

# **RICOCHE TACTICS**

by Ray Chapman

CNSW State Ricochet Singles Champion 2021 & 2022

National Co-Ordinator Ricochet

Try and rush one of your opponent balls or your other ball to the non playing side of your current hoop so you can continue your break after running that hoop.

When you are unable to rush the opponents balls anywhere near your current hoop, try and split the balls, so both remain within the square of hoop 1-2-3-4. This will ensure that whatever ball your opponent plays a miss will leave one ball in a good position.

Avoid, where possible, hitting your opponents ball to the boundary.

Use a cut shot to get your ball nearer to a hoop or another ball.

When you are a long way from your next hoop with two shots and opponents are joined, up or likely to roquet, separate opponents balls before trying to run your hoop.

When joining up on the boundary try not to go too close to your partner ball, rather aim at least two yards either side of the ball i.e. Try not to leave a double for your opponent to aim at.

When joining up with your other/partner ball avoid where possible joining up in the middle of the lawn. This will give your opponent a free shot at your balls.

Avoid setting up in front of a hoop which also belongs to your opponent or when your opponents balls are joined up.

Remember if you going to set up in front of your hoop, you are most likely going to give the innings away after running that hoop unless you can roquet a ball.

Try not to join up your balls when your opponents balls are also joined up.

A wide join (3-5 yards) especially on the boundary can be a good choice or any ball positioned on a boundary is a good choice.

Shooting at your opponents balls on the boundary is a good option as a miss will make it difficult for them to get a break going.

When shooting at your opponents balls hit your ball with enough speed so if it misses it goes over the boundary line.

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When playing your first continuation shot at your opponents, joined up balls try and position your ball so you can rush one of the opponents balls somewhere useful on the lawn.

Be careful where you rush or roquet your other ball as you may be forced to join up with it if things go wrong.

With both your balls touching in the corner consider the position of your balls as it can be critical for your next turn.

When trying to clear an opponents ball in a hoop try and position your ball on a angle so that your ball does not get stuck in the hoop

When joining up in a corner, avoid aiming at your corner ball as a miss will result in touching balls.

Aim to miss the corner area with your ball.

Sometimes hitting a dead ball again with your first continuation shot can be to your advantage especially if the ball is near your other ball.

With three balls in a corner, position the balls so your ball is on the corner spot, the roquet ball is touching your ball and the live ball is touching the roquet ball. (three balls in a line)

A slight tap on your ball into the roquet ball towards the boundary(without going out) will send the live ball away and your ball will be free to rush/roquet the live ball.

## **PRACTICE TIPS**

1. 3-5-7 yard roquets

Start at 3 yards and when can hit 4 out of 5 move onto 5 etc

2. ½ – 1 yard and 45 degrees angle hoop running

Aim to run hoop by at least 2 yards

3. 1 yard rushes and cut rushes

Aim to rush a ball to say the peg or a hoop. Cut rush a ball so strikers ball goes towards a hoop or another ball