

Association Croquet Rules – Quiz Format

Start of a Game - General

Q1 If a player wins the toss what options does she have for commencing the game? (8 (a))

A1 The player can elect to start play; or play second; or may just elect what colours to play.

Q2 If the player who wins the toss elects what colours to play what options does the opponent have? (8 (a))

A2 The opponent may elect to play first or second.

Q3 From what positions on the yard lines can the players play the first four balls into the game? (8 (b))

A3 From any unoccupied position on either the A or B baulk lines.

Start of a Game – Playing the Wrong Ball

Q4 What happens when a player plays their opponent's ball into the game by mistake and this is discovered before the opponent has started their next turn? (26 (a) (1) & (2))

A4 The error is rectified (the ball is returned for subsequent play by the opponent), the correct ball is placed on any unoccupied point on either baulk-line as the striker chooses and the turn ends.

Q5 What happens if the player of the fourth turn of the game discovers that both of his balls were played into the game in the first two turns (i.e. the first ball, played by the opponent, was wrong)? (26 (b))

A5 The game is restarted.

Q6 What happens if after the first stroke of the fifth turn the players discover that they have exchanged colours during the opening four turns (the owner of blue & black has played red & yellow and vice versa)? (26 (c))

A6 The original choice of colours is reversed and the game continues.

End Of Turn

Q7 There are many reasons why a turn will end. Can you list the most common? (4 (d))

A7 Missed roquet, missed hoop shot, played an "air-shot", ball sent off-court in a croquet shot, committed an error or fault for which the penalty is end of turn, the striker's ball is pegged out or a roqueted ball is pegged out, a stroke is deemed to be played, the striker quits the court incorrectly and the opponent plays.

Ball Off the Court

Q8 How is it determined when a ball has left the court? (10)

A8 When the side of the ball would touch a straight edge raised vertically from the inner edge of the boundary.

Q9 When should you involve a second player or an umpire to watch where a ball will go out? (ORLC 10.4)

A9 Attempting to achieve a cannon or when deliberately sending both balls off court in a croquet shot (setting a leave).

Q10 How can you test if a ball is off the court? (10 & ORLC 2.1)

A10 In consultation with the opponent, two mallets may be aligned with their end plates just touching the boundary line on either side of the ball. If a string line across the plates touches the ball it is off the court.

Q11 How do you determine which line to use when there are multiple impressions or where there are bits of the line missing? (2 (b) (1) & ORLC 2.1)

A11 Use the line which is obviously the most recent or if this is not possible to determine then the innermost, and estimate where the line would have been had the line marking been complete.

Lining In Balls

Q12 Why is it important to line in the ball with your back to the court? (12 (e))

A12 To ensure it is lined in at a right angle to the boundary line where it has gone out, or has come to rest in the yard-line area. This requirement is relaxed, however, if there is a choice of placement positions because of the presence of other balls on or near the yard-line. Special care is needed to ensure that such placement is accurate. The striker must consult the opponent if he is in doubt whether the ball should be placed in contact with another ball.

Q13 Where can your ball be placed if there is a ball already on the yard-line occupying the place where your ball would otherwise be lined in? (12 (b) (2))

A13 On the yard-line in contact with either the left hand or right hand side of the existing ball.

Q14 Where can your ball be placed if there are two balls already on the yard-line but with insufficient space between them for your ball to fit? (12 (b) (2))

A14 On the yard-line in contact with either of those balls.

Q15 I have roqueted a ball out of court. There is a ball just in-field from the yard-line preventing the roqueted ball from being lined in. Where shall I place the roqueted ball? (12 (b) (3))

A15 On the yard-line and in contact with either side of the in-field ball. (Subsequent question – Can I now claim a cannon? Answer – Yes.)

Q16 The roqueted ball has cannoned into a corner ball and both balls have stopped within the corner area. Which ball may be placed on the corner spot and where could the other ball be placed? (12 (d))

A16 Either ball can be placed on the corner spot at the striker's discretion. The second ball is placed in contact on either yard-line.

Q17 The striker's ball has run hoop 2 and has stopped within the yard-line area. Should it be lined in? (11 (b))

A17 No. The striker continues play from where it lies. If the ball has gone out then it is lined in and the striker then continues play.

Q18 In a handicap game my attempted roquet has missed and my ball has stopped within the yard-line area. I intend to take a bisque or a half-bisque turn to continue play. Should my ball be first lined in? (11 ORLC)

A 18 Yes. Your previous turn has ended. The ball must be lined in before the new turn begins.

Roquets

Q19 My Red ball just roqueted the Black and ricocheted through hoop 2, which is the Red ball's next hoop. Can I claim the hoop? (18 (a) (1), 14 (d) (1))

A19 No. The Red ball cannot score a hoop point for itself in the same stroke in which it makes a roquet. It becomes a ball in hand and must take croquet.

Q20 What happens if my Red ball, after roqueting Black ricochets into Yellow and knocks it through its hoop in order before coming to rest? (18 (a) (2))

A20 Yellow has scored the hoop. After the roquet, Red only becomes a ball in hand when it comes to rest. It can cause another ball to move or run its hoop in that process.

Q21 My roquet stroke with Yellow appears to have simultaneously hit Black and Blue, both live balls (not previously roqueted since running my last hoop). Which one shall I take croquet from? (16 (b) (2))

A21 Whichever ball you choose. The other ball remains live for subsequent use.

Q22 My rover ball has simultaneously roqueted a live ball and also hit the peg. What happens now? (15 (b) (2))

A22 You can choose to either take croquet from the roqueted ball or accept that your rover ball is pegged out.

Q23 I have attempted to run a hoop but my ball has hit another ball just clear of the hoop on the other side and has stopped in the jaws. What happens now?

A23 If the ball was live (not previously roqueted) then you may take croquet and try for another hoop approach. If the ball was dead (previously roqueted), then your turn is over.

Croquet Stroke

Q24 I plan to start my turn by playing Black which is in contact with another ball on the yard-line. Do I have to play a croquet stroke or can I play away and roquet another ball nearby? (16 (c))

A24 If you commence your turn by playing a ball in contact then a roquet is deemed to have been made and a croquet stroke must be played.

Q25 At the start of my turn my ball is in the middle of a group of three (or four) balls all in contact along the yard-line. Which ball do I have to take croquet from? (16 (d), 19 (c) & 19 (e))

A25 You can elect to take croquet from any of the balls in the group. The others can then be lifted to form a cannon. Until the croquet stroke is taken the player can change their mind and elect to take croquet from another ball in the group. The balls are replaced in their original positions and the cannon reformed.

Q26 My opponent was unable to line in his Black ball, where it went out after a failed roquet, because Red and Yellow were close together on the yard-line. There was insufficient space between them. He has elected to place his ball on the yard-line in contact with Red. Can I now form a cannon? (19 (a) and ORLC 6.5.1 & 6.5.2)

A26 No. A cannon can only be formed if the third ball is already in contact.

Q27 Whilst playing a croquet stroke the striker's ball then hits another live ball. What happens now? (16 (b))

A27 Another roquet has been made and croquet is then taken from that ball.

Q28 Further to Q27. What happens if after hitting another live ball in the croquet stroke the striker's ball then goes out? (20 (c) (2))

A28 No problem. The ball has become a ball in hand having made a roquet in that stroke. The striker continues play by taking croquet from the roqueted ball.

Q29 I have peeled my partner ball through hoop 2 in a croquet stroke and my partner ball has gone out. What happens now? (20 (c) (1))

A29 The hoop is scored but your turn is over.

Hoop Point

Q30 I have roqueted a ball which was in the jaws of my next hoop in order and in the stroke also ran the hoop with my ball. Does the hoop count and how does play proceed? (14 (d) (1))

A30 No the hoop isn't scored. A roquet was made before your ball commenced running the hoop. You must now take croquet.

Q31 If you are unsure whether the hoop running is complete i.e. whether the ball is clear of the playing-side plane, what should you do? (14 (c))

A31 Involve your opponent or an umpire. The ball position should be tested with a taut string-line (not the mallet head). If the string touches the ball the hoop is not run.

Q32 In a previous turn my ball entered its hoop in order from the non-playing side and came to rest in the jaws but clear of the non-playing side plane. My opponent claims that I cannot run the hoop in my next turn because my ball didn't first enter hoop from the playing side. Is he correct? (14 (d) (2))

A32 No. The ball is clear of the non-playing side plane so the hoop can be run.

Q33 I thought I was clever by playing my croquet stroke back through the hoop to gain hoop-running position. The ball did make it through but by a combination of a rabbit run and a strong wind gust the ball rolled back to the non-playing side. Can I claim the hoop? (14 (d) (2))

A33 No. A ball entering the hoop from the non-playing side cannot score the hoop for itself in the same stroke.

Q34 My opponent's ball has failed to run its hoop but he notices that the hoop has a significant lean. If the hoop was straightened then it's probable that the hoop would be run. Is he entitled to straighten the hoop and claim the point? (14 (d) (5))

A34 The hoop can be straightened but a hoop point can't be claimed as a consequence.

Hoop and Roquet Situations

Q35 My ball has run its hoop in order and has hit a ball clear of the hoop on the non-playing side. What happens now? (17 (a))

A35 A hoop and roquet has been achieved. You now take croquet.

Q36 My ball ran its hoop in order, hit a ball clear of the hoop on the non-playing side but then rolled back into the jaws so that it was not clear of the playing side plane? What happens now? (ORLC 14.2.1)

A36 The hoop is not run. If the ball hit was still live then a roquet has been made and croquet should now be taken. If the ball hit was dead then the turn is over.

Q37 I have accidentally croqueted the Red ball into the jaws of my next hoop in order and will now attempt to run the hoop with my Blue ball by playing a partial jump shot to also take the Red ball through. If successful will this be hoop and roquet and what should happen next? (17 (b) (2))

A37 The hoop is run but because the Red ball was not clear of the non-playing side plane a roquet doesn't apply even if the Red ball is subsequently struck by Blue after the hoop is run. Blue must now roquet a ball.

Q38 Further to Q37. What would be the situation if the Red ball and the Blue ball finish up in contact after the hoop is run? (17 (c))

A38 A roquet is deemed to be made and a croquet stroke will follow.

Q39 I have roqueted the Red ball into the jaws of my hoop in order. Taking croquet I roll both balls through the hoop. Is this hoop and roquet? (17 (b) (3) & 17 (c))

A39 The hoop is run but no roquet is made even if the balls part and subsequently strike each other later in the stroke. However, a roquet is deemed should both balls come to rest in contact.

Advanced Play - Optional & Contact Lifts

Q40 My opponent has just taken his Black ball from hoop 1 to penult in a single break. His Blue ball is still on hoop 6. What lift options do I have? (36 (b))

A40 Provided you have not pegged out any ball during the game you may: (1) lift either ball and play from either baulk line or; (2) lift either ball and commence play by placing it in contact with any other ball for the purpose of playing a croquet stroke.

Q41 My opponent has just taken her Red Ball from hoop 1 to the peg in a single break. Her Yellow ball is on 2-back. What lift options do I have? (36 (a))

A41 Provided you have not pegged out any ball during the game you may lift either ball and play from either baulk line.

Q42 Having lifted a ball can I change my mind? (36 (e))

A42 No, unless the ball lifted was: (1) in contact with your other ball. You can put it back and lift the partner ball, or elect to take croquet using either ball; or (2) in contact with the opponent's ball. You can put it back and take croquet from that ball. (Otherwise the lifted ball must be played from either baulk line, or in contact with any other ball if a contact lift applies.)

Q43 After making hoop 2 my opponent peeled his partner ball through 1 back before breaking down when attempting to make hoop 3. Am I entitled to a lift for the 1 back peel? (36 (a))

A43 No. Optional lifts only apply if the striker's ball scored 1 back or 4 back.

Wiring Lifts

Q44 What circumstances may give rise to a wiring lift entitlement? (13 (a)-(d))

A44 At the start of your turn you discover that; (1) any part of your ball is unable to roquet any part of all of the target balls because of the presence of a hoop (including the jaws) or the peg; or (2) your swing is impeded by any part of a hoop (excluding the jaws) or the peg before impacting your ball (any part of the mallet's end-face must be able to strike the centre of the ball); or (3) your ball lies within the jaws of a hoop. (In all three cases a lift will apply provided that your ball is not in contact with any other ball and your opponent is responsible for the position of your ball.)

Q45 Before an umpire will test for wiring what three key conditions must be met? (13 (a) (b) & (d))

A45 (1) This is the start of your turn. (2) Your opponent is responsible for the position of your ball. (3) That the mallet being used to test for an impeded swing, is the one which was used in the turn before the turn in which the opponent became responsible for the position of your ball.

Q46 I have lifted a ball which was agreed to have been wired. Can I replace it and play my partner ball? (13 (f))

A46 No. Nor can the ball be replaced and played from where it lay unless it was already on a baulk-line.

Q47 For your ball to be wired, your opponent must be responsible for its position on the court. In what ways could this responsibility arise? (13 (b))

A47 Your ball was: (1) moved or shaken as a result of his play either directly or indirectly (e.g. your ball was moved by a hoop leg when the hoop was struck by another ball or the opponent's mallet) (2) involved in a croquet stroke or cannon that he played, even if it wasn't moved or; (3) replaced when an error committed by your opponent was rectified.

Q48 Although an opponent may have initially been responsible for your ball's position there are situations where, apart from you actually moving the ball, subsequent actions/decisions on your part will cause you to become responsible and thereby lose a lift entitlement . What are these? (13 (b))

A48 You become responsible for any ball that belongs to you if in the first stroke of your turn you: (1) play the opponent's ball by mistake or; (2) declare that you are leaving balls where they lie and not playing a stroke. (In singles you become responsible for both balls if a ball is not specified.)

Q49 You have claimed a wiring lift and in conjunction with your opponent have agreed that your ball is wired. However, your opponent sees that the peg has a significant lean and if it was straightened then your ball would not be wired. What should happen? (3 (a) (3))

A49 If the peg is adjusted then the balls must also be, so that the wired state is maintained.

Q50 Having agreed that my ball is wired, my opponent observes that my partner ball is in the clear and insists that I should play that ball. Do I have to? (13 (a))

A50 No. The wiring lift can still be taken regardless that the other ball is open.

Peg Point

Q51 In a levels game I have just run hoop 12 (Rover). Can I continue play with my Rover ball and complete my turn by pegging out? (15 (a) (1))

A51 Yes.

Q52 Playing my Rover ball, I roquet another ball and ricochet into the peg. Is my ball pegged out? (15 (b) (1))

A52 No. Your ball became a ball in hand when the roquet was made. You continue by taking croquet.

Q53 I have taken a long range shot at the peg and hit. Hooray a peg-out!! But my Rover ball then ricochets into my opponent's ball and knocks it through hoop 6 (its next hoop in order). Is the hoop scored for my opponent? (15 (c))

A53 Yes. After pegging out, your ball remains in play and can cause other balls to move and score hoop or peg points until it comes to rest.

Q54 I am in play with the Red ball which is for hoop 6. When rushing my Yellow Rover ball towards that hoop it inadvertently hits the peg. Is it pegged out? (15 (a))

A54 No. Only another Rover ball can cause the peg out of a Rover ball.

Q55 Further to Q54 what if, in that stroke, my Yellow Rover ball had hit the opponent's Rover ball onto the peg. Would that ball be pegged out? (ORLC 15.1)

A55 No. The striker's ball must be a Rover for a peg-out to apply.

Q56 I am in play with my Rover ball. The next ball to roquet is right next to the peg. I hit the ball and the peg simultaneously. Is my ball pegged out? (15 (b) (2))

A56 Only if you wish it to be. You can instead elect to take croquet and continue play.

Q57 My opponent has completed his turn leaving my Rover ball in contact with the peg. What action should I take if I decide not to peg-out the ball? (15 (b) (3))

A57 The ball must be hit in a direction away from the peg.

Q58 I've just run Rover with my Red ball but now when rushing my Yellow Rover ball towards the peg that ball has struck the peg. What happens now? (15 (a) (2) & (d))

A58 The Yellow is pegged out. Red is now unable to take croquet from Yellow so the turn ends.

Q59 In a handicap game the bell has gone and my opponent has completed his turn with the score tied. I have my turn to take under Regulation 8. My Red ball is the only Rover ball in the game so I shoot at and hit the peg. Have I won the game? (38)

A59 No. In handicap play a Rover ball cannot be pegged out unless before or during the stroke, the partner ball was or became a Rover ball or the opponent has already pegged out a ball.

Forestalling Play

Q60 Play should be conducted in accordance with the Laws of the game. What steps should the opponent take to ensure that this is so? (23 (a) & (c))

A60 Observe the striker's play and with some exceptions forestall (stop) play if: (1) a stroke is about to be played, which may result in a fault, and an umpire has not been called. (2) an error in play is about to or has occurred. (3) the game has been, or is about to be, interfered with in some way. (4) clips have been misplaced. (5) the striker is about to leave the lawn when he hasn't completed his turn, or perhaps intends starting a half-bisque or bisque turn before his previous turn has ended.

Q61 What mistakes or errors in play should not be forestalled until immediately after they have occurred? (23 (b))

A61 When the striker is about to: (1) run a wrong hoop. (2) play a wrong ball or; (3) take croquet from a dead ball.

Q62 How should a forestalling request be conveyed to the striker? (23 (a))

A62 In a manner capable of attracting the attention of a player with normal hearing. Usually calling the player's name is sufficient to interrupt play and enable your reason for forestalling play to be explained.

Q63 What happens if the striker continues to play after having been forestalled and before the issue is settled? (32)

A63 All play after the forestalling is deemed not to have occurred, any points scored for any ball are cancelled and the balls replaced in their lawful positions. Subject to the outcome of the issue the player entitled to play then plays.

Errors – (these situations can be challenging to resolve which is why umpires/referees often become involved in their resolution.)

Q64 My opponent playing Blue has run hoop 5 by mistake having skipped hoop 4. By the time I forestalled play he has already played a number of additional strokes. What error has been committed and what should happen next? (25 & ORLC 25.6)

A64 Running the wrong hoop was not an error but subsequently "roqueting" a dead ball and continuing play is **Playing When Not Entitled**. The balls are returned to the positions they occupied prior to the first stroke in error (the "roquet"). The Blue clip is placed on hoop 4.

Q65 Further to Q64. If after running the wrong hoop the Blue ball, in the same stroke, then struck a ball which was still live, at what point would you forestall play and where would the balls be placed?

A65 The roquet is valid. He should not be forestalled until after he has subsequently "roqueted" a dead ball – which effectively becomes a scatter shot. He will not be entitled to continue play and the balls will then be in their correct position for you to start your turn. (Of course, after running hoop 5 and making the initial roquet, he could realise his mistake and return for an attempt at hoop 4 in which case no forestalling will be necessary.)

Q66 The striker plays a croquet stroke in which the croqueted ball goes off the court. The striker lines in the ball and continues play by roqueting another ball. He proceeds to make his next hoop in order (hoop3) but then his opponent thinks about what has transpired and forestalls play. What error has been committed and what should happen next? (25 & ORLC 25.2)

A66 The error is **Playing When Not Entitled**. All balls are returned to the positions where they were following the initial croquet stroke. The clip is placed on hoop 3. The opponent takes play.

Q67 Further to Q65 & Q66. If the striker's error was not detected until after the opponent had played the first stroke of their next turn (the limit of claims for such errors) what would happen?

A67 The error is ignored. Any hoops scored in order for any ball during the strokes in error are counted. Any hoops scored out of order do not count and the clips are adjusted accordingly.

Q68 In placing balls for a croquet stroke the striker has become confused and when playing the stroke strikes the opponent's ball. What error has been committed and what happens next? (26 (a) (1))

A68 The error is **Playing A Wrong Ball**. The balls are returned to the position they occupied prior to the stroke being played and the turn ends. (Also review Q4-Q6 covering wrong ball play at the start of a game.)

Q69 Red and Yellow are close together on the yard-line. When roqueting Yellow with Blue the striker's ball also hits Red and all balls come to rest in the yard-line area. When lining in Red and Yellow the striker inadvertently selected and took croquet from Red. What error has been committed and how does play proceed if (1) the Red ball is live and (2) if the Red ball is dead? (27 (c) (d) & (e))

A69 The error is **Playing When a Ball is Misplaced** (the Blue ball) and is described as either (1) **Purporting to Take Croquet from a Live Ball**. If the Red ball is live and the error is discovered before two further strokes of that turn then the error is rectified. The striker is entitled to continue play by taking croquet from Yellow provided his turn has not otherwise ended during a stroke in error e.g. ball went out in the croquet stroke, or a subsequent roquet or hoop shot was missed. or (2) **Purporting to Take Croquet from a Dead Ball**. If the Red ball was dead and the error is discovered before the opponent's next turn then the error is rectified (Blue now in contact with Yellow) and the turn ends.

Q70 Further to Q69 (1). In taking croquet from the live Red ball the striker then achieves a rush on Yellow and proceeds to continue play and make his next hoop. Eventually realising that the striker had already roqueted the Yellow, the opponent queries whether the continued play was valid. What happens now? (ORLC 6.4.3)

A70 As the limit of claims has expired the owner of Blue continues play. By **purporting to take croquet from a live ball** (Red) that ball is considered to be dead and the ball originally roqueted (Yellow) became alive again. (The Red ball became alive again, too, when the next hoop was run.)

Q71 When running a hoop the striker fails to see that a roquet was also made in the same stroke. He attempts to roquet the ball a second time. What error has been committed and what should happen next if (1) the roquet is made (2) the roquet is missed? (27 (f))

A71 The error is **Playing When a Ball is Misplaced** and is described as **Failing to Take Croquet When Required to do So**. (1) The balls are replaced and the striker continues with a croquet stroke. (2) The balls are replaced in the croquet position but the turn ends because the roquet attempt was missed.

Q72 The striker, entitled to start his turn by placing his ball on the baulk line, mistakenly plays three yards to the right of the A baulk line (Playing When a Ball is Misplaced). His opponent notices this before the striker has played the third stroke of his turn (the limit of claims) and claims an error. What happens next? (27 (g))

A72 The error (described as **Failing to Play a Ball From Baulk**) is rectified (all affected balls are replaced) and the striker restarts his turn from the baulk line unless his turn would otherwise have ended during the strokes in error. E.g. a missed roquet.

Q73 In handicap play a player mistakenly thinks he is entitled to an optional lift when his opponent ran 1-back and proceeds to play his ball from the baulk line (Playing When a Ball is Misplaced). What error has occurred and what happens next? (27 (h))

A73 The error is described as **Lifting a Ball When not Entitled to do So**. If discovered before the third stroke of the turn the error is rectified. The striker restarts his turn with either ball unless his turn would otherwise have ended during a stroke in error. E.g. a missed roquet.

Q74 My opponent has played a croquet stroke in which the croqueted ball came to rest within the yard-line area. He failed to line the ball in and has continued play. Is this an error? (27 (i), 6 (c) (3) & (4))

A74 No. Continuing play is lawful unless some other error or interference occurs. Although technically the misplaced ball is a ball in hand and an outside agency it becomes a ball at rest at the start of the next stroke. (It may subsequently be lined in when its misplacement is realised.).

Q75 What happens when a striker commits more than one error in the same stroke (a Compound Error)? (24 (a) (1) & ORLC 24.1.1 & 24.1.2)

A75 It is deemed that only the first of the applicable laws in Laws 25 to 28 applies i.e. the lowest numbered Law. However, in cases where Law 28 is also involved (a fault committed as well as an error) then after error rectification the turn will end because of the fault. (4 (d) (7))

Q76 What happens when a striker commits one or more errors before the limit of claims of an earlier error e.g. plays the wrong ball and then commits a fault when attempting to run a hoop with that ball in the same turn. (24 (a) (2))

A76 Only the law applicable to the earlier error applies.

Outside Agencies

Q77 An outside agency is any agency unconnected (or temporarily unconnected) with the game in progress. An outside agency should be moved or removed if it might affect play. In some circumstances interference by an outside agency can give rise to a replay of a stroke. Can you name nine examples of an outside agency? (7)

A77 Examples include: animals, spectators, a referee other than the players, the players or equipment from another game, a ball in hand, a ball not in play, a clip not attached to a hoop or the peg, the peg extension when not attached to the peg and other stray objects.

Q 78 Neither loose impediments nor the weather are outside agencies. Loose impediments should be moved or removed if they can impede play. Where interference arises through a failure to do so, no replay is permitted. Can you give some examples of loose impediments? (7 (b) & ORLC 7.2.)

A78 Pebbles, twigs, gum nuts, worm casts.

Interference

(1) Interference with a ball

Q79 To end my turn, I was playing Red back to my partner ball on the side-line but my ball struck a stationary Pink ball. What happens now? (33 (a), ORLC 33.2.11, 33.2.12 & 48 (f))

A79 No replay is involved because the shot's outcome was not critical and the Pink ball was stationary. You now liaise with the opponent (and the other game) to determine appropriate placement for Red and Pink.

Q80 I was attempting to roquet Red with Yellow. It was clearly going to hit but when only centimetres away the Green ball appeared from nowhere and hit the Red ball causing the roquet to be missed. What happens now? (33 (a) (1)) ORLC 33.1.1

A80 No roquet can be claimed even though it was inevitable had the interference not occurred. You are entitled to replay the shot. Green may also be entitled to a replay if the outcome of their stroke was also critical.

Q81 I was attempting to roquet Red with Yellow but my ball just nicked a stationary Green ball, which was partially obstructing my line of aim (but I thought I could miss) and consequently missed a certain roquet. Can I claim a replay or the roquet? (33 (a) & ORLC 33.1.1)

A81 No.

Q82 I was attempting a hoop with my Red ball when the ball was just nicked by a passing Green. Fortunately my Red continued on its way and ran the hoop. How does play continue? (33 (d) (1))

A82 No point can be claimed after interference. But the hoop shot may be replayed.

Q83 When I ended my previous turn my ball had just missed completing the running of its hoop. At the start of my next turn the ball now appears to have run the hoop although my opponent has not moved it. Do I now claim the hoop and play the ball where it lies? (33 (c))

A83 No. The ball is replaced and you can then run the hoop if you wish.

Q84 I attempted a long distance roquet but my target ball was moved by a gust of wind and the roquet was missed. Am I entitled to a replay and what happens next? (33 (b) & ORLC 33.1)

A84 No replay. The target ball has not been moved by the stroke so it is replaced and the turn ends.

Q85 In a croquet stroke the Red ball has struck Green and ricocheted off the court. Is my turn over and what should happen next? (33 (d) (2))

A85 If the players agree that Red would have gone off anyway then the balls are placed accordingly and the turn ends. Otherwise, had the three conditions under 33 (a) been applicable then a replay must be taken. If not, then Red is placed where it would have stopped had interference not occurred.

(2) Interference with the playing of a stroke

Q86 As I am playing my hoop shot I am distracted by my opponent who has wandered onto the court to do some divot repairs. As a consequence the hoop is missed. Am I entitled to a replay? (34 (a) (2))

A86 Yes.

Q87 As I am taking my hoop shot the umpire's hat blows off and hits my arm. I believe this caused me to miss the hoop. Am I entitled to a replay? (34 (a) (2))

A87 Yes.

Q88 I have started my hoop stroke when my opponent calls out that he thinks I made an error in the previous stroke. I am unable to abort my stroke and as a consequence of the interference the hoop is missed. It transpires that there was no error. Am I entitled to a replay? (34 (a) (1) & 23 (d))

A88 Yes.

Q89 My ball is within the yard-line area and close to the boundary. My next stroke will be adversely affected because the ground slopes away at this point. My swing will also be hampered by a fence beside the court boundary. What redress do I have? (34 (b)), 34 (e) & ORLC 34.2 & 34.3)

A89 After consulting with the opponent, and if necessary involving an umpire/referee, your ball may be moved no more than is necessary to allow a normal stance and a free swing of the mallet. Other balls that might be affected by the next stroke should also be moved to maintain their relative positions. Should those balls not be affected then they are replaced when no longer relevant to the line of play.

Q90 A player is entitled to claim redress if his next stroke will be affected by special damage to the court. Can you give examples of special damage and what redress is allowed should repair be impractical? (34 (c), 34 (e) & ORLC 34.2 & 34.3)

A90 Examples are: a hole on the corner spot, unrepaired divot, hoop or peg holes, a protruding tree root or sprinkler head. An indifferent court surface or a rabbit run in a hoop is not special damage. Redress can include using grass clippings to hold a ball in position while the stroke is played or as described in A89.

Q91 The striker is attempting to play a take-off into the yard-line area to get a rush on a yard-line ball. He notices that there are some grass clippings and a twig left on the court ideally placed to stop the ball should he over-hit. Is he entitled to take advantage of this opportunity? (34 (d))

A91 No. Loose impediments must be removed if they are likely to benefit the striker in the stroke about to be played.

(3) Miscellaneous

Q92 A player has quit the court wrongly believing that his turn has ended. What should his opponent do? (35 (a))

A92 Advise the striker to continue play.

Q93 A ball being peeled through 4-back in a croquet stroke has become jammed in the hoop. What happens now? (35 (b))

A93 Both the hoop and the ball should be adjusted or replaced. Provided that the turn hasn't otherwise ended i.e. the striker's ball didn't go out in the croquet stroke, the striker may elect to replay the stroke.

Q94 Yellow, for hoop 2, has made a hoop approach with the Red ball. However, the Red ball, for 1-back, has ended in hoop running position in that hoop (i.e. it is not breaking the plane of its non-playing side) but is effectively stopping Yellow from running the hoop. Yellow decides to jump Red with the intent of then peeling Red through 1-back with the subsequent roquet shot. However, in the act of jumping Red, the ball strikes the Yellow clip on the hoop and drops onto Red which is then peeled. Yellow runs on through the hoop but is now wired from Red. With no easy roquet available Yellow claims that the clip has interfered with play and requests a replay. Is this allowed? (35 (c))

A94 No. Interference cannot be claimed in respect of clips attached to a hoop or the peg extension (if still attached to the peg).

(4) Balls Wrongly Removed or not Removed From the Game

Q95 The player of Red, in a croquet stroke accidentally plays his Yellow Rover ball onto the peg. Believing it to be pegged out, he continues play with Red making hoops 6 and all other hoops in order until breaking down at 2-back. His opponent takes play and also manages to make a break but then realises that Yellow has been incorrectly removed from the game. What happens next? (30 (a))

A95 Call a referee!! Law 30 (a) states that all play from and including the first affected stroke is deemed not to have occurred. All hoops scored therein are cancelled and the balls are replaced in their lawful positions at the end of the stroke preceding the first affected stroke. But deciding when the first affected stroke occurred is not that easy. In this example it could not be said that Red's strokes were affected by the incorrect removal of Yellow as he has successfully played on with a 3 ball break. Likewise his opponent has also played successfully with just three balls. A probable solution is to return the Yellow to its position when it first hit the peg and allow play to continue.

Q96 The Red ball, a rover ball, after missing a roquet accidentally hits the peg. The player curses, knocks the ball towards the side-line (but still on the court) and wanders off to the Club-house to grab a cup of tea. His opponent hasn't been watching play but starts his turn with a roquet, proceeds to bring the Red ball into play and proceeds to make a break of 6 hoops. His opponent returns and immediately forestalls play when he sees Red being used. What happens next? (30 (a))

A96 First determine which was the first affected stroke. It may have been the first stroke of the turn if Red had been roqueted. Or it may have been a croquet stroke being played by the opponent to bring the Red ball into play. All play after that point is deemed not to have occurred and any points scored subsequently are cancelled. The balls are returned to their rightful place and play restarts.

(5) Misplaced Clips and Misleading Information

Q97 My opponent knocked one of my balls through hoop 3 in order but omitted to move my clip on to hoop 4. Having got back in play I have just re-run hoop 3 when my opponent says that the hoop had already been scored. What happens next? (31 (a) & (b))

A97 You may claim a replay and return and play the balls from their positions immediately prior to the stroke played when you were first misled. If that stroke was the first of your turn then you can start play with either ball.

Q98 Playing a doubles game and at the start of my turn I have discovered that my ball is wired from all others. I asked my opponent whether his side was responsible for its position and he said not so I played accordingly. My partner, returning from a comfort stop queried my play as when he left he was sure that the opponent had been responsible for the wired state. Subsequent discussion with the opponents confirmed this. What happens next? (31 (a) (3) & (b))

A98 As per the answer for A97. You may also claim the wiring lift.

Q99 I have just played a take-off for a rush position on Red toward my next hoop in order. I then notice a marker on the court and query the second colour players as to whether Red is in the correct position. They apologise for moving Red without advising me. What should happen next? 31 (a) (2) & ORLC 31.6

A99 The Red ball is replaced and if necessary a replay may be claimed.

Handicap Singles Play

Q100 When a singles game is played under handicap conditions how are the bisques calculated? (37 (b))

A100 The number of bisques is the difference between the handicaps of the two players.

Q101 When may a half-bisque or a bisque be played? (37 (c))

A101 Subject to restrictions applying at the end of time-limited games (see Q104), they may be played at the end of any of the striker's turns (including those at the start of a game) and may be played in succession .

Q102 When playing a turn, which commenced with the taking of a half-bisque, what limitation applies to play during that turn? (37 (a))

A102 In a half-bisque turn no points can be scored for any ball.

Q103 Playing Blue, I have just missed a roquet of my partner ball on the yard-line. I decide to take a bisque turn. Can I now start play by electing Black as the striker's ball? (37 (a))

A103 No. You must continue play with Blue. If you had played Black then Law 26 would apply (Playing a Wrong Ball).

Q104 In time-limited games Tournament Regulation 8.3.4 imposes restrictions on the use of bisques and half-bisques after the bell goes . What are those restrictions? (TR 8.3)

A104 After the bell goes the game enters an extension period within which the player in play completes his turn and the opponent has a further turn. No half-bisque or bisque may be played during the extension period, or immediately thereafter by the player in play when the extension period ends. If the scores remain tied at the end of the extension period, then any remaining half-bisques or bisques may be played.

Q105 At the end of his turn the striker, with a half-bisque and a number of full bisques still available, indicates by a wave of the hand that he intends to continue play. What is the opponent entitled to do? (37 (d) (2))

A105 Deem that a full bisque has been taken.

Q106 Having decided to play on can the striker change his mind and if so what are his options? (37 (d) (2))

A106 Before playing a stroke he may decide and advise that he will play a half-bisque instead or he may elect not to continue play and quit the court.

Q107 If the striker has indicated that he will not play a half-bisque or a full bisque, either by words or by quitting the court without informing the opponent that he has not yet decided, is he entitled to change his mind? (37 (d) (3))

A107 No.

Q108 What happens if the opponent commences his turn before the striker has indicated his intentions? (37 (d) (4))

A108 The opponent is playing when not entitled. The error is rectified and the striker then chooses whether or not to play a half-bisque or bisque turn.

Q109 What should the opponent do if the striker indicates he is going to start a bisque turn and the opponent knows that the striker's current turn has not yet ended? (37 (e))

A109 Forestall play and advise the player to complete his current turn.

Q110 What happens if the opponent is unaware that the bisque turn is being taken too soon, but after playing on the striker realises his mistake? (37 (e))

A110 It is deemed that the striker's turn did in fact end prior to the start of the premature bisque turn.

Q111 With half/full bisques in hand, what options does a striker have if in the first stroke of a non-bisque turn he has played a wrong ball? (37 (f))

A111 After rectification of the error he may then play a half/full bisque turn with either ball of his side provided he is lawfully entitled to do so. There are 3 situations where there is no choice of balls: (1) after the third or fourth turns of the game. (Only those balls can be played.) (2) when a wiring lift has been taken. (3) when the partner ball has already been pegged out.

Q112 While playing a non-bisque turn, and with bisques in hand, the striker has run a hoop but in the process committed a fault which ends her turn. The opponent asks whether he intends to continue play but the striker says that the opponent must first say whether the ball is to be replaced or left where it is. Is she right? (37 (h))

A112 Yes.

Q113 Where play is deemed not to have occurred, following error and interference rectification, can half/full bisques, used during that period, be restored? (39)

A113 Yes. But if any point is cancelled because it was scored out of order, then only bisques/half bisques played with the relevant ball are restored.

Doubles Play

Q114 Our opponents in doubles are like Siamese twins. The senior player is always on the court giving advice and instruction to the junior player. Is this permitted? (40 (b))

A114 Yes, provided that it is not unreasonably delaying play. However, when strokes are played the partner must stand well clear so the striker is not assisted in gauging the strength or direction of the stroke.

Q115 At the start of my non-bisque turn I was misled by my opponent's misplacement of clips on the hoops. The balls have now been replaced. Do I have to restart play or can my partner take play with her ball? (40 (e))

A115 Either player may take play.

Q116 How are the number of bisques to be given calculated in a handicap doubles game? (43 (a))

A116 The handicaps of the players on each side are combined. The difference between the sides' combined handicaps is then halved. A fraction of a bisque above a half is counted as one bisque, a fraction below a half as a half-bisque.

Q117 At the start of my non-bisque turn I played a wrong ball. The error has been rectified. My side has bisques in hand. Do I have to take play or can my partner now start play with a bisque turn? (43 (b))

A117 If either player could lawfully have played the first stroke of the turn then the partner can take play. There are 3 situations where it would be unlawful for the partner to take play: (1) after the third or fourth turns of the game. (Those balls can only be played by their owner.) (2) when a wiring lift has been taken. (3) when the partner ball has already been pegged out.

Q118 My doubles partner is late arriving for the start of our game. Rather than default, what can I do to enable play to continue? (40 (b) &ORLC 40.1)

A118 You can place your partner's ball in any position on either baulk-line. If necessary, (for example if you get to peg out your ball) if it's your side's turn to play you can declare that your partner has played a stroke but leaving the partner ball where it lies.

Q119 Given you are playing a standard 3 hour duration handicap doubles game what restrictions apply to the peeling of your partner's ball. (43 (c)) & ORLC 43.3)

A119 Neither player may peel the partner's ball through more than four hoops in the course of the game. If this occurs, and the mistake is discovered before the end of the game, the clip is replaced and points cancelled. The opponents may seek a replay if they have been misled by the mistake. If the peeler's partner was misled, he has no redress.

Conduct of the Game

Q120 I have ended my break having run 1-back in that turn. My opponent wasn't watching play and has asked me whether he is entitled to a lift. Am I required to tell him? (47 (b))

A120 Yes.

Q121 List some examples of information about the state of the game that a player, if asked, is required to give to the opponent? (47 (a))

A121 Which ball is the striker's ball, the correct position of the balls or clips, whether an error or interference has occurred, which player is responsible for a ball's position, whether a ball has been roqueted or hit or has moved, whether a ball has scored a hoop or is clear of a given side of a hoop, whether entitled to a lift or contact, the amount of time or number of bisques remaining, etc.

Q122 What redress does a player have if the opponent gives incorrect information about the state of the game either (1) by mistake or; (2) deliberately? (47 (b)) & ORLC 47.2)

A122 (1) May be entitled to a replay as per Law 31. (2) May be subject to penalty under Law 55 up to and including disqualification.

Q123 Generally games are not played with a referee in charge of proceedings. Consequently the players act as referees of their own game calling upon an independent referee only when their knowledge of the rules is limited. An umpire may also be on call for shot-watching. Which player carries the greater responsibility for acting as referee during the course of the game? (48 & ORLC 48)

A123 The striker, because the opponent is not obliged to watch play (although it may be in his best interests to do so.)

Q124 What happens when the players' opinions differ as to (1) correct ball placement following interference; (2) whether a ball has been hit or moved (3) whether a fault has been committed (for example when running a hoop). (48 (f)) & ORLC 48.9)

A124 (1) The offender should normally defer to the opinion of the other. (2) The positive opinion is generally preferred to the negative opinion. (3) The opinion of the player better placed to give one is generally preferred.

Q125 What limitations apply to the involvement of witnesses when differences of opinion between players arise? (48(f) & ORLC 48.9)

A125 Witnesses may only be consulted if both players agree to do so. Either player may request that a referee adjudicate and the referee may choose to consult with witnesses to help solve the issue.

Q126 Despite raising the issue with my opponent I believe that she is continuing to leave still balls when playing croquet strokes. What redress do I have? (48 (e) & ORLC 48.8 & 53 (e))

A126 You may ask for a referee in charge to be appointed to carry out close quarter scrutiny. (In practice this means an umpire will watch both players' croquet strokes because the number of available officials to perform total RIC responsibilities will usually be limited.)

Q127 I believe that my opponent is wasting time by taking too long deciding what shot to play. What redress do I have? (49 & ORLC 49)

A127 You may ask for a referee to observe play. If warranted, and after warning the striker and explaining likely outcomes she may take action under Law 55 as she thinks appropriate. This could include; ending the striker's turn at any time, or awarding extra time to compensate for delays.

Q128 A game is a contest between the players. A player is not entitled to receive advice and take advantage of unsolicited information or advice from anyone other than his partner in doubles play. What should a player do if someone other than the opponent or a duly authorised referee informs him; (1) he has committed an error in that turn, and does so after he has quit the court believing his turn has ended. (2) while still the striker, that he has committed an error. (3) as the opponent, that the striker has committed an error. (4) that an interference under Laws 30 or 31 has been committed. (50 (a) & ORLC 50)

A128 (1) The player must not declare the error. He should rebuke the spectator for interfering. (2) The striker must declare the error if he believes the information or advice to be correct and the limit of claims has not passed. In some cases a referee may need to be involved to ensure an outcome that is fair to both players. (See ORLC 50.4 & 50.7) (3) The opponent must, subject to Law 23 (b) immediately forestall play if he believes the information or advice to be correct and the limit of claims has not passed. Again a referee may need to be involved to ensure a fair outcome. (See ORLC 50.5 & 50.7) (4) the player must immediately declare the interference if he believes the information or advice to be correct and involve a referee to ensure a fair outcome. (See ORLC 50.6 & 50.7)

Q129 My opponent is placing balls for a cannon shot from corner 2. He takes out a document from his pocket and refers to this when placing the balls. Is he allowed to do this? (50 (b))

A129 No.

Q130 There are leaves lying on the court and my opponent has been placing these as targets for his take-off hoop approaches. Is he allowed to do this? (50 (c))

A130 No. No mark or marker may be placed inside or outside the court to assist in gauging the strength or direction of a stroke.

Q131 I have been using my mallet handle to help aim my take-offs. The head of the mallet against the two balls, with the handle lying on the court and pointing in the direction of aim. My opponent says I shouldn't be doing this. Is she right? (50 (c) (1))

A131. No.

Q132 My opponent has commenced his turn while I was still in the process of recovering my ball to line in. I have yet to place my clip on my next hoop. Is he entitled to do this and if not what redress do I have? (4 (e) (1) & ORLC 4.3.3)

A132 Unless prior permission has been given, the opponent is not entitled to commence play until the balls and clips are correctly positioned at the end of a turn.

Q133 When our game ended we tallied up the scores and decided that I had won 14-13. We reset the court and wandered in for a cup of tea. We then came to the realisation that in fact the score should have been 14-14. What happens now? (4 (c)) & ORLC 4.2)

A133 The result had been decided when you quit the court. That result stands.

Q134 Under what circumstances may time be restored in time-limited games? (53 (g) (2))

A134 When interference has arisen under Laws 30 (balls wrongly removed or not removed), 31 (misplaced clips & misleading information) and 32 (playing when forestalled). There is no time restoration for errors.

Q135 During tournament play I have asked for a referee's ruling on a point of Law. She has given a decision which I disagree with. Do I have any redress? (TR22)

A135 Yes. You may appeal to the Tournament Referee for the decision to be reviewed, provided the appeal is within its limit of claims (see TR 22.4).

Faults (which only occur during the Striking Period)

Q136 When does a stroke and the striking period start? (5 (d))

A136 When the mallet head has passed or leaves the ball on the final backswing that the striker intends to make before striking the ball. If no backswing is used, then when the forward swing starts.

Q137 When is a stroke considered to have been played? (5 (e))

A137 When (1) the mallet hits the ball; or (2) a fault is committed; or (3) the mallet misses or does not reach the ball (an airshot).

Q138 After commencing her stroke the player notices another ball travelling across her line of aim. She completes the swing but was able to lift the mallet to avoid hitting her ball. Is she entitled to another stroke? (5 (e) (1))

A138 Yes.

Q139 When does the striking period end? (5 (f))

A139 When the striker quits his stance under control.

Q140 When does a stroke end? (5 (g))

A140 When every ball moved as a consequence of the stroke has come to rest, has left the court or has been moved, picked up or arrested (in circumstances where such actions do not affect the state of the game).

Q141 What happens if a player accidentally hits a ball before a stroke has started? (5 (h))

A141 The ball is replaced and the striker continues his turn.

Q142 What is the limit of claims for a fault and what is the penalty for a fault? (28 (b) (1))

A142 The fault must be discovered before two further strokes of the striker's turn. Any points scored in either the first or second stroke in error are cancelled and the turn ends.

Q143 What must the striker do after a fault is declared? (28 (b) (2))

A143 Ask the opponent whether he wishes the fault to be rectified. If to be rectified, all affected balls are replaced in their positions prior to the fault stroke.

Q144 If the opponent does not request rectification where should any affected balls be placed? (28 (b) (2))

A144 The balls remain or are placed in the positions they occupied after the first stroke in error.

The following is a list and explanation of the various faults as defined in Law 28. They will be demonstrated in a lawn session with participants acting as umpires to rule on shot outcomes.

Law 28, with its list of 15 faults and their associated ORLC commentary, merit careful and frequent study.

Faults fall into four categories:

- Unlawful methods of using the mallet. Faults 1-5.
- Unlawful contacts between the mallet and the striker's ball. Faults 6-10.
- Unlawful movements of balls, whether by the mallet or the striker's body or clothes. Faults 11- 13
- Specialised faults related to croquet strokes and substantial damage to the court. Faults 14 – 15.

Unlawful Methods of Using the Mallet

The striker must not:

1. **Touch the head of the mallet with a hand (including a finger), or slide the mallet along a foot or leg to guide it.** (Usually seen when the player tries to steady the mallet head with a finger when the swing is hampered by the presence of another ball, or tries to avoid hitting the hoop when trying to hit through the hoop at a ball on the other side. A glancing hit of a foot or leg with the mallet does not constitute a fault.)
2. **Rest the shaft of the mallet or a hand or arm on the ground or an outside agency.** (Usually seen in a sweep shot where the end of the mallet handle, or the hand holding it at that point, is used as a pivot on the ground. Rest means just that – not a mere brushing. The sweep arm is fine, the pivot hand on the ground, or the mallet handle held there is not. An outside agency is anything not directly connected with your game. Placing a pad beneath the pivot hand to get it off the ground, for example, would not be permitted. The hoop is not an outside agency so can be used as a rest if the player so chooses.)
3. **Rest the shaft of the mallet, or a hand or arm directly connected with the stroke against any part of the legs or feet.** (Again trying to steady the mallet's swing when the swing is hampered by the presence of another ball. Brushing is fine, resting is not. Note the hand or arm must be directly connected with the stroke i.e. connected to the mallet.)

Law 28 (d) (2) states that these first three faults do not apply if the touching, resting, or sliding occurs after the striker has completed the swing in which the stroke is played. In other words, the first three faults have a shorter striking period, but only them.

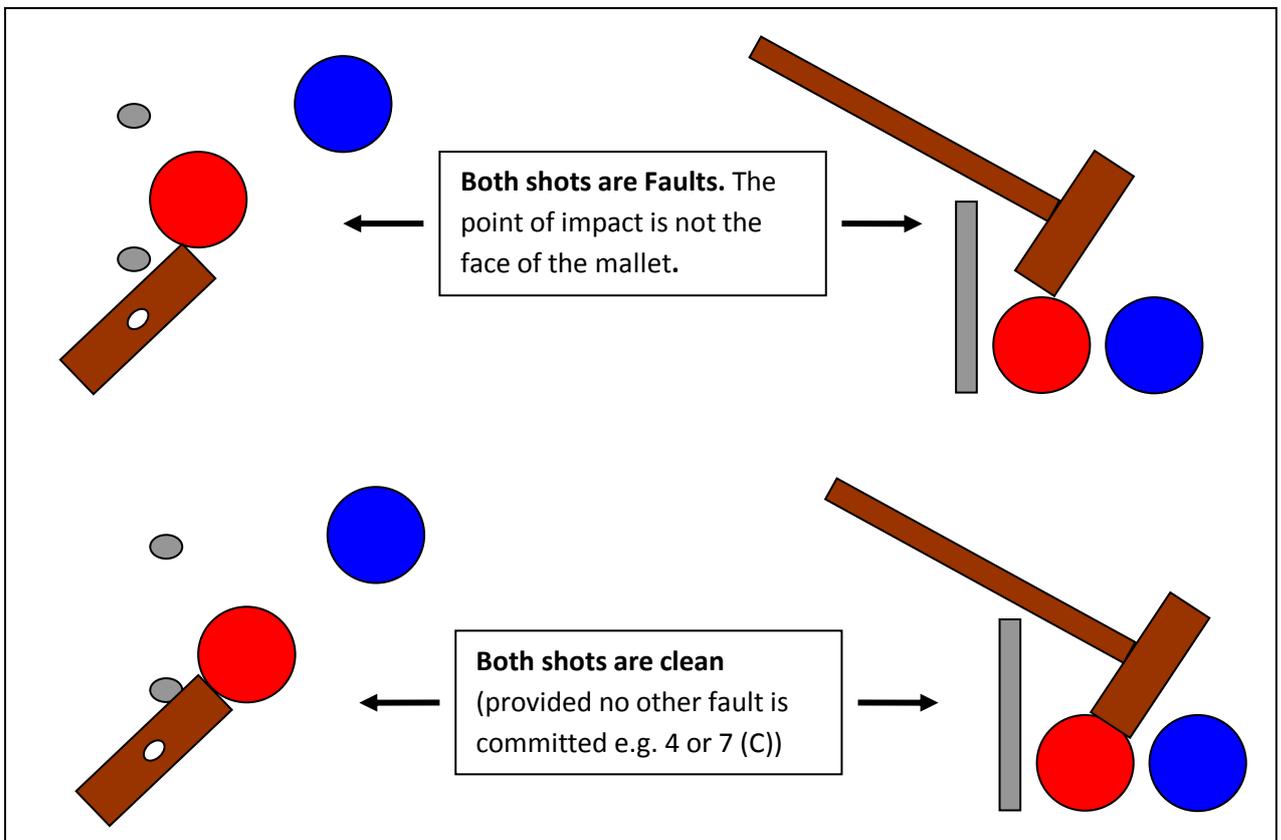
4. **Move the striker's ball other than by striking it with the mallet audibly and distinctly.** (Usually seen as shepherding the ball with the mallet e.g. starting the forward swing when already in contact with the ball.)

5. Cause or attempt to cause the mallet to strike the ball by kicking, hitting, dropping or throwing the mallet. (Self-explanatory.)

Unlawful Contacts Between The Mallet And The Striker's Ball

The striker must not:

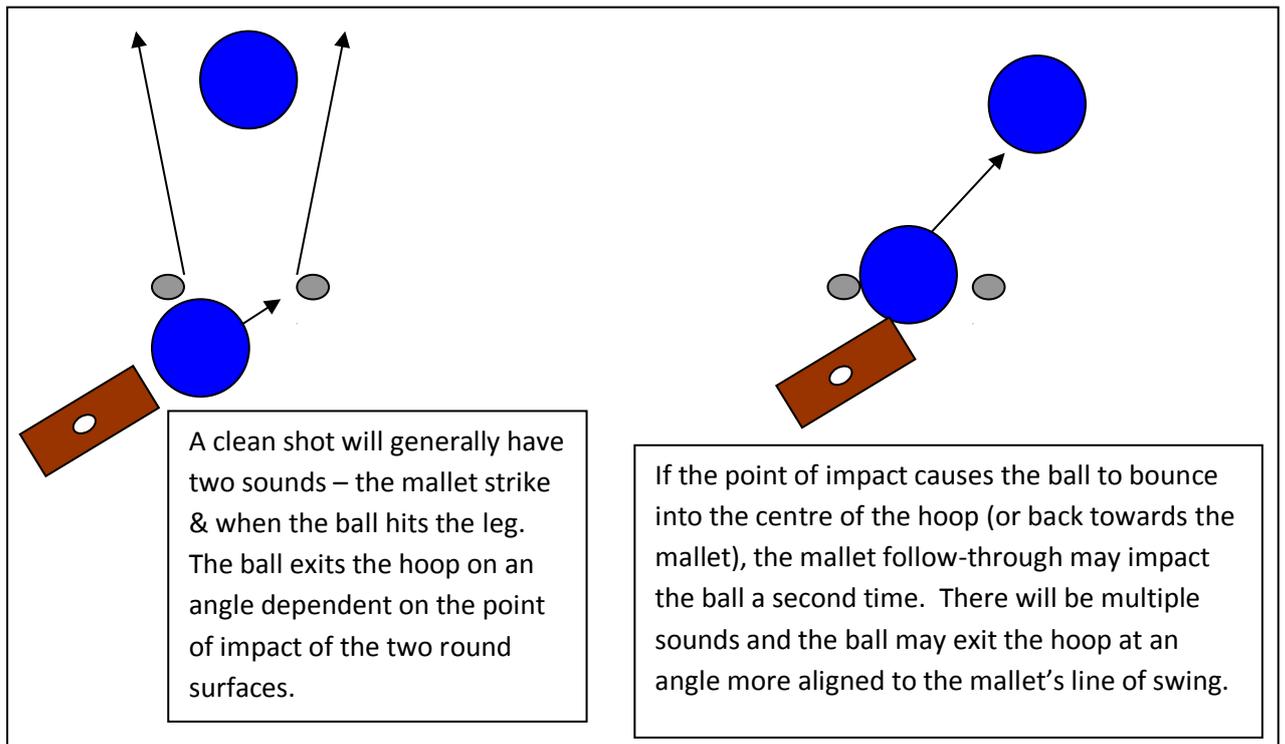
6. **Deliberately, or accidentally (in a stroke which is hampered by the proximity of a hoop, the peg or another ball) strike the ball with any part of the mallet other than the end-face of the head.** (Usually described as hitting with the bevelled-edge of the mallet. Note that it is not a fault, to hit with a bevelled edge or other than the end-face, unless it is done deliberately or in a hampered shot. An accidental miss-hit in general play is not a fault.)



7. (A) In shots where two balls are in contact, allow the mallet to contact the striker's ball visibly more than once. (Most commonly seen with hoop approaches where the striker's ball is "shepherded towards the hoop after the croqueted ball has gone on its way. Very extreme pass rolls are also potential candidates. May also be seen when the striker's ball jumps rather than rolls away smoothly in the croquet stroke. The mallet's follow-through can re-hit the striker's ball.)

(B) In any other stroke allow the mallet to contact the striker's ball more than once (visibly or invisibly) (Most commonly when running a hoop from close range. The ball hits the hoop leg and stops or slows down and the mallet catches up and re-hits the ball)

– see diagram below. Also when playing a scatter shot of the opponent’s “dead” ball. The mallet’s follow-through can catch up with the striker’s ball and hit it a second time. A scatter shot “double tap” fault, if not clearly seen, can be judged by how far the striker’s ball continues forward after a direct impact. Short distance clean/Significant distance a fault. Also see Fault 8.)



(C) In any stroke allow the mallet to remain in contact with the striker’s ball for an observable period. (This prohibits pulling or pushing the striker’s ball (often seen with hammer shots and when playing forward with another ball in behind the striker’s ball). Sliding the mallet face down, up or across the ball – which used to be a common ploy for hoop running - may also be caught by this.)

Exemptions: Law 28 (d) provides the following exemptions for both Faults 7 and 8:

A subsequent re-hit or double tap is excused if it occurs after the striker’s ball:

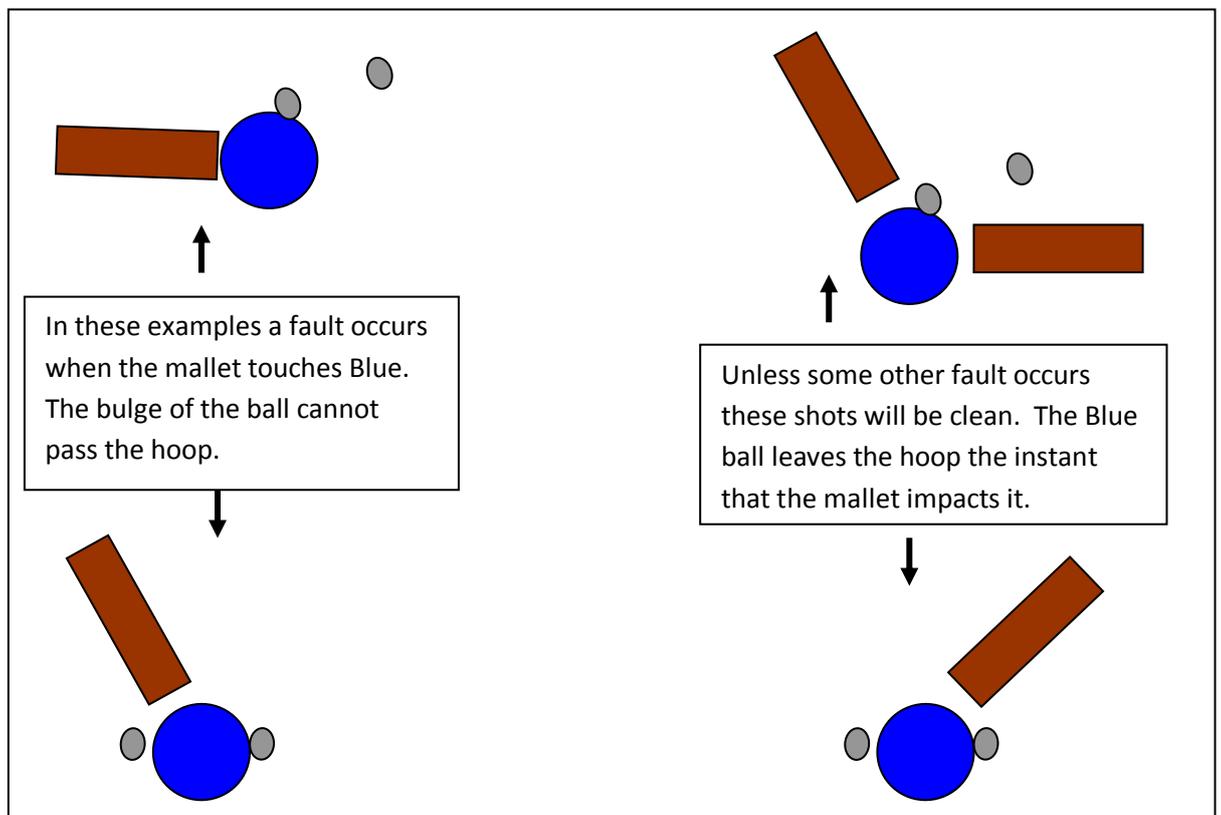
- Makes a roquet (unless the ball has hit another object i.e a hoop leg; the peg or a dead ball before hitting the mallet for the second time); or
- Scores the peg point; or
- Hits a ball pegged out in the stroke

8. **Allow the mallet to remain in contact with the striker’s ball after the striker’s ball has hit another ball.** (This provides an enhancement to Fault 7 (B) & (C) and caters for scatter shots where the distance between the two balls is say less than 2mm. In such

cases it becomes difficult, if not impossible, to say that a double tap has occurred and there may be no obvious extended contact. This fault is judged by how far the striker's ball continues forward after a direct impact. Short distance clean/Significant distance a fault. (Angled close proximity scatter shots will require the wisdom of Solomon! – see Commentary 28.11)

9. **Cause the ball to touch a hoop or the peg (unless the striker's ball is pegged out in the stroke) while still in contact with the mallet** (Usually referred to as being "a crush". Can be avoided, for example, by adequately stalking a hoop attempt. This to ensure the line of aim won't cause contact with the nearby leg and by limiting follow-through may avoid a crush on the other leg. In umpiring shots where a crush is possible, the behaviour of the ball and where the mallet ends up are relevant. The ball leaves the mallet face very quickly, and a second hit is a more likely fault if the ball pauses before moving on. It is important to remember that crushes and other faults can be committed around hoops and the peg even though the player is not trying to score a hoop point. Players are sometimes careless when hitting away from or back through a hoop.)

10. **Strike the striker's ball when it lies in contact with a hoop or the peg (unless the striker's ball is pegged out in the stroke) otherwise than in a direction away therefrom.** (This would be the ultimate "crush" if the line of aim is playing the ball into the hoop leg or the peg. The player should aim so the ball is leaving the hoop leg or peg at the point of impact. If the ball is in contact but halfway or more through, it may be possible to run the hoop.)



Unlawful movements of balls

The striker must not:

11. **Move or shake a ball at rest by hitting a hoop or the peg with the mallet or with any part of his body or clothes.** (Usually occurs when a ball is touching a hoop leg. The mallet swing hits the leg and moves the ball. If the ball moved was the striker's ball, then this would still remain a fault even if the ball was subsequently struck by the mallet after its initial movement from the hoop leg.)

12. **Touch a ball, other than the striker's ball, with the mallet.** (This can occur in take-offs, cannons and shots where three or more balls are close together. When playing his stroke the player's mallet also touches a nearby ball. Touches during practice swings are not faults.)

13. **Touch a ball with any part of the body or clothes.** (Law 28 (c) defines clothes as including anything being worn or carried at the start of the stroke (other than the mallet.) Beware of your hat blowing off, a handkerchief falling from your pocket, your billowy trouser leg, or a clip falling off your shirt and committing this fault during the striking period.)

Specialised faults related to croquet strokes and substantial damage to the court

The striker must not:

14. **In a croquet stroke, play away from or fail to move or shake the croqueted ball.** (Commonly referred to as leaving a "still ball". Can be avoided by ensuring that the striker's ball is played into the croqueted ball. Movement should, therefore, be away from the striker's ball. Where the movement is seen to be towards the striker's ball it is possible that a still ball has been left. The croqueted ball may have been resting against the striker's ball and has perhaps rolled into a lawn irregularity as the striker's ball was played away. If this can be demonstrated then the turn should be over. By all means play fine take-offs but not too fine!!)

15. **Damage the court, with the mallet (not the ball), when playing a hampered shot, a jump shot or a cannon shot, to the extent that a subsequent stroke played over the damaged area could be significantly affected.** (The potential effect must be significant. Usually the extent of the damage is tested by rolling a ball across the surface. If it deviates from a straight line by a ball's width over a mallet handle distance then this could be judged a significant effect. Quickly eradicating the damage by tapping things smooth with the mallet could be judged as unfair play and invites a warning by a game umpire or referee.)