

WCF Advice Sheet

How to organise handicap play in a domain without a handicap system

Scope

Members are encouraged to operate a handicap system. However, where a system is not in operation this document sets out how handicap play can be implemented in order to run a one-off handicap tournament or for individuals wishing to play a handicap game against each other. Given that the results from any such tournament/game do not update a player's handicap, the procedure described below is not a substitute for a full handicap system.

Both GC and AC and are considered.

Basics

The system relies upon the players having an actual or notional World Ranking Grade. An ungraded player can be given a notional grade as described below. The difference in the grades of the two players is calculated and then converted into a number of extra strokes (GC) or bisques (AC) using the look-up tables in the appendices below.

Formal Procedure - Singles

The Dynamic Grades (DGrade) of the players are looked up on the relevant World Ranking System:-

GC <http://rank.worldcroquet.org/gcrankdg/rank.php>

AC <http://butedock.plus.com/cgs/rank.php>

In GC, the player with the lower grade will receive extra strokes (GC – Appendix 2 Table 1 (for a 13 point game)). In AC, bisques may be awarded to one or both players (AC – Law 37(b) modified to allow both players to receive bisques, “Full Bisque” play). The difference (D) between the grades of the two players is calculated and the number of extra strokes or bisques for each player is determined by reference to the tables in Appendix A (GC) or Appendix B (AC). The players can then play a handicap game in the normal way. The Rules or Laws of handicap play can be found here:-

GC:<https://www.worldcroquet.org.uk/documents/Governance/GCRC/WCF%20GC%20Rules%205th%20Edition.pdf> (rule 19)

AC:<https://www.croquet.org.uk/?p=games/association/laws/6th/laws6th> (Laws 37-39)

Formal Procedure – Doubles

GC The principle of Rule 19.3 is applied by calculating the difference between the totals of the grades on each side, determining the number of extra strokes appropriate to that difference by reference to the table in Appendix A and then halving the number of extra strokes and, if necessary, rounding the result upwards.

AC The average grade of each pair is calculated with fractions rounded down. The bisque allowance is then calculated as if the game were a singles game between players with these grades.

Ungraded Players

Players without a grade should be allocated a notional grade (solely for the purposes of performing the calculations in this procedure) by an experienced player, with reference to other players of similar ability. A notional grade of around 1000 (GC) or 800 (AC) is likely to be appropriate for a recent beginner with little experience.

Appendix A – Golf Croquet Extra Turns

Grade Difference (D)	Extra Turns (13 point game)
0-99	0
100-199	1
200-299	2
300-399	3
400-499	4
500-599	5
600-699	6
700-799	7
800-899	8
900-999	9
1000-1099	10
1100-1199	11
1200+	12

Appendix B – Association Croquet Bisques

This is a two-step process having determined an initial number of bisques due from Table 1 a further allowance is added using Table 2.

Table 1

Grade Difference (D)	Bisques (26 point Game)
0-99	0
100-199	1
200-299	2
300-399	3
400-499	4
500-599	5
600-699	6
700-799	7
800-899	8
900-999	9
1000-1099	10
1100-1199	11
1200-1299	12
1300-1399	13
1400-1499	14
1500-1599	15
1600-1699	16
1700-1799	17
1800+	18

Table 2

Players graded 1600 or less receive the following number of bisques in addition to table 1. If both players are graded 1600 or lower this results in both players having bisques.

Grade	Bisques (26 point Game)
1600-1501	+1
1500-1401	+2
1400-1301	+3
1300-1201	+4
1200-1101	+5
1100-1001	+6
1000-901	+7
900-801	+8
800-701	+9
<700	+10

Worked Examples

1900 v 1700 D=200 2 bisques (table 1). No table 2 adjustment.

1900 v 1300 D=600 6 bisques (table 1) + 4 bisques (table 2) = 10 bisques for the 1300 side

1500 v 1100 D=400 4 bisques + 6 bisques (table 2) = 10 bisques for the 1100 side
2 bisques (table 2) for the 1500 side