

From time to time, between full revisions of the *Golf Croquet Rules*, the WCF Golf Croquet Rules Committee intends to release Official Rulings. They are prepared in response to questions about how particular Rules should be applied and have the same standing as the Rules themselves. The first set of such Rulings are given below and are effective immediately.

Rule 5 Rulings:

- 5.1** A game starts when a player strikes or attempts to strike a ball with the intention of starting the game.
- 5.2** Balls are outside agencies until they are played into the game in accordance with rule 5. If it is noticed that a wrong ball has been played before all four balls have been played into the game, the game reverts to its state after the last turn played correctly in sequence.
- 5.3** If the striker commits a non-striking fault before the ball is played in one of the first four turns of the game the ball remains an outside agency until it is played from the starting area in a later turn.
- 5.4** If the striker commits a striking fault in one of the first four turns, the ball has been played into the game irrespective of whether the opponent chooses to leave it where it stopped or to have it replaced in the position it occupied in the starting area before the fault was committed.

Rule 6 Ruling:

- 6.1** If a player while preparing to strike a ball, makes contact with another ball, not the striker's ball, and before striking the ball he intends to strike, the contact is a non-striking fault and not the playing of a wrong ball.

Rule 8 Ruling:

- 8.1** If a player acts on incorrect information given by the opponent and it is discovered before that player plays the same ball again, the player shall have the choice of a replay or allowing the play to stand, including any points scored in order.

Rule 9 Rulings:

- 9.1** When two sides play simultaneously or nearly simultaneously, so that two balls are in motion at the same time, the striker is deemed to have played first irrespective of the actual order in which the two strokes were played and the other side commits a non-striking fault. If the commission of the fault affects the outcome of the striker's play, the striker may choose to have all balls affected by the fault replaced in the positions they occupied before either stroke was played and to replay the turn. If the striker's ball runs a hoop in order or causes another ball so to do after being affected by the fault, the striker may choose to waive the fault and score the point and, in that case, the other side does not lose its next turn.
- 9.2** When both players of a side play simultaneously or nearly simultaneously so that two balls are in motion at the same time the striker's play stands and the partner has committed a non-striking fault. No replay is permitted.
- 9.3** If an outside agency, other than a scoring clip, is in place before a stroke is played, and the outside agency is hit by a moving ball, then Rule 9(f) does not apply. The opponent has the choice of leaving the moving ball where it stopped or of placing it where the opponent felt it would have stopped if there had been no interference. In particular no replay is permitted.

9.4 Scoring clips, whether on the ground or on a hoop, are outside agencies (Rule 9(d)). As such they should be removed before a stroke is played if the ball is likely to hit the clip. **If the clip is not removed and the ball does hit it then the ball stays where it has stopped, there is no replay, and no point is scored in that turn.** If a clip which is dropped after the striker has played, is hit by a moving ball then Rule 9(f) applies.

Rule 10 Rulings:

10.1 The exemption under Law 10(b)(2) shall not apply to a ball whose owner misses a turn in that position because of a non-striking fault.

10.2 The exemption under Rule 10(b)(3) does not result from a ball being played away from an opponent ball with which it was in contact

10.3 Reference to the play of the owner of an offside ball in Rule 10(c)(2), includes play by the partner in a doubles game and play of either of the owner's balls in a singles game.

Rule 12 Ruling:

The provisions of clause 12(b) shall not apply to a striker during the period between when the striker's mallet makes first contact with the striker's ball and when the striker leaves his stance under control"

[The above Ruling 12(b) written in English: "by striking the ball the striker cannot commit a non-striking fault." ☺]

Rule 15 Ruling:

15.1 A referee should only intervene under Rule 15(b)(4)(iii) if he is personally watching the game and is able to stop play immediately after the stroke in which a hoop is incorrectly run.