



GUIDELINES FOR RICOCHET HANDICAPPING

NEW PLAYERS (NO PREVIOUS CROQUET EXPERIENCE)

December 2024 - Version 2

- 18 BEGINNER LEARNING HOW TO PLAY THE GAME.
- Needs direct and consistent guidance about order of strokes and number of strokes after an event, ie:
 - (a) roquet 2 continuation shots
 - (b) 1 stroke after running hoop
 - (c) that turn ends when striker's ball goes out in a continuation shot without roqueting a ball
 - (d) status of balls during a turn - whether alive or dead
- 16 SOCIAL PLAYER
- Understands the basics of the game sequence of strokes – roquet, 2 continuation shots, hoops in order
 - But needs guidance about fundamentals of the game
 - Generally knows whether balls are alive or dead and the significance of the difference
 - Knows what constitutes end-of-turn
 - Runs hoops from 1 to 2 yards **20%** of shots but has incidents where bombs a hoop repeatedly in a game
 - Runs one hoop at a time and if successful attempts to join up with partner ball as has not placed forward ball
 - Uses bisques only to run hoops when hoop attempt bombs
- 14 KNOWS STROKE SEQUENCE AND ONLY OCCASIONALLY GETS CONFUSED
- Knows fundamental rules about end of turn eg basic faults, ball leaving the court without roqueting
 - Knows to clear a dead ball when rush leaves balls near each other
 - Runs hoops from 1- 2 yds 40% of the time
 - Attempts hoops from > 2 yards with 10% success
 - Roquets balls at 5 yards to 7 yards 40%
 - Commonly prefers to separate opponent's balls and retreats to partner ball rather than set up breaks of more than one hoop
 - In social play still requires guidance about rules

12 BREAK OF 2 HOOPS ONCE PER GAME.

- Learning ball control – positioning of continuation ball to (i) roquet, (ii) set ball up in reasonable hoop running position
- Keen to master basic tactics and skills as evidenced by engagement with experienced partner during games and practicing before and after games
- Runs hoops from 1 to 2 yards 50% of the time and attempts longer hoop shots with 20% success rate
- 50% success rate roquetting balls 5 to 7 yards
- Able to play independently as has sound knowledge of the rules

10 MAKES 2 HOOP BREAKS AT LEAST TWICE PER GAME.

- More consistent with ball positioning to ensure roquets, more accurate (50% of the time) rushing balls to good position
- Roquets 60% of attempts up to 7 yards
- Gaining confidence with hoop running (1-2 yards 60%)
- Understand the tactics
- Learning to use bisques strategically (ie setting up continuation of the turn by positioning the striker's ball near the ball that gives the best potential to set up the lawn for at least a 2 hoop break)

9-8 MAKES 2 HOOP BREAKS AT LEAST TWICE PER GAME.

- Tries to use more than striker's ball and partner ball to establish 2 hoop breaks
- Roquets up to 7 yards 70% of attempts and between 10 yards and 14 yards 20%

7-5 MAKES 3 HOOP BREAKS AT LEAST ONCE PER GAME.

- Regularly creating breaks by positioning pioneer, forward, pivot and escape balls, and consistently uses 3 to 4 balls for breaks
- Runs 2 yard hoops 70% and between 2 and 4 yards 40% of the time

4-3 HAS CONFIDENT BALL CONTROL

- Plays accurate rushes, cut rushes and ricochets
- Good command of tactics, keeping balls inside the square to ensure breaks built and maintained
- Often makes breaks of 4 or more hoops in a game
- Aspires to peg out in 2 hour games

>3 MAKES BREAKS OF 5 HOOPS OR MORE SEVERAL TIMES IN A GAME.

- Regularly pegs out in 2-hour games
- Consistently sets up 4 ball breaks to establish multiple hoop breaks
- Players on this handicap and better will generally achieve this handicap via the AHS
- At this stage there are too few players with handicaps at this level to detail skills and strategy consistently applied



GUIDELINES FOR CONVERTING EXISTING ASSOCIATION AND GOLF PLAYERS' HANDICAPS TO RICOCHET

Association/Golf Handicap	Ricochet Handicap
-3 to -2	Hcp -1
-1 to 0	Hcp 0
1 to 5	add 2
6+	add 3

Examples:

4 Golf Handicap = 6 in Ricochet

7 Association Handicap = 10 in Ricochet

NOTE:

1. For Association Croquet Handicaps round upwards as necessary
2. Where a player has an Association Croquet and Golf Croquet Handicap use the lowest handicap to calculate the Ricochet Handicap

The above are only guidelines there will always be exceptions to the rule and club captains and/or club handicappers should regularly monitor players' ricochet handicaps as compared to their golf and association handicaps and adjust as necessary according to their ability.