



Nottingham Croquet Club

Rules for play during the Covid-19 pandemic

2021 edition, version 3c. 16/4/2021

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the club committee is keen to ensure all our activities are fully compliant with the letter and intent of the law and relevant guidance, also recognising that croquet is a naturally socially distanced sport and beneficial for physical and mental well-being. Having considered the UK government's "roadmap out of lockdown" announcement on 22nd February, DCMS guidance issued on 8th April and the CA guidance published on 2nd March and updated on 26th March, as well as local considerations, we are issuing this document to detail the appropriate constraints on our play from March 29th until at least stage 3 of the roadmap is reached, subject to any changes in government guidance.

The pavilion and equipment trolleys have extra supplies (including buckets, washing up liquid, wipes etc) and signage to support the required measures.

A: Access and Booking

1. First and foremost, **do not come to the club** if you or someone in your household is experiencing any potential COVID-19 symptoms. Relevant symptoms are listed at www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/. Use the NHS website or helpline and seek advice. Follow all government advice with regard to self-isolation and shielding.
2. Before anyone occupies a lawn, a club member must book the lawn on the club's online booking system specifying who will be playing. If you are having any difficulty using the system then you can book by contacting Rob Edlin-White or Beatrice McGlen, preferably at least a day in advance. A link to the system and guidance for its use are provided on the club's website at www.nottinghamcroquet.org.uk/lawnbooking.
3. For casual club play, up to 6 people are permitted on a full-sized lawn or 4 on a half sized lawn. This limit does not apply to tournaments, nor to organised coaching sessions which are published in advance and where an organiser is responsible for ensuring COVID-safe protocols are observed. Organised coaching may have 6 people plus coaches per lawn or half lawn.
4. We need to keep records and contact details of everyone who has played. For members this will be available via the lawn booking system. For invited visitors we must gather contact details (full name, and email or phone number), and provide these to the club secretary, Ellen Gee, and the lawn booking must be updated with their names.
5. Other visitors and casual passers-by are allowed but must maintain social distancing and not form gatherings of more than 6. Please encourage them to use the QR code on the window of the east pavilion to provide details for track and trace purposes. If they don't have a smartphone, please ask for contact details, and record them on the lawn booking system.

B: Preparation

6. Where possible bring your own mallet. If you leave your mallet at the club it should be clearly labelled with your name (not just initials).
7. Arrive dressed for the game (and for all likely weather conditions) if at all possible. If you need to change footwear, do so outside.
8. Bring a mask or face covering (now compulsory if you enter a pavilion).
9. If you wish to eat and drink, please bring your own supplies and consume them outside.
10. If you do not like washing your hands at the lawn side in a bucket of water and washing up liquid, please bring your own wipes for that purpose.

C: Arrival and setup

11. Once the West pavilion refurbishment works are complete, all required equipment will be stored in the equipment store room there. The padlock on the main entrance and the keycode lock to the level access side entrance use the club's standard 4-digit code number.
12. Pavilions are to be used only for equipment storage, washing hands and equipment, and any necessary toilet usage, **not** for socialising, eating or drinking, changing, cooking, meetings & discussions, using lockers, sheltering from weather etc. Please vacate pavilions promptly after essential activities. Face coverings must be worn and social distancing maintained when inside a pavilion. Please try to have no more than one person per room. Wipes are provided to clean door handles, padlocks etc.
13. Avoid using the toilets if possible. If you do use them, wash your hands beforehand and afterwards, and clean surfaces you have touched (flush handle, door handles, taps etc.) with the wipes provided or soapy water.
14. Fill the bucket for your lawn with sufficient soapy water (use the washing up liquid provided) to cover the balls, and take it with a cloth and the trolley to your lawn. If you are on the east lawns, please use the new outside tap as this will help us keep the kitchen clean. The bucket and cloth can be used at the lawn side for cleaning surfaces touched by more than one person (trolley handles, hoops etc.) and for hand-washing.
15. If you use a club mallet, wash the shaft before and after use. Do not share mallets during a game. We do not have sufficient club mallets for members to reserve one for a whole season.
16. If you need to use a club chair, clean it before and after use. Use the park benches or hut benches where available, or bring your own camping seat. Seats should not be shared.

D: Play

17. During play, and at all times, remain at least 2 metres from your opponent (and anyone else). Observe social distancing guidelines assiduously, including when going to and from the lawn and in and around the pavilion. Consequently, do not shake hands before or after a game.
18. Use your feet rather than hands to position balls where you can do with sufficient precision.
19. Players should be their own referees and acknowledge faults and errors if they occur.
20. Some stop boards may not be in place. If you anticipate a ball may go on to another lawn or to where it may go missing, please ask your opponent to try to stop it by foot or by mallet.

E: After play

21. After play, use the cloth and bucket of soapy water to clean everything that you have touched including the balls, hoops and peg. Unless you are sure the lawn will be used again before the area is left unattended, return equipment to the proper place in the pavilion, empty the bucket (do not leave balls or clips underwater) and finally clean the handles of the bucket and trolley. Wring out the cloth and hang it over the edge of the bucket.
22. Take all rubbish and personal belongings home with you. Do not leave anything in the pavilion or in any indoor or outdoor bins.

Finally, if you have COVID-19 symptoms (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>) or a positive COVID-19 test at any time after playing at the club please let the club secretary, Ellen Gee, know immediately for contact tracing purposes.