

## GUIDELINES FOR RICOCHET HANDICAPPING

The game of Ricochet is a special form of croquet. Beginners are referred to as SOCIAL PLAYERS until such time when they learn the rules and become sufficiently skilled to enter a tournament. They are then referred to as MATCH PLAYERS, and are required to have a Handicap Card on which the results of the games are recorded.

The CAQ Management Committee recently agreed to change the Ricochet handicap system to three divisions, to allow minimal change from the current system and to facilitate a better spread of players over the major tournaments. The new system (14 to -3) will also allow the keen beginners (rapid improvers) to proceed quickly to a handicap of 12, while the highly skilled players will not be blocked on a handicap of 0. Competition games should not be less than two hours duration.

The club captain will start the beginners on a handicap of 18 or 16, until they are skilled enough to play in a competition. They will then be regarded as a Division 3 Match Player with a 14 handicap, and will be issued with a handicap card.

**Division 3 (14 to 10)** If players with handicaps 14 to 13 lose a game, no index points are lost.

If players with handicaps 12 to 10 lose a game, only half the index points are lost.

**Division 2 (9 to 4)** winners and losers index points increase and decrease by the same amount.

**Division 1 (3.5 to -3)** winners and losers index points increase and decrease by the same amount.

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The following guidelines for ricochet handicapping are based on the player's ability

Beginners	18	Learning the basic rules of the game
Social players	16	
Ready for the first competition	14	<b>Division 3 Match Player</b> Learning ball control and basic tactics
Occasional breaks of 2 with level play	13	
Can play breaks of 3 hoops	12	Practises roquets and hoop running learning to use bisques wisely.
Plays handicap games regularly and understands the tactics	10	
Often breaks of 5 and more	9	<b>Division 2 Match player</b> Has confident ball control with rushes, cuts and ricochets
Looks forward to tournament play	4	
Regular high scorer	3.5	<b>Division 1 Match player</b> Understands advanced tactics and the importance of forward play
Can play tournaments with confidence	-3	

### THE RICOCHET HANDICAP CARD

The Ricochet Handicap Card sets out the relationship between player's index and handicap. The main section of the card is designed for level play, and the section at the base of the card is for handicap play, where the winner always gains 10 index points, with loser's points as indicated.

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