

CANBERRA CROQUET CLUB HANDICAPS

All Association & Golf Croquet players have a handicap. Non-competition players have a club handicap; competition players receive their handicap through the National Handicapping System (NHS). A player may have a different club handicap to their NHS handicap. Handicaps are based on games won and lost and the relative handicaps of the players. The NHS uses a system somewhat similar to the Elo system for chess. Only singles games count for handicapping purposes.

The Club maintains a record of all social draw game results and these are used to make handicap alterations for members who are non-competition players.

For competition players results in all Club, Regional, State, National and International singles competitions are used to establish official handicaps. Competition players have a NHS handicap card and this must be carried and used when members play in any tournament. Any changes in handicap must be notified to the Club Handicapper. It is recognised that the NHS system may not be able to keep up with a rapidly improving player and there are provisions for non-automatic changes to take place under that system.

If a member is planning on entering an event at the Club or outside they will need to get a NHS handicap card, if they have not already got one, from the Captain before they compete in the tournament.

Full details of the NHS system can be found on the Croquet Australia web site (<http://www.croquet-australia.com.au/>).

Any queries on handicaps, either in general terms or about an individual handicap, should be directed to the Club Handicapper (usually the Captain).

As a guide, the standards of skills for the various broad handicap levels are listed below:

- 24 New Starters
- 20 Starting to play in club draws
 Learning basic laws and able to play an elementary game
 Learning how to set out a break and how to use bisques
 Permitted to take part in tournaments
- 16 Can frequently make breaks of three or more & practising to increase break length
 Learning tactics and more about the laws
- 12 General improvement
 Studying laws about faults in depth
 Learning how to use cannons and more advanced tactics
 Should consider becoming an Umpire
- 8 Can make breaks of 6 or 8 and better tactics in competition
 Generally improving accuracy
 Comprehensive knowledge of the laws & should consider becoming a Referee
 Studying tactics
- 4.5 Able to compete in top tournaments.

Handicaps are in the range from -3 to 24. From 14 and higher handicap steps are 2 bisques; from 5 to 14 steps are 1 bisque; and below 5 steps are ½ bisque. Full details are on the NHS handicap card available from the Captain or the Croquet Australia web site.

There is a World & Australian ranking system which is linked to results from Open tournaments at the Regional level and above. Details on this system and the latest rankings can be found by following the “Rankings” link on the Croquet Australia web site at:
<http://www.croquet-australia.com.au/>