

## Tournament Referee's Opening Address (Version: 11)

**Note: The TR is expected to edit this speech appropriately, depending what type or event it is.**

Good morning. We are assembled here today to enjoy Golf Croquet.

1. I am *{insert name}*, your TR, and the non playing referees are : *{insert names}*.  
This Tournament is played under the 2007 WCF Golf Croquet Rules and Regulations and the ACA Regulations (where the WCF Regulations do not cover).  
(*Optional announcement* ) Those of you who are qualified referees please raise your hands. I now appoint you as Referees of the Tournament. You may now act as Referees-on-Appeal (RoA), Referees-on-Call (RoC) or Spectator Referees (SpR). The reason is: if an officially appointed independent RiC, SuR or RoC is not available, when you are an "outplayer" or resting between game,you can adjudicate, if called. Please note that spectators are **NOT** appointed as Spectator Referees.
2. Players need to remember that they have an obligation of tradition, proper conduct, good manners and protocol. The most significant example of this is stopping play. No player should hesitate to stop play if the player considers that a shot ought to be watched and no striker ought to take offence, it is part of the game, so don't hesitate to call a referee as appropriate.
3. Another example is marking and lifting a ball of another game. It is required under the Rules that you ask permission of the players of the other game **before lifting** the ball as it may be in a critical position even if it is in an open part of the court.
4. Spectators are perhaps the most unappreciated group. For example, they are often left wondering why a referee has not been called to watch what appears to be a hampered stroke.
5. (*For top level events*) Remember you are the "Role Models" and our icons. Your influence on the other (less experienced) players is immense as they follow your examples. Spectators are also favourably impressed by graceful and dignified conduct.
6. Remember too, the elegant, graceful and unmistakable method of calling a referee is to raise the mallet. Strange gesticulations can too easily be mistaken for brushing off a fly or permission to go to the loo.
7. (*If it contains time-limited games*) Players may nominate anyone to be the timekeeper of their game but in the absence of a specifically appointed timekeeper the referee will attempt to discharge this duty, if sufficient referee numbers are available. Otherwise please listen for the timer to ring.
8. The referees are those wearing the yellow jackets. Please see the notice on the notice board as to who are "referees" of this event and in what mode they are operating.

Any questions? If not, I wish you a good Golf Croquet Tournament