



European (CEP) Umpire

The function of an umpire is identified as an impartial person who must ensure the proper conduct and compliance with the rules and other regulations of our championships. The umpire is an integral part of our competition organisation and considered to be the guarantor of the rules of the sport.

Umpiring is a tough job and is only getting tougher as our sport gains an increasing level of media coverage.

The role is undergoing more scrutiny than any other on the terrain, requiring the umpire to have a special layer of mental fortification, appreciation for the rules and ultimately a love for our sport if they are to succeed as an umpire.

Conditions

To become a European Umpire, you must be:

- Licensed by your federation;
- a National Umpire for a minimum period of 2 years;
- aged 60 years or less in the year of the exam;
- Be proposed by your federation with the agreement of your president or the national umpiring commission.

The European Exam

A European Umpire's examination would normally consist of three parts:

1. A written paper - consisting of 18 to 25 questions including some that are related to the Precision Shooting Competition.
2. Practical exam - in which each candidate is supervised as they officiate in various stages of a European Championship.
3. A verbal test, consisting of 3 to 5 questions each based on scenarios or incidents that an umpire is likely to encounter.

Parts 2 and 3 are often combined.

The marking process we apply takes into account:

- The candidate's performance during the practical exam
- The candidate's knowledge of the rules and how to apply them, which is ultimately assessed by the answers they give to the written/verbal exams.

As part of the verification process, a number of random samples from each candidate's written answers are passed to a qualified (independent) umpire to review and to ensure we are applying the marks correctly.

A percentage mark is calculated as an average across each part of the exam to determine if a candidate has passed or failed. The required pass mark is currently set at 85%.



European Umpire Code

The European umpire undertakes to respect consistently and completely with the rules set out in this Code.

They must show respect, encouragement, assistance and support for each other in a spirit of cooperation and undertake, in all good faith, to adopt a sincere, faithful and honest attitude.

Obligations:

Umpires undertake in particular to:

- behave in an exemplary manner and be worthy representatives of umpiring;
- wear the official uniform of an umpire;
- participate each year in mandatory and continuing education;
- participate in meetings organised by the Umpiring Commission;
- coordinate their activities by sharing their resources and skills as well as their experiences;
- communicate and share their knowledge, know-how and experience to the entire umpiring discipline.

Each European umpire undertakes to be available to the CEP, organisers, players and the media in accordance with the ethical framework to which they are bound.

The European umpire undertakes to develop the educator approach to umpiring.

The European umpire must actively participate in the cohesion between members of the umpiring discipline, organisers and officials for the sport of pétanque.

Each European umpire must provide themselves with the means to carry out their tasks in the best physical, psychological and technical conditions.

Each European umpire undertakes to invest in the dynamics of umpiring and to bring their experience and skills to it while respecting the differences of the others, without any discrimination.

A European umpire has an obligation to set an exemplary example in all circumstances because they must never forget that they represent the image of the sport, their federation and the CEP.

Rights:

Each European umpire has:

- access to information and training,
- free access to all European Championships

Each umpire has the opportunity to contribute to the umpiring discipline in its sporting and friendly dimension.

The umpire is a source of proposals and feedback available to the CEP, their federation and its members.

Limits:

A European umpire is considered to be an executive, but remains subject to the same rules, code of conduct etc., as any other executive or player.

In the event of suspension of their licence, the umpire may not act as a European umpire or be an official involved in a European competition at any level.

Each European umpire must be fully aware of their status, particularly with regard to players, the public and the media, in order to avoid being subjected to “influences” harmful to our sport (pressure, corruption, etc.).

They will therefore adopt a “reserved” and “balanced” attitude, on and off the terrain.

With regard to social networks or any other form of communication, umpires should not:

- use indecent or insulting language. This includes any inappropriate reference to ethnic origin, colour, race, nationality, faith or religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability,
- post inappropriate photos,
- make derogatory comments about the teams, the umpiring discipline, the sponsors or the governing bodies of the competition,
- post comments challenging any of their colleagues or federation’s decisions.

