

## **Framework for Croquet England coaching qualifications**



The qualities and experience below are intended to offer a general picture of what makes an ideal croquet coach. Qualifications at Grades 1, 2 and 3 are for either AC or GC coaching; the criteria below are therefore to be understood as qualities and experience in AC or GC as appropriate, and are to be read cumulatively, left to right. Some coaches may not fulfil all these criteria but may nevertheless make excellent coaches. Only Croquet England members can be entered into the Croquet England register of approved coaches.

<b>Club-Level Coach</b>	<b>Grade 1 AC Coach / Grade 1 GC Coach</b>	<b>Grade 2 AC Coach / Grade 2 GC Coach</b>
Wishes to develop her/his coaching skills at GC, AC or both to coach in the 'home' club	Has a successful track record as a Club-Level Coach and is keen to progress	Has a strong track record as a Grade 1 coach; can mentor Club-Level and Grade 1 Coaches
Has a welcoming personality, empathy, good interpersonal skills and genuine interest in supporting and helping others	In addition, has the group management skills and presence to build trust and confidence in students	In addition, is recognised as an experienced and authoritative coach who makes a significant difference
Trained to coach beginners and high handicap players within her/his own Club	Able to coach in the appropriate code outside her/his own Club with credibility up to and including AC Bronze level or GC C-level	Has the skill, experience and credibility to coach in the appropriate code up to and including AC Silver level or GC B-level
Has appropriate experience of croquet, both friendly and competitive	Has, or has held, a handicap in the appropriate code of AC 12 or GC 6 or below	Has, or has held, a handicap in the appropriate code of AC 6 or GC 3 or below
Trained to coach an introductory course in sessions of typically an hour and a half	Able to construct and deliver a successful coaching course of half a day or a day	Able to write and successfully deliver a range of coaching courses of one or two full days
Trained to make effective use of the appropriate Croquet England coaching manual for AC or GC	Able to combine relevant aspects of technique and tactics into a coherent coaching sequence in the appropriate code	Able to take an aspect of the game such as the AC break or GC five-shot thinking, and use it as the central thread in a coaching course
Able to direct beginners and high handicappers to appropriate sources of simple practice routines	Able to produce relevant coaching materials to accompany her/his own coaching courses	Able to produce substantial coaching materials of high quality to accompany her/his coaching days
Can coach basic shots, including both when and how to use them in set situations	Can analyse technique in all standard shots in the appropriate code and help students develop accuracy and consistency	Can offer a range of suggested ways in which students might improve both their technique and the mindset aspects of the game
Can coach elementary tactics, including considering simple alternative choices for the next shot	Able to encourage players to think ahead and play the next shot with a view to what will happen with the subsequent shot or shots	Able to encourage players to develop their game strategy combining tactics, technique, the mental approach, and implications of <u>Laws/Rules</u>
Knows the Basic Laws of AC and the Basic Rules of GC well enough to deal with common questions from beginners and high handicappers	Knows the full Laws or full Rules well enough to be able to resolve finer points, referring to the Laws or Rules themselves if needed	Is secure enough in knowing the full Laws or full Rules to be able to resolve discussions and adjudicate disputes on the spot

**Grade 3 coaches** fulfil all the above; are able to coach to any level; will generally have a minus handicap; and are appointed by the Croquet England Coaching Committee by invitation. **Examining Coaches** are, likewise, appointed by the Croquet England Coaching Committee by invitation.