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Port Royal Croquet Club Croquet Club of Dataw Island
The Cypress of Hilton Head Croquet Club

2009 Rules Clinic Study Aid for The Official Rules of the USCA American Six Wicket Game

Introduction

The Study Aid for the 2009 Rules Clinic is divided into three parts:

Part One (1) – General Overview. Players at all levels of playing experience should be familiar with the contents of this section. Novice players may elect to limit their attention to Part 1.

Part Two (2) – Situation Analysis - Day to Day Play without a Referee. This section is oriented to situations when a referee is not present to provide rulings or guidance. A player who has advanced beyond the novice level should attempt to complete Parts 1 & 2.

Part Three (3) – Situation Analysis - Tournament Play with a Referee This section is similar to Part 2 except the participants assume the role of a referee. More experienced players should complete this section.

Participants may want to review the questions and answers provided in the 2008 Rules Clinic Study Aid before attempting to complete this questionnaire. The 2008 version can be found in the special topic page of the CCC webpage. www.coastalcroquetclubs.com. Click on the linkage: *Study Aid: 2008RuleClinicStudyAid.pdf* and *Solutions to Questions in Study Aid: 2008RulesClinicStudyAidAnswers.pdf*.

As previous years, the Rules Clinic will be conducted in two sessions. The first sessions are “Classroom Discussions” and the second session “On the Lawn Demonstrations”. A major change from the past years is that the discussion/demonstration leaders will not only provide the correct “solution” to a specific situation but will place attention on how to minimize the negative effects of situations that do not necessary result in a fault. This is most relevant to Part 2 since some of the responses to the situations in Part 2 will not correlate to a specific Numbered Rule. This can be contrasted to Part 3 where most solutions can be correlated to specific Numbered Rules.

Part 1 General Overview

1-1 List the order of play for Six Wicket croquet.
(Example: red, yellow, etc.) _____, _____, _____, _____.

1-2 Color of crown on Wicket-6 back. _____

1-3 Color of crown on Wicket-1. _____

1-4 Color of the flag on the Southeast corner of the lawn court. _____

1-5 Color of Yellow's partner ball. _____

1-6 The responsibility of deadness board is: a) Board Keeper, b) All players for all balls, c) Each player for his/her ball(s), d) Each player for opponent's balls.

1-7 If your opponent scores Wicket-1 back in 26 Point Croquet or Wicket-4 in 14 Point Croquet you may take specific action regarding deadness of your balls. What is this action?

1-8 The responsibility to ensure that balls are placed in bounds correctly is: a) Board Keeper, b) All players for all balls, c) Each player for his/her balls, d) Each player for opponent's balls.

1-9 What action should a striker take if he notices that he did not shoot into or move the roqueted ball in his croquet shot?

1-10 The ultimate responsibility to assure that all clips are placed correctly is: a) Board Keeper, b) All players for all clips, c) Each player for his/her clips, d) Each player for opponent's clips.

1-11 The starting area where a ball is placed to begin a game is 36 inches in the south direction from the wicket. In the east/west direction the edge of the ball can be placed X inches from the centerline of the wicket where X equals: a) 9 inches, b) 12 inches or c) 4.5 inches.

1-12 If a ball cannot be placed in the starting area due to the presence of other balls, it (the ball to start in the game) shall be placed up to _____ inches in the east or west directions of the starting area.

1-13 The penalty for a fault will include: a) end-of-turn, b) end-of-turn depending on type of fault, c) not end-of-turn.

1-14 Balls not-in-the-game are dead on balls in-the-game. Balls in-the-game are dead on balls not-in-the game. The two statements are: a) true for both statements, b) not true for both statements, c) true for one of the statements.

1-15 When a striker ball is in-the-game, balls not-in-the-game a) can or b) can not be lifted. When a striker ball is not in-the-game, balls in-the-game a) can or b) can not be lifted.

1-16 to 20 The dimensions of a Standard Court are based in five (5) units long and four (4) units wide with unit of length of 21 feet (thus standard court is 105 by 84 feet). When a lawn court playing area is too small to accommodate a standard court the same 5 by 4 proportions should be used in setting up a modified court. All players should know how to setup not only standard sized lawn courts but also lawn courts that are less than full sized. Complete the lawn court size matrix in the table below for courts that are less than full sized. The full sized standard court is provided as Court #1.

Distance in Feet							
Ct. #	Court Length	Court Width	Corner Wickets to East or West Boundary	Corner Wickets to North or South Boundary	Wicket 6 To North Boundary	Wicket 5 To South Boundary	Wickets 5 & 6 to Center Post
1	105	84	21	21	31.5	31.5	21
2				20			
3				16			
4		60					
5					27		
6							17

Provide brief definitions for the following croquet terms:

1-21 Roquet Shot

1-22 Croquet Shot

1-23 Rush

1-24 Rover

1-25 Cannon

1-26 Stalk

1-27 Take-Off

1-28 Double Bank

1-29 Peel

1-30 Block or Stymie

Part 2 Situation Analysis- Day-to-Day Play - Referee Not Present

Part 2 is oriented to situations when **referees are not** present. Game situations are based on playing under tournament conditions; i.e. playing without use of bisques, “do-overs”, coaching, mentoring, etc. How do you as a player (player can be the striker, striker partner, or opponents) respond to the described situation. The correct response to some situations is to do nothing.

Example: In a double bank game blue solids is about to take his turn and a stripe ball is in the direct path of where blue intends to hit his ball. Blue’s and/or red’s response.

Response: *Either blue or red should ask permission from the players of the stripe game to mark and lift the stripe ball.*

Blue is not dead on red. Blue is getting ready to attempt a roquet shot on the red ball that is slightly intruding into the jaws of the wicket.

2-1 Blue’s response.

2-2 Blue does not respond to the situation. Red’s response.

Blue roquets yellow and is thus ball-in-hand. Blue’s partner (black) picks up the blue ball and places it in contact with yellow. Blue steps up to take the croquet shot without repositioning the blue ball.

2-3 Red’s response.

Blue is for wicket-2. Blue roquets red. He successfully completes his croquet shot. On the continuation shot blue hits his blue ball in front of wicket-2. He then hits the blue ball through wicket-2 and the blue ball goes out of bounds. The blue ball is brought in-bounds and the blue clip is placed on wicket-3. Red shoots. Black is about to shoot when the players realizes that during blue’s previous turn blue took two continuation shots after the successful croquet shot.

2-4 Blue’s and/or red’s response.

Blue roquets the black ball. He picks up the black ball and places it in contact with the blue ball. He takes his croquet shot by striking the blue ball and makes eight more wickets before his turn ends. Red is about to shoot when they realize that prior to the original croquet shot black was moved to blue.

2-5 Blue’s and/or red’s response.

Blue roquets the black ball. He picks up the black ball and moves it in contact with the blue ball. He takes his croquet shot striking the blue ball and makes several wickets before his turn ends. Red shoots. Black is about to shoot when the players realize that prior to the original croquet shot black was moved to blue.

2-6 Blue's and/or red's response.

Blue went though wicket-2. Prior to taking his continuation shot he places his clip on Wicket-6 rather than Wicket-3. Blue steps up to his ball to take the continuation shot when red realizes that blue placed his clip incorrectly.

2-7 Red's response

Blue is for wicket-4, dead on the red and black balls, and is blocked from making the wicket by red. Blue calls for the first block and passes. Red shoots away from wicket to clear the block. Black plays. Yellow roquets black and on the subsequent croquet shot hits black through the playing side but not the non-playing side of wicket. Yellow hit the yellow ball out of bounds. It is blue's turn.

2-8 Blue's response.

Blue is not dead on black. However, the board reflects that blue is dead on black. Yellow shoots. Blue roquets black. Red says blue is dead on black.

2-9 Blue's response. .

Blue is not dead on black. However, the board reflects that blue is dead on black. Yellow asks if the board is correct and the response is yes. Yellow takes his turn. Blue roquets black. Red stops play and says blue is dead on black.

2-10 Blue's and/or red's response.

Blue is on the southwest boundary when he hits the blue ball across the court to the east boundary. Red who was standing near the position where the blue ball went out of bounds asks "may I place the blue ball in for you"?

2-11 Blue's response.

Blue is on the southwest boundary when he hit the blue ball across the court to the northeast corner where the black ball is positioned. The blue ball hits the black ball and both go out of bounds in the corner. Red who was standing near the corner asks "may I place the blue and black balls in?"

2-12 Blue's response.

Red and blue are playing singles. It is blue's turn. Blue steps up to hit his black ball. Red realizes that the correct ball to be played is blue.

2-13 Red's response

Many Croquet matches are played under “Double Bank” conditions. Assume the next five situations (2-14 to 2-18) occur with double bank play. Your response should be directed to both the stripe players and the solid players. Assume the games are not in the time element that will permit interference time outs. If the response includes marking of ball(s); identify who should mark, lift and replace the ball(s).

All of the stripe balls are for wicket-2, and all stripe balls except the yellow stripe, are near wicket-2. Yellow stripe is near wicket-4 in a non-critical position. It is blue stripe’s turn. Black solid is about to roquet red solid. However, yellow stripe is in the way.

2-14 Solids’ and/or stripes’ response.

Yellow stripe completes his turn with blue stripe about 36 inches in front of his next wicket, wicket-1 back. When yellow stripe’s turn ended black solid, for wicket-2, had just rushed red solid between wicket-2 and wicket-6.

2-15 Solids’ and/or stripes’ response

Red stripe has just scored wicket-4 and on a four ball break, He roquets yellows stripe and on the subsequent croquet shot places yellow stripe in a critical spot near wicket-6 and his red ball near blue stripe by the center post. Black stripe is about 12 feet north of wicket-5. Black solid is about to take a long shoot at the penultimate wicket and there is a slight chance that if successful it could hit the yellow stripe ball. Both solids and stripes recognize that yellow stripe is in critical position at the wicket and that the chances of black making the wicket and hitting yellow is remote.

2-16 Solids’ and/or stripes’ response

Red stripe, on a four ball break, is about to attempt a relatively easy shot at wicket-5 with the blue stripe ball near the center post. The yellow stripe ball is in a critical spot near wicket-6. Black solid is about to take a long shoot at the penultimate wicket and there is a slight chance that if successful it could hit the yellow stripe ball. Both solids and stripes recognize that yellow stripe is in critical position at the wicket and that the chances of black making the wicket and hitting yellow is remote.

2-17 Solids’ and/or stripes response

Both blue stripe and black solid are taking relatively long shots when they collide.

2-18 Solid and/or stripe response

Blue attempts to roquet yellow. After the attempted roquet shot he takes the blue ball as ball-in-hand and places it against yellow for the croquet shot. Red says the blue ball didn’t hit the yellow ball

2-19 Blue's response.

2-20 Red's response.

When blue attempts a take-off croquet shot he seldom, in red's opinion, moves the ball. It happens again in blue's last croquet shot.

2- 21 Blue's response.

2-22 Red's response.

Red is a very deliberate player and he seems to take more time than the 45 seconds between shots. Blue decides to call him on the situation.

2- 23 Blue's response.

2- 24 Red's response

One of the best teachers in the club has dropped by to watch the game. During the game, he makes some suggestions.

2-25 Red's and/or blues' response.

Part 3 Situation Analysis – Tournament Play with a Referee

Your are an appointed referee. Provide your rulings for the situations below.

3-1 With 2 seconds left in the game, blues hit the blue ball from near the southeast corner to the northwest corner. Immediate after blue strikes his ball red calls time-out.

3-2 During a croquet shot, the striker ball catches up with the croqueted ball and hits the croqueted ball more then once.

3-3 Black and blue are dead on yellow and red. Blue roquets black resulting in black hitting red and blue bouncing off black to hit yellow.

3-4 Both blue and red are for wicket-1 back. Blue roquets red which ends up against the leg of the wicket. Since red is against the wicket you are asked to observe the croquet shot. On the subsequent croquet shot blue crushes red against the leg of the wicket and it (blue) scores the wicket.

3-5 The game has just begun and blue has played. Red picks-up the black ball, places it in the starting area and strikes the black ball. You are called to determine if an error has been committed and if so, to place the effected balls.

3-6 Blue hits red. Blue and red agree that blue was dead on red. However, they don't agree the exact place where red should be replaced.

3-7 When the striker (blue) roquets black the mallet touches yellow on the follow through stroke.

3-8 Blue and black are for wicket-5. Blue roquets black. On the croquet shot blue peels black through the playing side of the wicket but not through the non-playing side. You are called on the court by blue and are asked if black has made the wicket and if he (blue) can score the wicket on his continuation shot.

3-9 Red is not dead on yellow. The deadness board shows red dead on yellow. Blue ask red if the board is correct and he says it is. Blue takes his turn. Red roquets yellow and blue objects and calls you out for a ruling.

3-10 You are called out to the court by both teams. You were able to ascertain that blue was for wicket-3 when he went to wicket-6 and “scored” the wicket (in the wrong direction), wicket-5 (in the wrong direction) and wicket 3-back. Since both red and blue believe blue had scored wicket-1 back red asked to be cleared from deadness. Red, black and yellow take their turns. On blue’s next turn he “scores” wicket-4 back and was getting ready to take a continuation shot when he realized something may be wrong and calls you in for a ruling.

3-11 Blue is rover. He roquets yellow through wicket-1 back. Before he takes his croquet shot he asks to clear blue of deadness.

For discussion purposes may restate the situation with blue peeling yellow through the wicket on the croquet shot. Answer is slightly different.

3-12 Yellow is not in-the-game and is on the playing side of wicket-1. Blue goes through wicket-2 back. Blue roquets black and on the roquet shot cannons yellow through wicket-1. Blue take its croquet shot off black and on his subsequent continuation shot rushes yellow to wicket-3 back. Red asks for a ruling.

3-13 Time is about to run out. On a relatively hard drive black scores wicket 6 without touching either leg. Black goes to the north boundary to see if the ball is in play (which it was). Yellow quickly played, followed by blue who takes a hurried shot immediately after time ran out. Black protests saying I didn’t get a chance to take my continuation shot.

3-14 Blue is on the west boundary away from all other balls. Blue completely mis-hits his ball and clearly strike the ball on the beveled edge. Red asks for a ruling.

3-15 Red is just touching the right leg of his next wicket. He calls you out to observe the shot. You ask him to what he is going to do. He says he is going to strike the mallet across the ball in order not to have any follow through of the mallet head. You mark the ball and he does as he said he was going to do and the ball spins through the wicket. Your ruling?

3-16 Red say blue/black does not move the ball on his take off shot. How do you respond?

3-17 Black complains that red/yellow is taking more than 45 seconds in his shots and calls you to get him to speed up play.

3-18 Blue is for wicket- 4 and at the northwest corner. The red player is standing near wicket-4 on the east boundary. The yellow ball is against the leg of wicket-4. Blue takes a long hard stroke. Blue claims he roqueted yellow and is now ball in hand. Red says he was standing near wicket and it was obvious that the blue ball hit the leg and not the yellow ball.

3-19 Blue goes through wicket-1 back and hits the ball out of bounds. The blue ball is brought in bounds. Red says "pass" and we would like to clear yellow. Black protests.

3-20 List the times when a referee can intervene in a game.