

Etiquette for Association Croquet

Players

A player should not take advantage of unsolicited information or advice. He may not consult a spectator without the express permission of his adversary. He is entitled to receive advice from his partner in doubles play but both players must not waste time with prolonged discussions.

Referee's Decisions

Players on the court should accept with good grace all decisions on fact given by a referee/umpire. If a player is dissatisfied, there are proper avenues of appeal to follow. (Regulation 17.1 and Regulation 18.3, 18.4, 18.5, and 18.6) but he/she should note there is no appeal on fact. There is no place for intimidation of referees and umpires in croquet.

Expedition in Play

A player should play his strokes with reasonable despatch and note that unnecessary delays in timed-limit games are outside the spirit of the game and subject to penalty.

Presence on Court

A player should not remain on the court while his adversary is playing and when off the court refrain from audible comment, conversation or physical movement distracting to his adversary. He should not stand in the player's line of aim or allow his shadow to distract. A player should not move onto the court until it is clear his adversary has finished but he must advise his adversary to complete his turn if he observes the striker is about to quit the court in the erroneous belief that his turn has ended.

Interruption of Striker

A player should note that in the absence of a referee in charge of a game, both he and his adversary are joint referees of the game and as such, each is entitled to enquire of the other as to the state of the game at all times. If a player suspects that his next stroke may be questionable, he must consult his adversary. It is the striker's duty to take the initiative and should he not do so, he has no justification for taking offence at his adversary's request for a referee to observe the stroke. The out-player should not interrupt the striker except to discharge his duty as a referee of the game.

Replacing Balls and Clips

A player should ensure that all balls are, as required, correctly replaced and when placing a ball on the yard-line, do so with his back to the court. It is the duty of a player in making a point for any ball, to remove the clip immediately and to ensure that at the end of his turn, all clips moved are correctly placed. The consequences of playing when misled are embodied in Law 31.

Conduct of the Game

All players should familiarize themselves with Laws 12 and 47 to 55 relating to the conduct of the game.

Conclusion of Game

At the conclusion of a tournament game, the winner should immediately return all the balls to the baulk line and replace the four clips on the first hoop. He should then, without delay, report the result of the game and the score to the Manager of the Tournament. At least acknowledge your adversary's presence, for without him there would have been no game. It is easy to be a good winner but at times difficult to be a good loser. Croquet is a game in which there are no tied results. It is only a game after all and, win or lose, the sun will still rise the next day.

Spectators

Spectators should refrain from audible comment on the game; from offering advice to players during a game, and from calling attention to any error committed or about to be committed by any player. Spectators should refrain from moving around the lawn if this action could cause distraction to a player, particularly in his line of play.

Croquet New Zealand Code of Conduct

Foreword: *In an attempt to ensure and regulate acceptable behaviour on the lawns and in club houses, Croquet New Zealand's Executive has formally adopted this Code. This Code of Conduct is binding on all players playing in Croquet New Zealand sanctioned tournaments and events. Players participating in Croquet New Zealand invitation events have received a copy of the Code and those entering national tournaments will be provided with a copy to sign and return upon receipt of their entry. Should a player's behaviour contravene this Code and a formal complaint is received by the National Office, that player can be sanctioned by the Executive of Croquet New Zealand under paragraph 19 of the Constitution.*

1. PURPOSES

The purposes of this Code are:

- 1.1 to ensure and maintain an orderly and fair administration and conduct for Croquet NZ sanctioned events, and to protect the players' rights and the respective rights of Croquet NZ, sponsors, and the public;
- 1.2 to uphold the good name of Croquet NZ and the integrity of the sport of croquet worldwide.

2. APPLICABILITY

- 2.1 This Code is applicable to all Croquet NZ sanctioned events and the players participating in them.
- 2.2 All players, at all times, shall be subject to the Code, Laws, Rules and Etiquette of Croquet. Each player who is entered or nominated to participate in a Croquet NZ sanctioned event shall accept this Code, the CNZ Tournament Regulations and the Laws of Association Croquet and the Rules of Golf Croquet and then, in effect, is bound by them.
- 2.3 Any player who commits any offence defined in clauses 3 to 5 shall be deemed to have breached this Code. Breaches of the Code constitute the basis for disciplinary action against the player in accordance with the Croquet NZ Policy on Misconduct and Disciplinary Procedures as outlined in the Constitution and appendix.

3. PLAYER COMMITMENT AND ENTRY OFFENCES

- 3.1 Late withdrawal (from International Tournaments) Withdrawing from either the qualifying or main event after being selected to play at the event without evidence or proof of "bona fide" injury, illness, bereavement or other emergency situation.

4. PLAYER ON-SITE OFFENCES

The following are examples of breaches of this code:

4.1 Inappropriate conduct

During any match or at any time while within the precincts of the site of a Croquet NZ sanctioned event, a player will be deemed to have breached the code if he/she does not behave in an honourable and sportsmanlike manner.

4.2 Dress violations

Failing to dress and present oneself for play in a suitable manner. Clean and acceptable croquet sport clothing shall be worn.

4.3 Failure to complete a match

Except with the managers permission, failing to complete a match in progress unless reasonably unable to complete the match.

4.4 Late arrival for match

4.4.1 Arriving late for a match, resulting in disqualification.

4.4.2 Withdrawing from any event in a tournament whilst still fit enough to compete on the same day in another event in that said tournament, i.e. players may not default without good reason from one event to concentrate their efforts in another during the same tournament.

4.5 Failure to use best efforts

Not using one's best efforts to win a match unless there are genuine medical or valid sporting tactical reasons. Players should also be aware that they are subject to the Anti-Match-Fixing and Sports Betting Policy of Croquet New Zealand.

4.6 Trying to Influence Officials

Trying to influence the decision of officials by arm, hand, mallet or verbal gestures.

4.7 Seeking coaching

Seeking coaching during play except as permitted under the Laws. Communication of any kind, audible or visible, between a player and a coach may be construed as coaching.

4.8 Audible obscenity

Using words commonly known and understood in any language to be profane or indecent and uttered clearly and loudly enough to be heard by other players, officials or spectators.

4.9 Visible obscenity

Making of gestures or signs with the hands and/or croquet equipment or clothing that commonly has an obscene or offensive meaning.

4.10 Abuse of equipment

Intentionally hitting any croquet equipment being used in the game dangerously or recklessly within or out of the court, hitting any equipment with negligent disregard for the consequences, or deliberately damaging equipment.

4.11 Verbal abuse

Making a statement directed at an official, opponent, spectator or other person that implies dishonesty or is derogatory, insulting or otherwise abusive. For clarity, making any statement in good faith, and in a reasonable manner, while discharging one's duty as a joint-referee is unlikely in itself to be considered Verbal Abuse.

4.12 Physical abuse

Physically abusing an official, opponent, spectator or other person. Even the unauthorised touching of such persons may be regarded as physical abuse.

4.13 Conduct that is not good sportsmanship

Conducting oneself in a manner that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the sport.

5. PLAYER MAJOR OFFENCES

5.1 Conduct contrary to the integrity of the game

Engaging in conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of croquet. If a player is convicted of serious violation of a criminal law of any country, the punishment for which includes possible imprisonment, that player may be deemed by virtue of such conviction to have engaged in conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of croquet. In addition, if a player has at any time behaved in a manner severely damaging to the reputation of the sport, that player may be deemed by virtue of such behaviour to have engaged in conduct contrary to the integrity of the game of croquet.