

Becoming a Gateball Referee



1. What makes games officials great?

2. Role of Referee

See pages 36 – 41, 2019 Rule Book, and ACA Officials Code of Behaviour, can be located on the GA website www.gateball.com.au. Click on the drop down menu "About gateball" then click on "Officiating, rules and refereeing", then click on the link to "ACA Officials' Code of Behaviour".

3. How is gateball organised, where does Australia obtain rules for gateball and how is gateball refereeing organised?

The **World Gateball Union** is the international body for gateball. There are 16 member countries although others are loosely associated. See http://gateball.or.jp/wgu/about/about_03.html. for more information. One-member organisation holds the "franchise" in each country. The WGU holds meetings by mail/email and occasionally in person in which all countries can have some input into the rules.

Croquet Australia was approached by the **World Gateball Union** over 20 years ago about introducing Gateball and agreed to do so. Croquet Australia (the trading name of the **Australian Croquet Association**) registered the name **Gateball Australia** for its gateball operations. The ACA is run by a board and appoints a **National Coordinator of Gateball** who also becomes a **Director of the WGU**. One of the ACA board members is the contact person for the National Coordinator. He or she raises Gateball issues on the ACA Board. Unless there is a National Coordinator of GB Refereeing, the National Coordinator's role is to **oversee the refereeing system** for Gateball in Australia.

The ACA's members are the State Croquet organisations while individual players are members of their State Organisations. New South Wales [includes the ACT], Queensland and Victoria each have **Gateball players who coordinates** or directs Gateball in their states. In some cases, **(Qld) there is a separate director of refereeing**.

Of your individual payment for annual membership, Approx. \$25 goes to the ACA from State organisations. At the national level, **Gateball Australia is allocated funds** to meet its annual subscription to the WGU and website costs [currently developed and maintained by volunteers] Gateball Australia is allocated funds to promote the game, buy equipment to loan out to new clubs or states and to support teams competing in WGU events through uniform purchase or travel subsidy [small amounts only]! In

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recent years the ACA has allocated a greater proportion of ACA funding to gateball than our small numbers warrant.

The ultimate **source for International Gateball Rules is the World Gateball Union** who produce a version in English. Past practice has been that rules run for 4 years. A couple of years before a new version is published the WGU call a meeting with representatives from the 16 full members of the WGU. These 16 Countries are usually represented by their Directors although other persons may attend. There are always attempts to simplify the rules, so it is easy for new players to learn them as easily as possible. The impact of rules changes on the strategy of the game is a serious consideration in these discussions. The rules that are developed are the international rules. Some countries vary these for in country competition. In China for example, teams can use laser pointers, angled mallet heads etc. When new rules are decided the rule changes are announced first as a summary that must be used in addition to the old rule books. New rule books are not available until at least several months after they begin to be used [usually April but in Australia we often decide to use them from the beginning of the year].

Although the rules we play by are issued by the WGU there are **other factors that influence our organisation in Australia**. The ACA and thereby Gateball Australia is a **National Sporting Organisation**. To obtain this status the ACA must meet standards set by **Sports Australia**, the **Australian Sports Commission**. For this reason, Gateball Australia has introduced some changes in recent years. We have needed, for example, to develop a **reaccreditation process**. These national requirements have also led us to require Gateball referees to do the **ASC online course**. All these ASC requirements have been grafted on to a process inherited from the WGU and JGU. Gateball has also adopted **procedures from the ACA's wider officiating process** – the code of conduct, a process to deal with individual problems etc.

Our **practical and written exams for referees** were inherited from the model shared with us through the WGU from the Japanese Gateball Union. It explains why the numbering of our levels of referees are the reverse of those for other codes of mallet sports.

Each year, the National Coordinator of Gateball meets, by email with a **referee committee** which comprises state coordinators of refereeing plus several of our international referees. This group discusses and approves issues specific to the Australian context.

Various documents approved by this body are posted on the officiating page

4. Resources for Refereeing - Gateball Australia Website

Go to *www.gateball.com.au/About Gateball/Officiating, Rules and Refereeing*

You will find:

At the top of the page is a link to the latest rules.

Various summaries of fouls and the rules are available through links.

Gateball Australia has agreed to specific modifications for singles, doubles and triples and links are provided to these. Clubs often vary these in the special circumstances for their own club-based competitions.

There is an explanation that Gateball Referees can attain accreditation to three levels: International, Level 1 and 2.

A summary of the steps to become a referee or being accredited at a higher level are available through a link. These steps are all part of Gateball Australia's [procedure for referee accreditation](#) and reaccreditation and are available for download. Each year referees must show they are fit to maintain their accreditation and a link is available to Gateball Referee Reaccreditation Cards.

The ACA has an overarching ACA Officials Code of Behaviour which Gateball referees are obliged to sign and follow.

Current Gateball referees from each state are listed as well as those who have become inactive. This list is kept up to date by information collated by state coordinators.

Finally, there are some resources to assist clubs and players:

- Instructions on how to make a gatesetter and to ensure your painted lines are really clear
- A pamphlet on what to do if points are tied.
- Processes in case of a forfeit.

Under **downloads** you can find a large copy of the Score Sheet as shown on page 88 in the rule book as well as a description of the role of a tournament referee.

Under the events tab and in a preamble before *Register an Event*, is a link to a document that outlines Gateball Australia's interpretation of the ACA Tournament Regulations.

5. Health and Safety

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The online course, Playing safely, legal and risk management responsibilities, First Aid.

Playing in adverse weather conditions: State Health, Safety and Adverse Weather policies.

6. Learning the Rules

There is no shortcut to this process other than looking through the rulebook and constantly referring to it. Some like to write down notes, the headings and references from page 5 to page 80 inclusive of this document may help you to do this if it is your best method of learning.

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Duties of Referees

No.	Duties	CR	AR	REC	LINE
1	CR shall lead the game in accordance to the Game Rules.				
2	CR shall have the right to make decisions to problems arising during the game that are not included in the Game Rules.				

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3	Coin toss.				
4	Confirm the leading and following teams.				
5	Announce "Play Ball".				
6	Announce "Game Set".				
7	Announce the playing order.				
8	Approve and announce any player substitution.				
9	Announce "Time" when a game is interrupted.				
10	Announce the restart of the game.				
11	Implement appropriate measures against play interference.				
12	Disqualify the game.				
13	Confirm the record game results following the game.				
14	Decide the winner. [receive signatures from the captains of both teams]				
15	Inspect the ground.				
16	Decide and announce out-balls. Replace appropriately.				
17	Place the out-balls in an appropriate position.				
18	Give warnings to a manager or player who does not comply with the essential rules governing the manager and players.				
19	Confirm details on player order form and playing order.				
20	Inspect equipment and uniforms.				
21	Decide and announce successful passes through the gate.				
22	Decide and announce successful finishes.				
23	Decide and announce successful touches				
24	Decide and announce fouls.				
25	Implement appropriate measures for fouls.				
26	Respond to questions about the game.				
27	Respond to confirmations by a stoker.				
28	Temporarily move balls.				
29	Respond to invalid movements of a ball.				
30	Determine play interference.				
31	Jointly assume the duties 13 to 28 with the Chief Referee.				
32	Assist the chief referee, and, should the chief referee be unable to continue his/her responsibilities, take on the responsibilities of the chief referee.				

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33	Record the necessary items on the record sheet.				
34	Confirm and then call out successful passes through gates.				
35	Confirm and then call out successful finishes.				
36	Provide answers to items that the CR or AR may need to confirm.				
37	Confirm a player substitute and advise the CR.				
38	Keep time during the game.				
39	Announce the time segments during a game [15 minutes left, 10 minutes left, 5 minutes left and time up].				
40	Assist and advise the CR and AR in their decisions, announcement, and implementation of measures.				

Item numbers 15 – 18 inclusive can only be conducted by the all game officials i.e. Chief Referee, Assistant Referee, Recorder and Linesman.

Item numbers 1 – 14 inclusive are only to be conducted by the Chief Referee.

Item numbers 19 – 30 inclusive can be conducted by either the Chief Referee or the Assistant Referee.

Item number 31 and 32 are conducted by the Assistant Referee.

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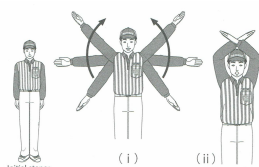
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**Situation
Call**

**End of game
"Game Set"**

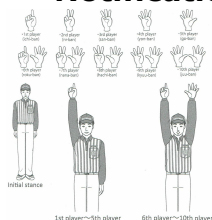
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Notification

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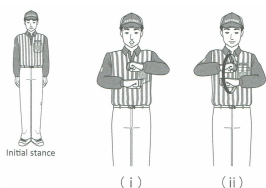


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Approval Call

Player Substitution "ball number koutai"

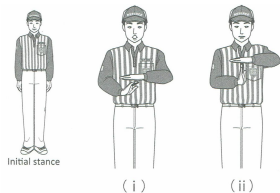
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Situation Call

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96
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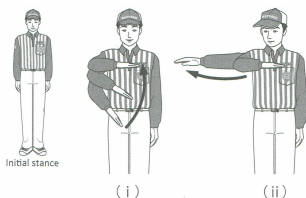
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Decision Call

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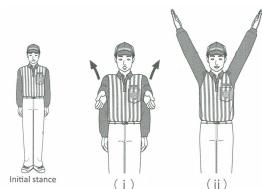
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Decision Call














A successful "agari" [finished ball] "ball number agari"

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