

Beginner Croquet Coaching: LESSON 4:

This lesson covers:

Rolls Introduction to Basic tactics

REVISION

The grip, the 5 "S's", take-off and leave-behind shots, drives.

ROLLS

A roll is a croquet shot, played with two balls together. The aim of a roll is to send the striker's ball further than in a drive. In a drive, the striker's ball goes about a quarter to a third as far as the croquet ball.

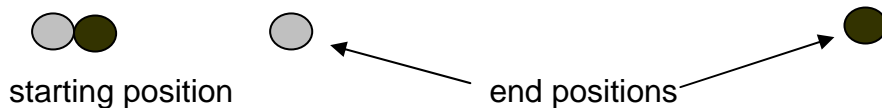
A half-roll is when the striker's ball goes half as far as the croquet ball.

A three-quarter roll is when the striker's ball goes three-quarters of the distance of the croquet ball.

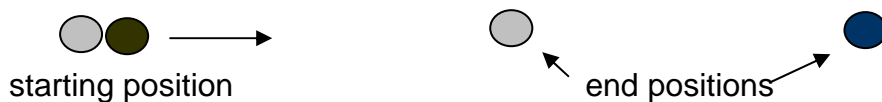
A full roll is when both balls go the same distance.

A pass roll is when the striker's ball goes further than the croquet ball (a difficult shot to play – not advised for beginners!)

DRIVE:



HALF ROLL:



THREE-QUARTER ROLL:



FULL ROLL:



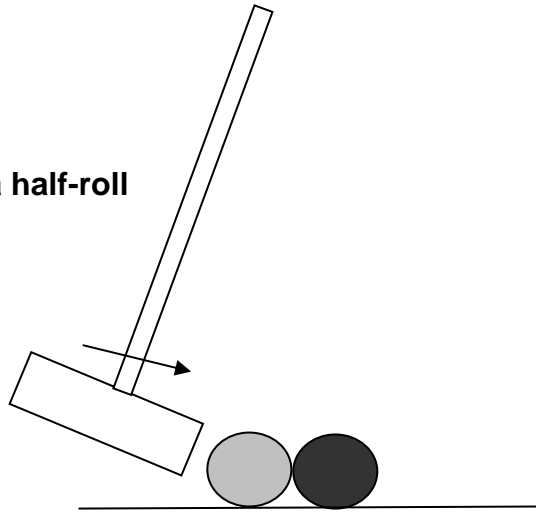
PLAYING ROLLS:

There are many styles for playing rolls; you need to find a style that suits you.

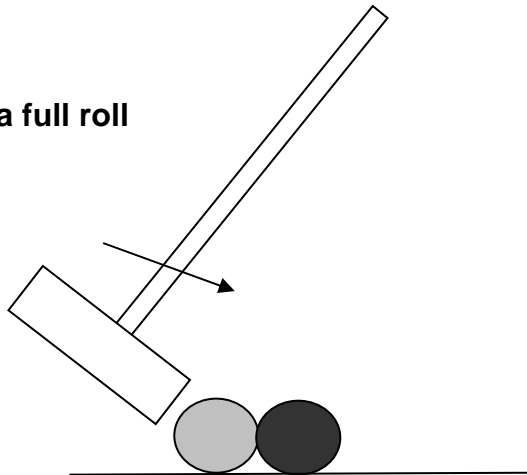
Players generally separate their hands for rolls. Some people play rolls at the side, and some play rolls in the centre.

To play a roll, you hit *down* on the striker's ball, and *sweep through*.

Striking angle for a half-roll



Striking angle for a full roll



BASIC TACTICS

The easiest way to run a hoop is to have another ball – either your partner ball or an opponent's ball – near the hoop you want to run. If you can roquet this ball, then you use the croquet shot to get in front of the hoop, then use the continuation shot to go through the hoop.

When you have gone through the hoop, you have another shot. If you can roquet another ball, you may be able to run another hoop. Going through several hoops in one turn is called a 'break'.

In croquet, the tactics is largely concerned with putting balls near the hoops that you want to run. It is a good system to have one ball near the hoop you want to run now, and a ball near the following hoop. So if you are aiming to go through hoop 1, you should try and organise a ball beside hoop 2 as well.

If the ball you are going to use is not very close to the hoop, you can sometimes use the roquet shot to rush it closer to the hoop.