

WCF Golf Croquet Rules Committee

The following Official Rulings and Commentary take effect from 1 October 2018.

OR 6.4.4 Rule 6.4.4 is to be interpreted as if it read: “Both sides are responsible for ensuring that all balls, other than an outside agency which will not be played in the next stroke, are correctly positioned before a stroke is played. There is no remedy if a ball is played from an incorrect position.”

OR 6.5.2 Rule 6.5.2 is to be interpreted as if it read “A ball remains an outside agency until it is next played into the game or from a penalty area or, if has been temporarily removed from the game under Rules 5.3.2, 6.6.2 or 17.2.1, until it is replaced on the court.”

This amendment removes the implication that a ball played into the game from an incorrect position on the boundary remains an outside agency and deals with the status of a ball temporarily removed from the game.

OR 6.7 Rule 6.7 is to be interpreted as if it read “If a ball *touching the boundary* is not played into the court but hits another ball, all balls moved as a result of the stroke are replaced in the positions they occupied before the stroke was played and any points scored as the result of the stroke are cancelled.”

The purpose of Rule 6.7 is to prohibit playing a ball touching the boundary slightly out of court in order to strike and move another ball that is just inside the boundary. The rationale is that a ball touching the boundary is an outside agency until played and, if not played into court, remains an outside agency and therefore cannot lawfully move another ball. However, Rule 6.7 does not prohibit playing a ball touching the boundary so that it immediately leaves the court without hitting another ball or declaring that a stroke has been played with such a ball.

OR 8.3 The exemptions under Rule 8.3 do not apply to a ball whose owner has declared a stroke to have been played with it since it reached its final position.

Example: Blue scores hoop 1 after Yellow, having hit Black, has stopped just north of hoop 3. Red plays into position and Black scores hoop 2. Yellow is not an offside ball under Rule 8.3.3 and may therefore attempt to score hoop 3 in its next turn. However, if Black stops in the jaws of hoop 2, Yellow will become offside with respect to hoop 3 if its owner declares that a stroke has been played with Yellow in its next turn and hoop 2 is then scored by Black.

- OR 9.5.4 A replay is permitted if a ball becomes jammed when a player is attempting to cause it to pass through the hoop from the non-playing side.
- Accordingly, Rule 9.5.4(a) is to be interpreted as if the words “run the hoop” were replaced by the words “pass through the hoop in either direction”.
- OR 9.5.5 A replay is not permitted if a fault is committed in a stroke which causes a ball to become jammed in a hoop above another ball unless it is agreed by the players (or a referee, if present) that the fault was committed only because the equipment was defective.
- Accordingly, Rule 9.5.5 is to be interpreted as if the following sentence was appended: “However, if Rule 9.5.4 (b) applies and no replay is permitted, all balls moved as the result of the stroke are to be replaced in the positions they occupied before the stroke was played.”
- OR 19.5 Rule 19.5 is to be interpreted as if it contained a new Rule 19.5.5 which states: “A player who has indicated that an extra stroke will not be played, including revoking a decision to play an extra stroke under Rule 19.5.4, may not then change that decision.”

Commentary

Rule 10.3

- (a) The term “partner ball” in Rule 10.3.1 refers to the ball belonging to the striker’s side that is not the current striker’s ball in both singles and doubles play.
- (b) If the last stroke was played by the non-striking side with any ball then, depending on which side played the previous stroke, either Rule 10.5.4 or Rule 10.6 applies. If the opponents of the non-striking side played the previous stroke, which is the most likely situation, Rule 10.5.4 applies. However, if the non-striking side also played the previous stroke, that side has played two strokes in succession and Rule 10.6 applies.

Rule 15.2

References in the Rules to “a referee (if present)” mean a Supervising Referee, a Referee in Charge, a Referee on Request who is already active or an Inactive Referee who intervenes in accordance with the WCF Refereeing Regulations.