

## Aussie Gateball

### a great way to introduce Gateball to new players

You have played Aussie Croquet, now try *Aussie Gateball*!

*Aussie Gateball* uses essentially the same rules as Aussie Croquet:

- No sparking (croquet strokes)
- After a touch (roquet), one continuation stroke
- After a gate (hoop), one continuation stroke
- No 'double touch' or 'gate and touch' which give two continuation strokes.

All the other Gateball rules apply which are in summary:

- Make Gate 1 in a single stroke from the starting area (Gate 1 can be moved closer to the starting area if the players are new to mallet sports)
- An out-ball can only play into the court; it cannot touch another ball or make a gate
- Players play in order of numbered balls, strokes can take no longer than 10 seconds and the game's duration is 30 minutes.

*Aussie Gateball* is an excellent game when introducing players, especially children, to Gateball.

For new players, try the following programme:

- One ball break to the goal-pole (peg), counting the number of strokes (It's possible with 4 but a score of 5 is excellent and 6 is very good)
- Introduce and play *Aussie Gateball*
- Then allow players who touch a ball to place the touched ball wherever they would wish to place it using a spark. They should do this simply by lifting the touched ball and placing it in the desired position
- After the new players have completed a few games of *Aussie Gateball*, then introduce conventional sparking and complete Gateball.

New players generally respond to this more gradual introduction to Gateball.