



After some years having done a lot of “come & try” sessions in Belgium, Germany, France, Switzerland and UK, David Underhill (representing Switzerland), John Swabey (representing Germany) and Bernard Thys (representing Belgium) came to the conclusion that the start of a Gateball League would be helpful and an interesting idea to promote Gateball within Europe. We are already 3 experienced croquet players and croquet-tournament organisers.

Gateball, being a team sport with 2 teams of 5 players (+ possibly a coach and reserves) is too difficult to implement from scratch.

Therefore we will implement a Gateball League, comprising tournaments which all follow the same schedule and format.

This to prove to external people and companies that Gateball already has a good and experienced organisation despite being a new sport in Europe.

Tournaments (2 courts) will always be run over 3 days. The first day will be training, explanations. This to allow beginners to start playing. On the next 2 days (mostly Saturday-Sunday) we will play doubles and singles. Format is specified on our Gateball League site <http://johnswabey.wix.com/gateball-league>.

Results will be archived and later on we will see how we can build a ranking system.

Note that the Gateball League is open for people all over the world. Allowing for maximum 16 players, we will form pairs if you are alone.

Every country in the world is open to have this type of tournament organised. Please, let us know if you organise such a tournament.

Actually 2 dates are already planned.

22-23-24 April 2016 in Germany (Eisenschmitt, Eifel). Invitation is already on the site <http://johnswabey.wix.com/gateball-league>.

1-2-3 July 2016 in France (Beaune).

We will show that Gateball is dynamic, strategic, social, fun.

Once we have more players, it will be easier to go to tournaments with 5 players.

And what about 2018? Let's organise a **Mallets Cup**, where both croquet and Gateball will be played between 5 continents (Asia, Oceania, United-States, Africa and Europe).