

Simplified game rules

Number of players

- 3 players against 3 players in "triplette"
- 2 players against 2 players in "doublette"
- 1 player against 1 player in "tête-à-tête"

Equipment

- Petanque balls (usually steel balls, 2 or 3 per player)
- But (the small ball, also called 'cochonnet')
- Flat playing field (e.g. a gravel or sand ground)

Course of play

1. A draw takes place to determine which team starts. Any player from that team chooses the starting spot and draws a circle on the ground. When playing, the player must not step outside the circle before his ball touches the ground.
2. This player then throws the but (this is what the small ball is called) at a distance between 6 and 10 metres. The but must be at least 1 metre away from any obstacle (wall, tree, etc.).
3. The player then throws his first ball and tries to throw it as close to the but as possible.
4. A player from the other team now steps into the circle and tries to throw his ball closer to the but, either by shooting (tirer) or aiming (pointer). The ball closest to the goal leads the game.
5. It is now the turn of a player from the losing team until that team has taken the lead.
6. When one of the teams runs out of balls, the players of the other team play their remaining balls, and try to throw them as best they can.
7. When all balls have been thrown, the points are counted. The winning team scores as many points as the number of balls placed better than the other team's best ball.
8. One of the players of the winning team then throws the but from its current location and play continues until one of the teams has scored **13 points**.