Golf Croquet - Rules, Tips and Tactics No 3

Accidentally moving another ball or accidentally touching your own when you are addressing it.

Croquet is largely a self-refereeing game.
Playing in the spirit of the game means admitting to you opponents when you have made an error.

Examples:

You are getting into position to play your ball. As you walk, your foot or mallet or clothing hits another ball. This is not a fault; the ball is replaced where it was and you carry on with your stroke.

If you are in the process of playing your shot and your clothing or foot touch your own ball, or your mallet, clothing or foot touch another ball, then you have committed a fault.

If you are in the process of addressing your ball and accidentally touch it with the face of your mallet, you have played your shot. That's the time to let your opponent know.

If your mallet touches your own ball but not with the face, it is not a fault but your shot has been played. If it happens when the stroke you are attempting is hampered by a hoop, the peg or another ball, it is a fault.

Consequences
If any of these faults occur, then the opposition can choose

To have the balls replaced where they were before the fault.

Leave the balls where they finished, in which case any point scored for the none offending side will count.

In both cases: no point can be scored for the offending side
the stroke cannot be re-taken
non-offender will continue play with the next ball in sequence

Today's tip

When you run a hoop try to hit your ball sufficiently hard to avoid it stopping as soon as it passes through the hoop. Otherwise, your next shot will be hampered and in effect, wasted.

If your ball is sitting in the jaws of hoop 1, 3, or 5, try to hit it hard enough to reach the next hoop if you can. It might go through that as well, or finish very close. It puts a lot of pressure on your opponent and in effect gains you a shot. It will also be difficult for your opponent to clear.

Next time we will look at the boundary. Where to place your ball, and how to use it to your positional advantage.