

Rules for playing boules

- 1. The game is played with two teams of one, two or three players in each team. With teams of one or two, each player has 3 boules; with teams of 3, each player has 2 boules.
- 2. The boules should have a diameter between 7 and 8 cm and can be plastic or steel. They should be marked (or coloured) so each player can tell which boules belong to them. The cochonnet/jack should be about 3 cm in diameter.
- 3. A throwing area is designated and a coin is tossed to choose which team plays first. Players must stand in the throwing area to throw their boules.
- 4. To start the game (the first round) a player from the team which won the toss, throws the cochonnet between 4m and 8m (6 to 10 paces) from the throwing area.
- 5. Any player from that team then throws the first boule, trying to get it as close as possible to the cochonnet. Both feet must stay together on the ground and within the throwing area while throwing and until the boule has landed.
- 6. A player from the other team then steps into the throwing area and tries to place a boule closer to the cochonnet than their opponent, or to knock the opponent's boule away.

The boule nearest to the cochonnet is said to be 'holding the point'.

- 7. The players in the team, which is not 'holding the point', continue throwing until they place a boule closest to the cochonnet or have used all their boules, and so on. Players on the same team do not have to take alternate throws, but a player must always play their own boules.
- 8. When a team has no more boules to play, the players of the other team throw all theirs trying to place them as close as possible to the cochonnet.
- 9. When both teams have played all their boules you count up the points. The team who is the 'holding the point', scores one point for each boule nearer the cochonnet than the opponent's closest. Only one team can score points in each round.
- 10. The next round is started by a player from the team that has won the previous round throwing the cochonnet from a new throwing point around the cochonnet's last position. The winners are the first team to reach 13 points (or whatever total you decide).