
Rules Questions

There appears to be some confusion about the situation when a sparked ball hits a Gate or the Goal-pole and then strikes the stroker's shoe or stroker's ball. Here are some examples:

Situation:

Ball No 5 has already passed Gate 3. Stroker No 3 is called by the Referee.

Case 1 and Case 2 deal with situations where a sparked ball strikes the Stroker's shoe. Case 3 and Case 4 discuss situations where a sparked ball strikes the Stroker's ball.

Case 1.

Stroker No 3 touches Ball No 5 near the Goal-pole.

Stroker No 3 sets a spark with Ball No 5, and Ball No 5 is not in contact with the Goal-pole.

Stroker No 3 sparks Ball No 5 to Goal-pole and Ball No 5 strikes the Goal-pole.

Ball No 5 then bounces back from the Goal-pole to strike the Stroker's shoe.

Rules Issues Case 1:

As Ball No 5 has struck the Goal-pole, it is an Agari and successfully finished.

At the time it strikes the Stroker's shoe, the movement of Ball No 5 is invalid. (Article 11 Clause 2.1 (6), Article 16 Clause 3.1 (2)).

Stroker No 3 has gained the right for continuous play. (Article 12 Clause 3.1 (3) & (4).

The Referee shall hold Ball No 5 until the Stroker No 3's turn is over, and then hand Ball No 5 to Stroker No 3. (Guide for Referees III Clause 8 (2) (b).

Case 2.

Stroker No 3 touches Ball No 5 near Gate 2.

Stroker No 3 sparks Ball No 5 to the Goal-pole but Ball No 5 strikes Gate 2.

Ball No 5 then bounces back from Gate 2 to strike the Stroker's shoe.

Rules Issues Case 2:

Ball No 5 striking the shoe of Stroker No 3 is a Ball Touch Foul.

Ball No 3 is placed at chokkingai.

Ball No 5 is placed where it made contact with the Stroker's shoe.

(Article 18 Clause 1.1 and 2 (3), also Illustration page 123)

Case 3.

Stroker No 3 touches Ball No 5 near Gate 2.

Stroker No 3 sparks Ball No 5 to the Goal-pole but Ball No 5 strikes Gate 2.

Ball No 5 then bounces back from Gate 2 to strike the Stroker's Ball No 3

Ball No 5 comes to rest **in contact** with Ball No 3.

Rules Issues Case 3:

Article 16, Clause 4 (1) (7) describes the following as a sparking foul:

Following a successful spark, if the other ball sparked hits a gate or the goal-pole and returns to touch the stroker's ball and stop.

Clause 4 (2) (4) states that in this instance the balls are returned to where they touched each other following the spark. This, by definition, must be within 10 cm, therefore, the stroker's ball is placed Chokkingai (Clause 4 (3)).

Case 4.

Ball No 5 has already passed Gate 3.

Stroker No 3 touches Ball No 5 near Gate 2.

Stroker No 3 sparks Ball No 5 to the Goal-pole but Ball No 5 strikes Gate 2.

Ball No 5 then bounces back from Gate 2 to strike Stroker's Ball No 3

Ball No 5 comes to rest, but **not in contact** with Ball No 3.

Rules Issues Case 4:

As with Case 3, the issue is that the sparked Ball No 5 has struck the Stroker's Ball No 3 during a Sparking action.

Article 15 Clause 4.1 states that a Touching the Same Ball Twice foul occurs when, during continuous play, a ball used in sparking, (in Situation 3 this ball is Ball No 5), is struck a second time. This condition has not occurred because the Stroker's Ball No 3 did not strike Ball No 5. It was Ball No 5 that struck the Stroker's Ball No 3.

Therefore, Article 15 Clause 4.1 does not apply. (Illustration page 110).

Stroker No 3 has gained the right for continuous play. (Article 12 Clause 3.1 (3) & (4)).