth Programs Flourish in two “O” States

**IN PROMOTING JUNIORS’ PLAY, THESE CLUBS ARE IN IT FOR THE LONG HAUL!**

In 1998, two French high school teachers, Mike Stasack and Ryan Baker founded the Eugene Pétanque International Club. What was unique about this club was that it was based solely on the formation of a four-school pétanque league. Each high school fielded teams of 10-15 players which yielded a total of 50-75 per fall and spring seasons. Both boys and girls participated and received a varsity club sport letter. As with adults, the beauty of the game is that it is a very low cost sport which players of any age, gender, or athletic ability can learn and play successfully. It also has a rich tradition of social and inter-generational interaction. In that vein, each of EPIC’s competitions was followed by a gathering where players mingle and socialize.

Unfortunately, due to budget cuts, three of the original schools have not participated for several years, but the program is going strong at Marist Catholic High School. Due to budget cuts, three of the original schools have not participated for several years, but the program is going strong at Marist Catholic High School. In the October 2014 issue of The Cardinal, the newsletter of the Ohio Foreign Language Association, Shannon’s approach to using the game as tool and context for French instruction was featured – and roundly praised!

**A Trip Abroad**

Back in 2011 Mike and Ryan trained a junior team of two girls and one boy to compete for a chance to represent the USA at the Junior World Championship. In a rare “FPUSA Juniors’ Qualification Tournament” held in San Rafael, California, EPIC faced a very good team from the Fresno Pétanque club, who at the end of the day, were in the finals of the tournament. The Fresno team won three of the five games and thereby qualified. The competition was so tight that at the end of the day both teams’ cumulative point totals were exactly the same!

Due to one of the Fresno players being unable to travel, some unfortunate scheduling by FIPPP that put the Championship in the middle of the school year, EPIC member Carly Stasack joined Fresno players, Peng Sue and Hal Normen and competed at the 7th Annual Pétanque International Juniors’ Tournament in Kaysl, Luxembourg that summer. Both Mike and Paul accompanied the team and everyone had an experience they still remember.

While international competition cannot be the sole focus of a successful juniors’ program, it certainly presents an enrichment for young players to apply themselves to the finer points of the sport. The few times that our kids have been fortunate enough to go abroad to play pétanque, their horizons have been broadened and their understanding of the game was deepened immensely.

With an eye toward promoting pétanque in his home town, Zanesfield Pétanque Club President “Bo” Johns contacted Shannon Hodge, French instructor at nearby Belpre High School, to bring the game to the students and play pétanque. Shannon embraced the offer and the two arranged for students to visit the club for lessons and friendly games. Well, the students got hooked! And in May of 2013, the BFS French Club hosted their first tourney, with over 30 students participating.

Later that year, as part of his U.S. tour, longtime pétanque standout Marco Foyot came to Zanesfield to teach the game to the students. Not only were the youngsters awed by his skill, they found him to be a great instructor and very approachable. Those 15 students who met Marco became the basis for what is today the largest juniors’ program in the FPUSA, with ZPC averaging about 80 junior members each year. The club holds a variety of events, including socials and competitions like the French Club tournament and the FPUSA Mid-America Inter-Regional Juniors’ Doubles tournament. New events are being added each year in order to attract students who may not be in the French program.

In the October 2014 issue of The Cardinal, the newsletter of the Ohio Foreign Language Association, Shannon’s approach to using the game as tool and context for French instruction was featured – and roundly praised!

At Belfontaine High, pétanque has become an integral part of the French language program. There is a wall dedicated to pétanque with pictures of the students playing the game and posters of the tournament winners. Boulé, pétanque posters and medals, as well as information about the club and the game, have also been displayed at showcases in the school hallways. The game helps attract students to the French program and keeps them engaged in their language studies. The French Club meets every Friday of the month and dedicates one of those Fridays just to the French program. The students take pride in being part of the club and they like being able to share their experiences with others through the media that Bo uses to promote the sport. We can look forward to more good things to come from this lively juniors’ program.

Every organization needs a solid, reliable web presence and, this past summer, the crack team of Nan Walter and FPUSA Secretary Dan Feaster (both of the Port Townsend Petanque Alliance) delivered the goods — in spades! Employing Nan’s keen design skills and Dan’s sense of organization, this team put together a comprehensive website that not only incorporated the sport aspects of the “Landing Spot” and the content of our prior website, but rolled in more features and services for members of all stripes, as well as relevant information for nonmembers and prospective members. The result is a one-stop, all-in-one resource. Visit usapatanque.org. Nice work, Nan and Dan!

**GROWTH: finding the right formula for your club is key**

It is evident from the graphs on this page that every club’s quest for growth can be a roller coaster ride — meteoric rises may give way to abrupt or gentle declines. Slow and steady growth seems more of an exception than the rule.

For any given club what works at one point in time may not be the right formula at others. Finding what works depends on a number of factors: the energy and availability of volunteers, interests of the club officers as well as its members, local conditions in a park and community, among others.

In discussions among concerned members, it is a common assumption to judge FPUSA by its growth in membership. From graphing the membership numbers one can see that not only incorporated the sport aspects of the “Landing Spot” and the content of our prior website, but rolled in more features and services for members of all stripes, as well as relevant information for nonmembers and prospective members. The result is a one-stop, all-in-one resource. Visit usapatanque.org. Nice work, Nan and Dan!
PETANQUE FOLK ART, AND CRAFT

Art is inspired by things in life that are important to the artist. Here are some works of art and craft from around FPUSA and beyond. In a variety of ways, all are expressions of their makers’ love of the game and what it represents to them, their friends and family, and the places and traditions they hold dear.

Using amethyst and local wood and stone, Thierry Amisose of the Heart of Texas Petanque Club made this perpetual trophy for the annual HOT Open in 2009. Each year, the winners’ names are engraved onto a brass plate and fixed to the heart-shaped pine wood base slabs. Très attrayant!

Each design is inspired by things in life that are important to the artist. Here are some works of art and craft from around FPUSA and beyond. In a variety of ways, all are expressions of their makers’ love of the game and what it represents to them, their friends and family, and the places and traditions they hold dear.

Susan Barton crafted this whimsical hook rug for her husband, Brian, of the Rogue Bouligans in Williams, OR. (36” x 24”)

This metal scorekeeper was given to the Editor by a friend of Heart of Texas P.C., Joe Sanchez of Ste.-Genevieve-des-Bois, France creates portraits of his petanque friends and classic imagery from France, and from the game he has played nearly all of his life.

In addition to hand painted cochonnets and other objects, friend of Heart of Texas P.C., Joe Sanchez of Ste.-Genevieve-des-Bois, France creates portraits of his petanque friends and classic imagery from France, and from the game he has played nearly all of his life.

Mark Kinduchi of Maine Boules Club does functional and decorative metal work, sometimes using petanque bases in his designs. This human scale scorekeeper (below) graces the club’s court in Blue Hill, Maine.

Can you guess the occupation of its maker?

"Boules in Flight Series, #5," ink on paper, 7” x 5” (above) silkscreen print on twill, 19” x 24” (right)

The flip side is the image that these habits present to onlookers, the image that the U.S. presents to the international petanque community. We don’t see non-regulation base sizes in the regulation circles in official tournaments undermines the sport’s image. Some may consider these habits benign enough in moderation, but the flip side is the image that these habits present to onlookers, especially youth. Can you name one sport that allows them?

Smoking and consuming alcohol during games? Some may consider these habits benign enough in moderation, but the flip side is the image that these habits present to onlookers, especially youth. Can you name one sport that allows them?

Players should feel free to engage FPUSA officials with feedback and suggestions. While there is no guarantee that all suggestions may be taken, the feedback is helpful in refining the sport. It is equally important for officials to listen to input from players and supporters of our sport to realize that any rule considered in isolation may seem insignificant or dismissible, but the aggregate of the entire set of rules creates an overall atmosphere that is fair to the players, welcoming to spectators, and beneficial for the promotion of the game. Here are just a couple of examples.

Consider the playing circle. They have been an ‘institution’ at international competitions for over a decade. Using non-regulation bases in official tournaments undermines the sport’s image that the U.S. presents to the international petanque community. We don’t see non-regulation base sizes in the various ballparks where baseball is played, or different widths to the court demarcation lines in basketball. All sports have such standards, and petanque has relatively few of them.

Rules & Standards: Why have them? Why “so many?”

Addressing some questions regarding tournament standards and the Code of Behavior.

When Gina DeJoy (South Florida P.C.), Tish Harris (Oakhurst P.C.) and Shannon Hodge (Zanesfield P.C.) topped the field at FPUSA’s Women’s Qualification Tournament in Fresno (September 2015), they hoped to represent the USA at the 2016 FIPJP Women’s Confederations Cup. But by the time the long-awaited event announcement came along, the team had made a commitment to compete in a prestigious tournament in Canada. (Note: FPUSA Teams are permitted to select an alternative tournament should there be planning or access issues with respect to the qualifier’s intended FIPJP event.)

Engaging a tough cadre of twelve teams from Canada and Europe, our team recorded three victories in their four opening games, ranking them second overall. In an unexpected format twist, a ‘knockout round’ was installed at the end of the day for teams ranked second through seventh. Our team suffered a 10-12 loss in this timed elimination game, and ended up in the consolante the next day when they won two of three games. All three enjoyed the experience and are grateful for the support from FPUSA and its members.

FPUSA’s National Petanque League, a grand experiment conceived and managed by David Keil and Stephen Lessard of Mile High Petanque Club continued to evolve in its second year. New wrinkles were tried, including splitting the year into two seasons, and adding a doubles format. Medals were awarded to the top finishers in each category. Incertivizing clubs and players remain two hurdles to overcome, but the league’s trusty directors look forward to further refinements and broader promotion in 2017.

Stay tuned for announcements early in the new year!

National Petanque League: The Second Running

Doubles Added in 2016 • Participation Still Spotty • Changes in Store for 2017

Unseen, watercolor and ink, 10” x 11” (gift to the Editor, 2012).

FPUSA’s National Petanque League, a grand experiment conceived and managed by David Keil and Stephen Lessard of Mile High Petanque Club continued to evolve in its second year. New wrinkles were tried, including splitting the year into two seasons, and adding a doubles format. Medals were awarded to the top finishers in each category.

Incentivizing clubs and players remain two hurdles to overcome, but the league’s trusty directors look forward to further refinements and broader promotion in 2017.

Stay tuned for announcements early in the new year!

Rules & Standards: Why have them? Why “so many?”

Addressing some questions regarding tournament standards and the Code of Behavior.
Contestants sported team shirts — and those familiar Saturday morning smiles!

Twenty-seven competitors from Oregon, Washington, Texas and Northern and Central California met on a hot summer weekend in this quaint East Bay burg to compete for the honor of becoming our 2017 Men’s Triples Team USA. Several factors contributed to the light turnout but mainly it was the lack of a designated location, dates and other details for the goal of the event (FIPJP’s 2017 Confederations Cup), along with the enticement of playing later in the year—win or lose, a rewarding competitive experience for all participants.

FPUSA international Qualification tournaments

Clockwise from upper left: Jer Thao (Fresno P.C.), Wolfgang Kurz (Petaluma Boules Club), Lahouari Baba (LBNY), John Harris (Oakhurst P.C.)

The format was quite forgiving as eight of the nine teams advanced to Sunday’s pools (per the prescribed regulations). By afternoon four teams had emerged from the two pools, advanced to Sunday’s pools (per the prescribed regulations). The two others were in a pack of nine teams who won only two games, putting one in the consolante and the other (Jerome and Stephan Nicolas) making it to the semifinal.

The teams of Gibson, Law, and their own semifinal 13-0 but could not stave off John Harris and Tomasz Mousa who rode high in the saddle and swept the day nearly unchallenged. The trio intend to represent FPUSA at the 2017 Confederations Cup, pending FIPJP conditions.

FPUSA Qualifiers tested their mettle against the country’s very best on the Ohlala club’s challenging terrain.

With 16 teams competing on Saturday for eight spots in Sunday’s pools, the group faced an unforgiving trial of five randomly drawn games. The pools yielded some surprise teams entering the semifinals as newcomers to the FPUSA Qualifiers tested their mettle against the country’s very best on the Ohlala club’s challenging terrain.

The teams of Gina DeJoy/Shannon Hodge and Shirley Jones/Sue Wieen won tough but decisive victories in their semis, 13-8 and 11-7 respectively. The stage was set for a great final match – and it turned out to be a real nail-biter!

Shirley and Sue (who was playing in her first qualifier) took an early lead and built on it, getting up by a score of 11-6. Then things got interesting. With their backs against the wall, and with Shirley and Sue playing valiantly, Gina and Shannon thrilled the gallery by shooting and pointing their way to a gritty comeback win, 13-12. Excellent play, Ladies!

hosting players from all over the country who made the journey to the remote central Maine coast, the Maine Boules Club pulled out the stops and rolled out the red carpet for a full weekend of petanque and social activities.

Completion was a bit lopsided in Saturday’s qualifying rounds as six teams posted three or four wins while the remaining five won none or only once. Eight teams advanced to Sunday’s pools and by late afternoon the stage was set for a captivating finale. And by all accounts it was! The team of Gina DeJoy, Shannon Hodge and Shirley Jones prevailed by shooting aggressively against the relentless pointing of some of MBC’s best: Dindy Royster, Kate Unkel and her daughter, Klundie Loomis. Final score: 13-12!

This was Gina’s fourth consecutive women’s qualifier victory. (Her fifth is on the page to the right!) While it takes a team to win, her practice and dedication have certainly paid off. Shannon is now a repeat champ and the unflappable Shirley is a first-time winner. The team appreciates all the support from their fellow competitors and FPUSA members. They will represent us proudly at the 2017 FIPJP Women’s World Championship (dates and host site TBA).

Excellent play, Ladies!
With high hopes and former World Champion Marco Foyot as their coach, our 2016 Men’s Team USA headed off to a far-away island nation for the 47th running of the FIPJP World Men’s Championships. Our team comprised of Pascal Corchia (shotter, La Boule du Desert), Walt Elder (middle, Carolina Petanque), Juan Garcia (pointer, Miami P.C.), and P. I. Mallette (fourth, Lake-Oswego P.C.)

All but Wahl had experience at FIPJP World Championships but things could not have gone off to a worse start. Team Captain Pascal was stricken with food poisoning the day before the competition. Wahl replaced Pascal in the Tir de Précision competition and P.I. was pressed into service from the get-go when the tournament started on Friday morning.

After suffering four consecutive defeats in the opening rounds, there was little consolation for the team when they received a win via forfeit at the close of the first day. Eliminated from the championship rounds, our men set their sights on doing better the following day in the Nations Cup. Their fortunes improved in the early going. After a close loss to Turkey, our team rallied for blowout win in a rematch and advanced to face China in the first round of elimination. After a close win to Turkey, our team rallied for blowout win in a second round of elimination. After a close loss to Turkey, our team rallied for blowout win in a semi. Madagascar then dominated the all-Africa final, 13-4. The Nations Cup was taken by Tahiti who won 13-9 in the all-Africa final, 13-4. The Nations Cup was taken by Tahiti who won 13-9.

At a championship like this. Nearly two days of air travel to a tropical location is followed by facing the best players in the world, indoors, on an installed terrain that is unlike anything available at FPUSA clubs – and in front of hundreds of spectators and TV cameras. Many of their opponents are seasoned under these types of conditions in their home countries, developing their game in mature and well-funded programs from youth on up. So, while our players give it their all, our teams are generally facing long odds in tough, unfamiliar conditions.

As for the main event, tiny Benin upset the powerful French team in their semifinal to face Madagascar who had dispatched with another strong team, Belgium, in the other semi. Madagascar then dominated the all-Africa final, 13-4. The Nations Cup was taken by Tahiti who won 13-9 over Canada in the final.

**USA Scores & Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUALIFYING ROUNDS</th>
<th>Score system</th>
<th>12,2,16</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.A. vs. Italy</td>
<td>4 - 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S.A. vs. Israel</td>
<td>4 - 13</td>
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<td>U.S.A. vs. Czech Republic</td>
<td>3 - 12</td>
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<td>U.S.A. vs. Norway</td>
<td>10 - 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S.A. vs. – (forfeit win)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>USA RANKED: 24 OF 27</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>NATIONS CUP</th>
<th>Score system</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.A. vs. Turkey</td>
<td>10 - 10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S.A. vs. Turkey</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA ADVANCED TO 1ST FINALS</td>
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| U.S.A. vs. China | 9 - 10 |

*Antananarivo, Faso des Sports, built in 1995, was the main venue for the event.*

**USA Mixed Triples Champions.**

**2016 National Title Tournaments**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>RESULTS</th>
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**Women’s World Triples Championship Qualification Tournament**

| September 10-11, 2016 (11 teams) | Host: Maine Boules Club |

| Gold: Gina DeJoy (South Florida Petanque Club), Shannon Hodge (Zanesfield Petanque Club), Shirley Jones (Caroline Petanque) |
| Silver: Karen Loesner, Drois Noyeler, Katie Urken (Maine Boules Club) |
| Bronze: Celia Cottenden (Portland Petanque Club), Tash Harris (Oakhurst Petanque Club), Lisa Skerl (La Boule New Yorkaise) |

| Gold: Juanita Celis (Seattle Petanque Club), Julie-Jo Fehrle, Angela Gleason (Maine Boules Club) |

| Silver: Philip Regan, Celia Cottenden (Portland Petanque Club), Pascal Corchia (Boules du Desert) |
| Bronze: Jari Tho, Chia Yang, Paul Yang (Fresno Petanque Club) |

**Men’s Confederations World Cup Qualification Tournament**

| August 13-14, 2016 (16 Teams) | Host: Lamorinda Petanque Club |

| Gold: John Harris (Oakhurst Petanque Club), Thomas Mousa, By Vang (Fresno Petanque Club) |
| Silver: Wolfie Kurz, Ed Pitaro (Petaluma Valley Petanque Club), Jari Tho (Fresno Petanque Club) |
| Bronze: Dan Fazaker (Port Townsend Petanque Alliance), Philippe Geraud (Seattle Petanque Club), David Johnstone (Lake Oswego Petanque Club) |

**2017 FPUSA National Championships Calendar**

| May 27 • Fresno, California |
| National Men’s & Women’s Doubles Championships | Host: Fresno Petanque Club |

| May 28 • Fresno, California |
| National Mixed Doubles Championship | Host: Fresno Petanque Club |

| August 26-27 • Brooklyn, New York |
| Men’s National Triples Championship/World Championship Qualification Tournament | Host: New York Petanque Club |

| November 4-5 • Sanford, Florida |
| National Men’s & Women’s Singles | Host: Orlando Petanque Association |

Please check usapetanque.org for more details and up-to-date listings of all 2017 FPUSA Regional Tournaments.
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

NorCal Inter-regional Select Triples April 3, 2016 (15 teams)
Host: Club Français de Sacramento
Gold: pierre Mathis (San Francisco Petanque Club)
Silver: Wolfie Kurz (Petaluma Valley Petanque Club)
Bronze: Joe Cortright (Portland Petanque Club), Van Woolf (Walla Walla Petanque Club)

NorCal Inter-regional Men’s Doubles Qualifier April 24, 2016 (11 teams)
Host: Valley of the Moon Petanque Club
Gold: Sidney Jones, Shannon Hodge (New York Petanque Club)
Silver: Joe Cortright (Portland Petanque Club), Van Woolf (Walla Walla Petanque Club)
Bronze: Amy Bienvenu (San Antonio PC), Jeanne-Marie Browning (Dallas Petanque Club)

NorCal Inter-regional Women’s Doubles Qualifier April 24, 2016 (4 teams)
Host: Phoenix Petanque Club
Gold: Ninon Bouak (Boules de Lune), Sylvie Berre (Boules de Lune)
Silver: Janet Kirtland, Barbara Kongsbak (Portland Petanque Club)
Bronze: Michelle Travis, Shelley Giroux (Boules de Lune)

NorCal Inter-regional Women’s Singles Qualifier April 24, 2016 (10 teams)
Host: Valley of the Moon Petanque Club
Gold: greg Matt, Joe MacL, Gilles Milou (Ohlala Petanque Association)
Silver: Larry Cressy, Lori Cressy, Rich Iball (Boules de Lune)
Bronze: Gilles Caouette, Eric Moutard, Najibou Rouge (Mission Boules Club)

Gold medalists – Southeast Inter-regional Select Triples.

SOUTHEAST

SE Inter-regional Select Triples January 10, 2016 (16 teams)
Host: Ohlala Petanque Association
Gold: Michel Boivin, Gilles Lachance, Michel Robichaud (Miami PC)
Silver: Phuon hinhia, Bernard Martin Say Khouchanov (Ohlala PA)
Bronze: Eric Moutard, houssine Insanje, kock Kwitpana (Ohlala PA)

SE Inter-regional Men’s Doubles March 20, 2016 (27 teams)
Host: Ohlala Petanque Association
Gold: Jo Clasesens, Trippaux tipsal (Ohlala Petanque Association)
Silver: Michel Boivin, Gilles Lachance (Miami PC)
Bronze: Gary Jones, Shirley Jones (Carolina Petanque)

SE Inter-regional Mixed Triples December 4, 2016 (16 teams)
Host: Boules de Lune
Gold: Greg Mack, Joe MacL, Gilles Milou (Ohlala Petanque Association)
Silver: Larry Cressy, Lori Cressy, Rich Iball (Boules de Lune)
Bronze: Gilles Caouette, Eric Moutard, Najibou Rouge (Mission Boules Club)

SE Inter-regional Men’s Singles February 21, 2016 (53 players)
Host: Ohlala Petanque Association
Gold: Bernard Martin (Ohlala Petanque Association)
Silver: Faucon hinhia (Ohlala Petanque Association)
Bronze: Daniel Smith (Boules de Lune)

SE Inter-regional Women’s Singles February 21, 2016 (9 players)
Host: Ohlala Petanque Association
Gold: Gina DeJoy (South Florida Petanque Club)
Silver: Shirley os (Miami Petanque Club)
Bronze: Deborah Barrie (Boules de Lune)

SE Inter-regional Men’s Doubles February 28, 2016 (12 teams)
Host: South Florida Petanque Club
Gold: Michel Boivin, Michel Robichaud (Miami Petanque Club)
Silver: Lisa Oparo (Miami Petanque Club)
Bronze: Francis Chen, Guy Labowiez, Gerhard Reuther (South Florida PC)

SE Inter-regional Women’s Singles February 21, 2016 (3 players)
Host: Ohlala Petanque Association
Gold: Heidi Lattner (South Florida Petanque Club)
Silver: Karim Moumouni (Dallas Petanque Club), Khalid Bouamoud (Zanesfield PC)
Bronze: Karen Michele Bull (La Boule du Desert), Diana Jacobs (Oakhurst PC)

SOUTHWEST

Mid-America Inter-regional Men’s Doubles Qualifier May 7, 2016 (9 teams)
Host: Ohlala Petanque Association
Gold: Noumouan Boulouaou, Abouara El-Hadd (Zanesfield Petanque Club)
Silver: Justin Bo Johns (Zanesfield PC), Jairi Vitt (La Boule New York)
Bronze: Khalil Bouamoud (Zanesfield PC), Khalil Medani (Carolina Petanque)

Mid-America Inter-regional Women’s Doubles Qualifier May 7, 2016 (4 teams)
Host: Fort Worth Petanque Club
Gold: Shirley Jones, Susan Wren (Carolina Petanque)
Silver: Bo Edwards (Carolina Petanque), Johnie Johnson (Zanesfield Petanque Club)
Bronze: Juanita Neal (Seattle Petanque Club), Angela Green (Maine Boules Club)

Tournaments Results

Thanks to all of our host clubs and to all who participated. Congratulations to our medal winners!

11

12

2016/17

2016/17

CENTRAL

Central Inter-regional Men’s Doubles Qualifier April 30, 2016 (16 teams)
Host: Heart of Texas Petanque Club
Gold: Armes Dupre, Aniime Najak (Heart of Texas Petanque Club)
Silver: Ed Porto (Poteau Valley Petanque Club), Jim Schwedel (HOTPC)
Bronze: Richard Fernandez, Kairi Moosum (Dallas Petanque Club)

Central Inter-regional Women’s Doubles Qualifier April 30, 2016 (4 teams)
Host: Portland Petanque Club
Gold: Gina DeJoy (South Florida PC), Shannon Hodge (Zanesfield Petanque Club)
Silver: Mariam Bernsoud (HOTPC), Linda Scheyrer (Nelson Ranch PC)
Bronze: Amy Bienvenu (San Antonio PC), Jeanne-Marie Browning (Dallas Petanque Club)

Central Inter-regional Women’s Singles May 7, 2016 (10 teams)
Host: Valley of the Moon Petanque Club
Gold: greg Marck, Joe MacL, Gilles Milou (Ohlala Petanque Association)
Silver: Larry Cressy, Lori Cressy, Rich Iball (Boules de Lune)
Bronze: Gilles Caouette, Eric Moutard, Najibou Rouge (Mission Boules Club)

Mid-America Inter-regional Women’s Doubles Qualifier May 7, 2016 (9 teams)
Host: Ohlala Petanque Association
Gold: Noumouan Boulouaou, Abouara El-Hadd (Zanesfield Petanque Club)
Silver: Justin Bo Johns (Zanesfield PC), Jairi Vitt (La Boule New York)
Bronze: Khalil Bouamoud (Zanesfield PC), Khalil Medani (Carolina Petanque)

Mid-America Inter-regional Men’s Doubles Qualifier July 30, 2016 (10 teams)
Host: Portland Petanque Club
Gold: Mike Lee, Poo Poo (Club Francas de Sacramento)
Silver: Joe Cortright (Portland Petanque Club), Van Woolf (Walla Walla Petanque Club)
Bronze: Shaughn McChung, John Prince (Lake Oswego Petanque Club)

Mid-America Inter-regional Women’s Doubles Qualifier April 16, 2016 (4 teams)
Host: Portland Petanque Club
Gold: Jace Jamison, Mo-Jay (Portland Petanque Club)
Silver: Cola Crichton (Port Townsend PC), Michelle Healy (San Antonio Petanque Club)
Bronze: Janet Kirtland, Barbara Kongsbak (Portland Petanque Club)

Mid-America Inter-regional Women’s Doubles Qualifier April 16, 2016 (4 teams)
Host: Portland Petanque Club
Gold: Jake Coggin, Nicole Coggin (VMPDC), Dan Feaster (FTP2A)
Silver: Neil Bastian, Pierre Brun, Denise Campbell (Portland Petanque Club)
Bronze: Michelle Martin, Mike Martin, Ron Shaw (Edmonds Petanque Club)

Mid-America Inter-regional Mixed Doubles July 30, 2016 (16 teams)
Host: Portland Petanque Club
Gold: Mike Lee, Poo Poo (Club Francas de Sacramento), Chank Xiong (Portland Petanque Club)
Silver: Joe Cortright (Portland Petanque Club), Van Woolf (Walla Walla Petanque Club)
Bronze: Je Thao, Paul Yang (Fresno Petanque Club)

Mid-America Inter-regional Women’s Doubles Qualifier June 18, 2016 (6 teams)
Host: Portland Petanque Club
Gold: Lisa Oparo (Miami Petanque Club)
Silver: Lisa Oparo (Miami Petanque Club)
Bronze: Karim Moumouni (Dallas Petanque Club), Khalid Bouamoud (Zanesfield PC)

Mid-America Inter-regional Mixed Doubles July 30, 2016 (16 teams)
Host: Portland Petanque Club
Gold: Carolina Petanque
Silver: Carolina Petanque
Bronze: Carolina Petanque
In the illustrations below, the jack ends up in about the middle of a marked-off court at the finish of an end. Let’s say it’s about 6 meters to the end line (out-of-bounds). In this case, the first section of the rule (placing the playing circle at the jack’s position) is suspended so that a player may ‘back up’ the circle to allow for a full 10-meter jack placement. At the discretion of the player or team making the toss, the circle may be moved back to any distance up to, but not beyond, the maximum distance allowed: 11 meters (10 meters plus one meter distance to the out-of-bounds line). Back up, yes, but, which way?

The step-back must be in the line of play of the previous end – whether the line of play was parallel to the sidelines or on a diagonal (as in the examples below, #1 and #2 respectively). In some cases, as in example #3, following the line of play to achieve a longer distance would mean crossing into an adjacent court. Well, that can’t be done, so it would be acceptable to follow the line of play up to the sideline, then proceed parallel to the sideline until a desired and legal distance is achieved.

While this may sound a bit complicated, it becomes second nature to the experienced player. So if a disagreement occurs over where a player places the circle it is usually because Article 7 suffers a bit from ‘foggy neglect’ when learning the game during friendly, casual play. 

Editor’s note: As of press time, FPUPA was considering a number of rule changes for 2017. FPUPA will issue revised rule books when available.

### Article 7 — Jack Placement

**F P U P A**

For the following end, the jack is thrown from a circle drawn or placed around the point where it was at the completion of the previous end, except if the jack cannot be thrown out to all valid distances. The player may step back, in line with the previous end’s line of play, until he or she is able to throw the jack any valid distance up to, and not beyond, the maximum distance allowed. This may only be done if the jack cannot be thrown to the maximum distance in any other direction.

By rule, opposing players may not stand anywhere between the circle and the jack, and must be two meters or more to the side of the line of play.

Many players learn the game in a social setting in which people congregate in a gregarious little group near the playing circle while they ‘wait for their turn’ to play. But in order to see the lay of the boules, assess game situations and choose an effective strategy, players should always stand near the jack when others are in the circle.

Who has the point?

These two photos of the same array of six boules demonstrate the limitations of assessing the game while standing in the playing circle. Visual foreshortening can trick the eye into thinking boules in line with the jack are closer than they really are. Bump and nudge plays are better elucidated from a top-down perspective as are the risks and rewards of taking a shot. Boules farther away from the main cluster can also be eyeballed or measured for potential plays and for possible implications later in the end. A good player is an observant player. So, be smart, and stand where the pros stand: alongside the jack!

### Tip #3: Walk the Walk

**Do you have anything against a little exercise?** Well then, put a few hundred steps on that Fitbit® each game you play and you will take much more control of your on-court fate. Walking to the jack helps you to see nuances in the playing surface and (see item #1) helps to slow down your pace.

By rule, opposing players may not stand anywhere between the circle and the jack, and must be two meters or more to the side of the line of play.
Maine Boules Club members Uwe Langmesser and Mia Kanazawa share a moment during a friendly game in Blue Hill, Maine. Would it come as a surprise to know that Uwe plays with 80mm diameter boules and Mia with 70.5’s? (The largest and smallest regulation sizes!)

Parting shot...

by William Hansen,
Lamorinda Petanque Club