

**Surbiton Croquet Club Beginners' Coaching, Lesson 4**  
**Introduction to Association Croquet (3 of 4)**

**Aim:** to build upon the introduction to Association Croquet made in Lesson 3 by teaching and playing the full range of croquet shots.

**Session 1 (30 mins): Straight croquet shots**

Introduce roquet, croquet continuation by reference back to Lesson 2

**Demonstrate** full drive croquet, stop-shot and roll; pupils mark distances for each ball with bisques

**Explain** ratio depends on shaft, hands, follow-through

**Explain** faults

**Apply** (without casting) in pairs 6 yds apart, croquet to one another as drive, stop and roll

**Repeat** over 10 and 15 yds.

**Session 2 (30 mins): Split croquet shots**

Introduce as a way to get 2 balls to different targets, refer to thin & thick take-offs

**Demonstrate** as drive split to approach hoop, run and then make roquet

**Explain** aiming at mid-point between target positions, weight of hit, pull and faults

**Explain** and check pupil understanding of aligning contact line, the importance of contact, aiming into contact ball, ball must move, the weight of shot and gaining extra shots.

**Apply** in pairs with a coach, standing in triangle 2 yds apart; each pupil in turn splits one ball to the coach and the second to the partner; reverse the balls to practice strikers ball being on different sides of the ball being croquetted.

**Repeat** with each pupil following roquet, split, hoop run, roquet sequence.

**Mid Session break (10 mins)**

**Session 3 (30 mins): Break building – show 4-ball break**

Position 2 balls in standard positions: 1 metre left of peg and as pioneer for hoop 2

Set “dolly” rush to hoop 1

Demonstrate by making first 3 hoops; explain need for rush out of hoop, continuation shots and opportunities to take bisques productively.

**Session 4 (30 mins): Supervised 4-ball break for 2 hoops.**

Use additional coaches and lawns to allow each trainee to try this – taking extra time if necessary.

**Introduce next lesson: it will build upon this one by playing four-ball short croquet**

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