

Pétanque



Aim of the game: To throw hollow metal boules as close as possible to a small wooden ball called a jack, while standing inside a starting circle with both feet on the ground.

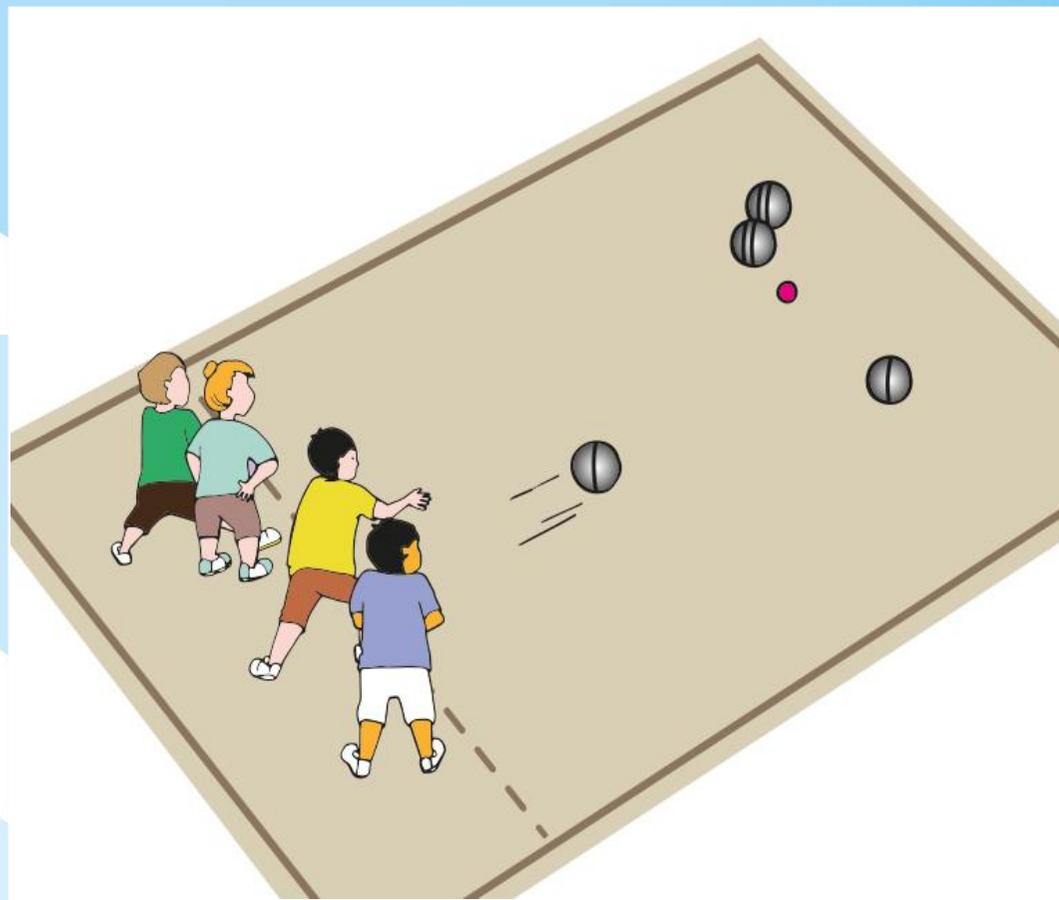
Set up: Outdoor free dirt or clay field approximately 20m long and 2 to 4m wide. Draw a starting circle (or alternatively a baseline) on the dirt, sand or clay field.

Rules:

The players stand behind the circle baseline and first determine who starts the game by tossing a coin. The winner steps in the circle and throws the jack on the field, followed by a throw of the first boule, attempting to get as close as possible to the jack. It is then the second player's turn to throw a first boule. The team or player whose first boule is the furthest to the jack takes the lead and throws next. The game continues with players and teams alternatively throwing their boules according to who is the furthest from the jack.

The game ends when a player or team has no more boules. A player or a team obtains points according to how close their boules are to the jack. Only the leading team scores, and points are given for each ball that is closest to the jack than the other team's nearest ball.

The winning team starts a new game, tossing the jack again. The game continues until one of the players or teams accumulates 13 points – it is the winner. If there is a tie (12:12), the game continues until one team manages to take a two points lead.



Equipment and Materials:

Pétanque boules (balls), 2 per player, and a jack ball.

Age:
6+

Number of players:
2 - 6 (equal teams)

Duration:
First team to 13 pts

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Teaching Style

1. Provide clear and simple instruction.
2. Balance the ability level of the team.
3. Practice games before introducing scoring.
4. Encourage players to communicate throughout the game.
5. Provide enough time for players to familiarize themselves with the equipment and the game.
6. Safety instructions to be tailored to the environment and participants playing the game.

Equipment

1. Brightly coloured equipment can be used.
2. Increase the size of the jack and make it bright in colour.
3. Use plastic balls in special areas e.g. sand, beach.
4. Use audible equipment to mark the jack.

Rules

1. Players can have the option to throw or roll the bowls (ground needs to be a hard with an even surface to roll the bowls).
2. Use smaller and lighter pétanque bowls. Make the distances shorter. For children the (4 to 8 meters for U12, 5 to 9 meters for U14.)
3. Create a special competition of shooting. Each player should try to reach various targets (jack or bowls) during five sets, shooting from four different distances: 6.5 to 9.5 meters.
4. Create spaces in the field that generate bonus points.

Environment

1. Increase/decrease the playing area.
2. Ensure the indoor/outdoor playing area has a smooth surface and is free of obstacles.
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