

## Golf Croquet Rules – Q & A

(Checked and approved by Owen Edwards & Tony Hall)

Q1. At the conclusion of a turn in which a hoop point was scored at Hoop 1, a ball is resting against the centre peg. The opponent, when checking its position, notices that it is beyond the line D-E, even though it is not beyond the centre peg. If this ball did not reach its position as a result of the four exceptions listed in Rule 10, is it an offside ball?

A1. Yes, it is an offside ball. Rule 10(a) clearly states that the halfway line between Hoops 1 and 2 is the line D-E, not the line D-centre peg-E. (However, the centre peg should be on the line D-E if the court is correctly laid out.)

Q2 Blue plays to clear Red which in turn hits Yellow and pushes it over the halfway line to what will become the next hoop in order. In the next turn, Red runs the hoop. Is Yellow offside?

A2. No, as it reached its position as the result of a stroke played by the opponent – Rule 10(b)(2) .

Q3 Blue plays to clear Red which in turn hits Black and pushes it over the halfway line to what will become the next hoop in order. In the next turn, Red runs the hoop. Is Black offside?

A3 No, as it reached its position as the result of contact with an opponent's ball – Rule 10(b)(3).

Q4. Blue is about to play a hampered stroke and Red asks that the Referee be called to watch. Blue ignores the request and plays the stroke. What are the options?

A4. There are no options. By asking that the Referee be called to watch the stroke, Red has stopped play which can only be restarted when the Referee is ready and thus Blue has not taken their turn. All balls moved are to be replaced and then the stroke is played. Blue should expect a warning under Rule 14(a)(9) and not be surprised if the balls are replaced in an even more hampered position, which they would be unwise to challenge as they would be disputing a referee's decision on a matter of fact.

Q5 The lawn outside the boundary drops quite sharply and it is difficult to obtain an level stance. What are the options?

A5. Rule 9(c) allows for the ball to be moved in along a line joining the position of the ball and the striker's intended target, with the consent of the opponent or referee. The ball may be moved only the minimum necessary to obtain a level stance.

Q6. In a singles match, Blue goes to play Red but is warned by the opponent that they are about to play the wrong ball. Has Red committed a fault.

A6. Yes, as they have provided tactical advice to someone other than their opponent - Rule 14(a)(2).

Q7. In preparing for a jump-shot a player moves a clip from the top of a hoop to the leg. The jump-shot does not run the hoop, but the striker's ball hits the clip and is deflected. What action should be taken.

A7. The clip is an accessory and thus an outside agency. As the outcome of the stroke is not in doubt (the hoop wasn't run) the striker's ball should be placed where it would have otherwise have stopped - Rule 9(e). If the striker's ball caused other balls to move after the interference, they are to be replaced – Rule 9(f).

Q8. Yellow has almost run a hoop. Black, in preparing for a jump shot, removes clips from the hoop and in so doing, yellow moves and goes through the hoop. Has a hoop point been scored?

A8. No – this is not a non-striking fault as the player, his clothes or mallet did not move the ball – Rule 12(a). Clips are accessories and so outside agencies. If an outside agency causes a stationary ball to move it is replaced – Rule 9(e). Also, the position of yellow had been agreed (as both Blue & Red had played) and should thus be replaced – Rule 6(h).