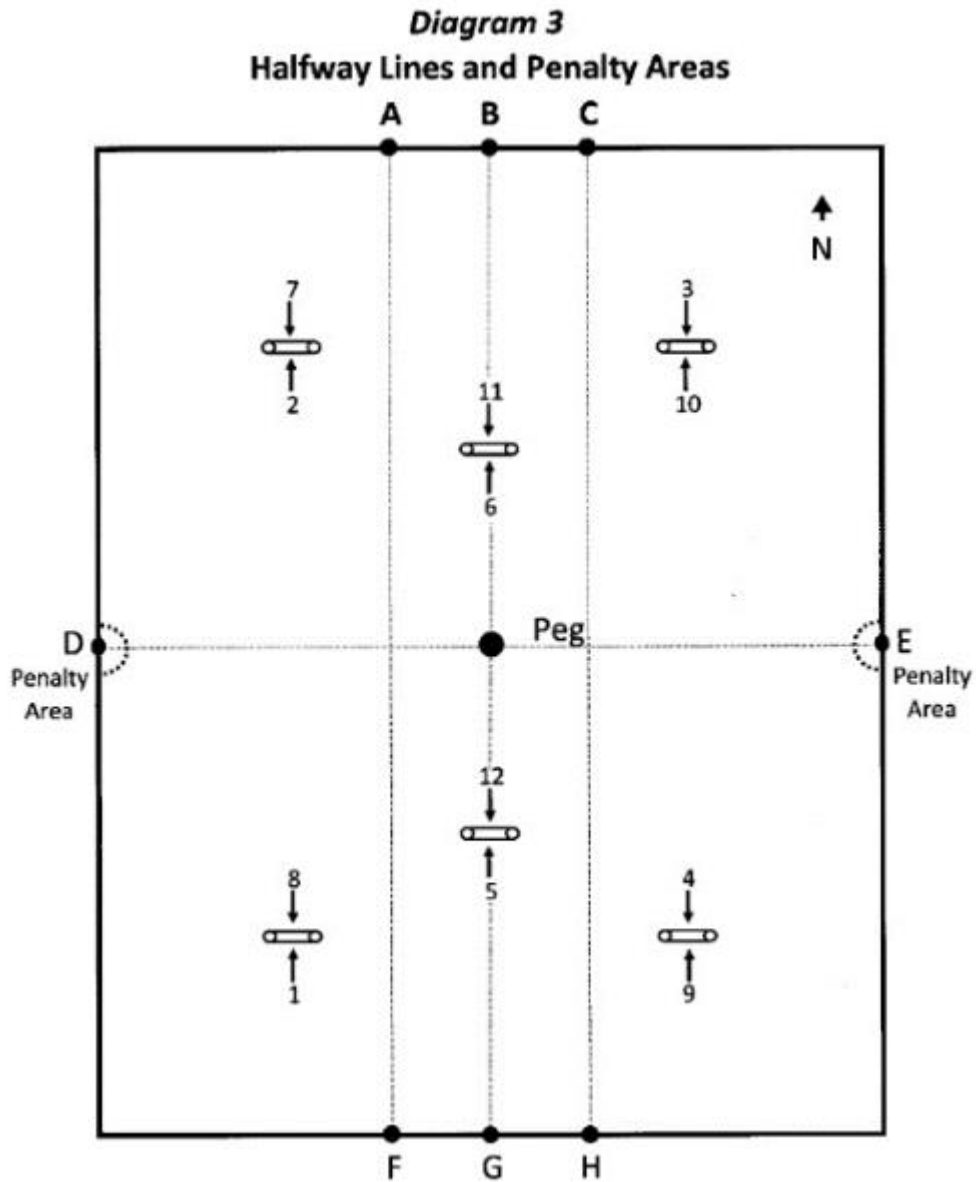


Golf Croquet - Rules, Tips and Tactics No 4

The boundary. Where to place your ball, and how to use it to your positional advantage.



Sizes

The full-sized court is officially 100ft by 50ft but is adjustable to the space available, keeping the sizes in proportion. The same applies to our 2 half courts.

Hoops 1 and 2 are 21 yards apart

Hoops 2 and 3 are 14 yards apart

Hoops 4 and 5 are 7 yards apart

Hoops 5 and 6 are 14 yards apart

The lines showing halfway between hoops are DE, AF, BG and CH

There are 2 Penalty areas at D and E only. The penalty area is a half-circle 1 yard in diameter, so you can place your ball anywhere in the half circle shown.

Starting areas at the corners are 1 quarter of the same sized circle. They are not penalty areas.

The boundary line is the inside edge of the white line around the court.

When playing from the boundary, the edge of your ball need only touch the inside edge of the boundary line when viewed from above.

When clearing a ball and sending it out of bounds, only hit it sufficiently hard to do this, as it will always be brought back to the line before it is played, however far you have sent it. The harder you hit it, the further your ball will travel from the point of contact and you will be further away from the hoop when it stops.

There are times when you want to send your ball out of bounds deliberately. For example, when you run hoop 6 or 12, going out of bounds will give you a much better angle of attack for your next shot. Equally, if you are going half way towards hoop 2 or 4, going out of bounds allows you to accurately determine distance so you can avoid overhitting and finishing up beyond half way and receiving a penalty. It will also give you a better angle to play towards the next hoop from the correct side.

Useful tip.

When it is your turn to play you may feel that it is not possible to play your ball without committing a fault or perhaps you are in such an advantageous position that whatever you do will be an advantage to your opponents, so you can say that you will "Deem". (Your shot is deemed to have been played). This means that you will not strike your ball at all and the next player in sequence will continue.

Next time we will look at "going half way"

Graham