



Brush and Slice Strokes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YkD7U2tRIDw>

Running the hoop from close up, a ball displaced to the side may be attempted with a brush or side swipe stroke. The mallet direction is from left to right or vice versa, the aim being to cleanly strike the mallet FACE (not bevel) across the ball projecting it forward and off the wire to run through the hoop and not crushing (another potential fault) against the near wire. This in the UK is also called a Bray stroke.

See examples: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nsOe5X3HKdQ>



The important thing for the referee to watch is that at the instant a mallet contacts the ball, the side of the mallet head which is nearest to the hoop-leg the ball is touching must be aligned in a direction outside the 'V' between the ball and the hoop-leg. (i.e. common tangent side which is shown by a purple line). The referee watches where the mallet is lined up to sweep the ball.

In a) the mallet is aligned in a direction which is slightly inside the 'V', whereby the purple line makes an acute angle, instead of away from the hoop leg, as the Laws require. Furthermore in this case the sweep stroke with the mallet swung in the direction of the blue arrow will cause the ball to rotate clockwise as indicated. This rotation will tend to make the ball hit the far hoop-leg, pull back out, rather than advance successfully through the hoop.

If the ball is in a critical position touching the hoop-leg and around from a central position in the hoop so that the purple 'V' line above the hoop on the diagram makes an angle of 50-60 degrees with the top of the hoop, the spin will make it very difficult to get the ball to go through the hoop.

It is very difficult to maintain the alignment of the mallet head during the swing in such a stroke. It can be lined it up so that the mallet head is pointing outside the purple line (red arrow, b1 toward b2), but as the striker swings there is a tendency to want to swing the mallet around a slight curve, so that when it contacts the ball the mallet head is pointing inside the purple common tangent line as illustrated.

This seems to result from an unconscious desire to keep the mallet head pointing at the centre of the hoop, but the angle struck seems to make this difficult not to crush (b-1) against the wire!

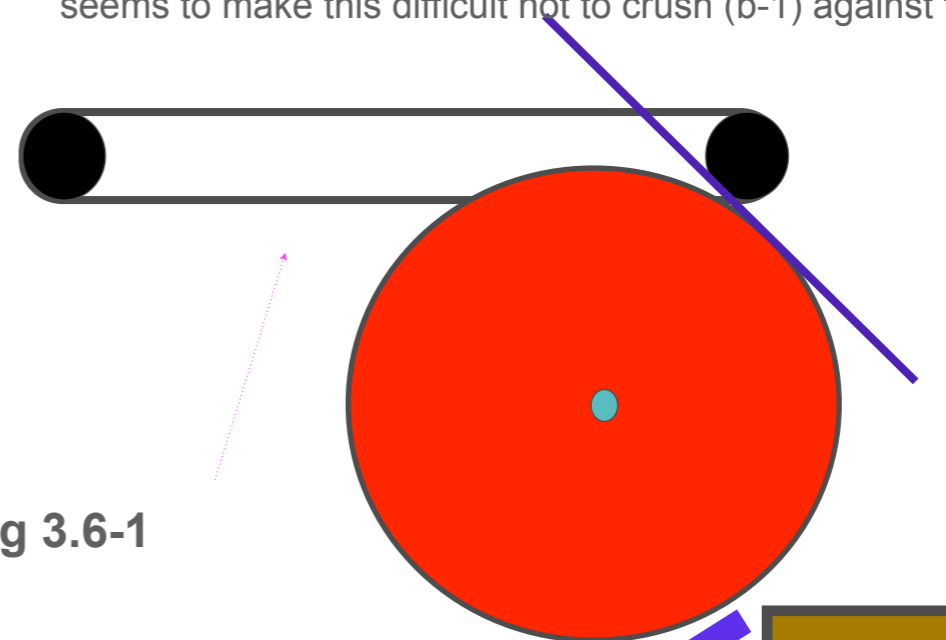
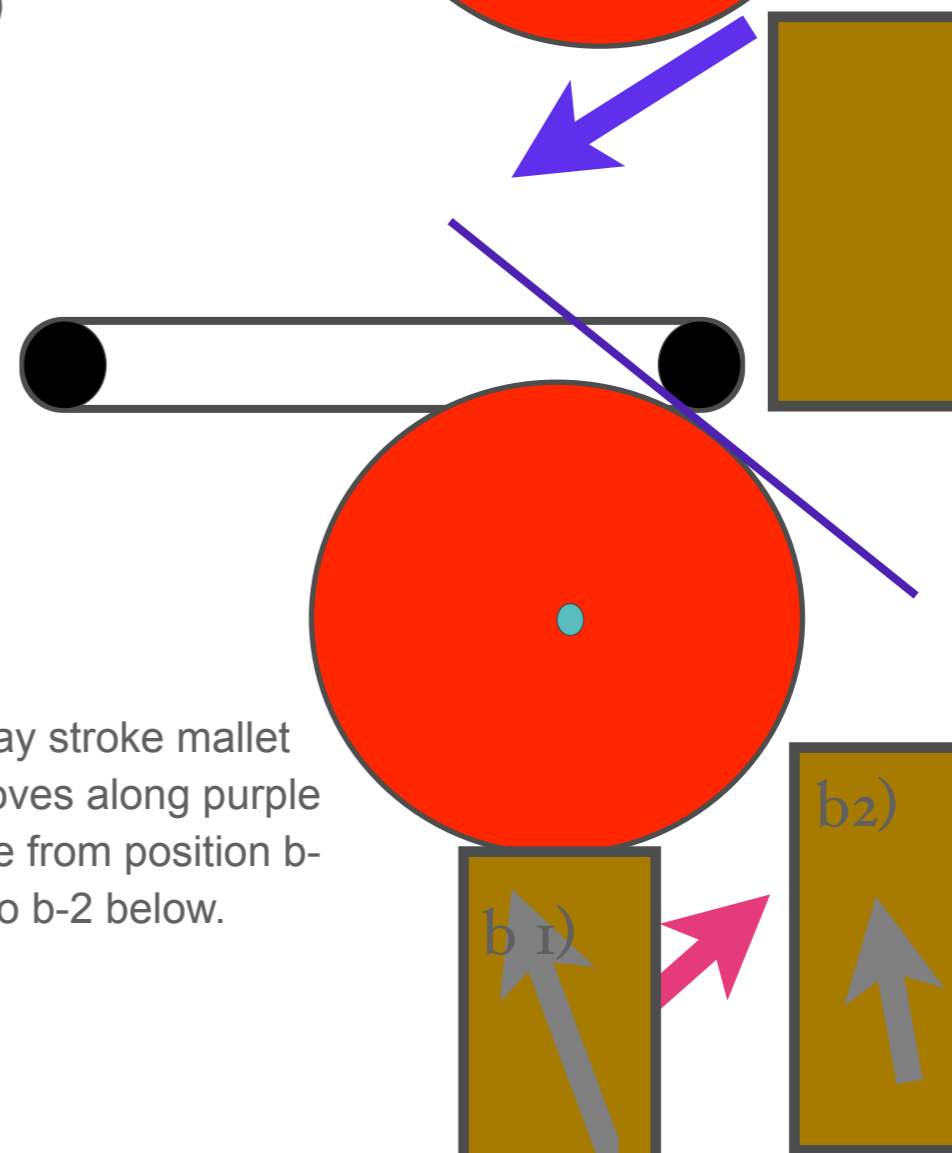


Fig 3.6-1
a)



b)
Bray stroke mallet moves along purple line from position b-1 to b-2 below.

The second diagram (Figure b, but now b2 toward b1); illustrates a reverse brush stroke (see grey arrows) in which the ball will be caused to rotate anti-clockwise and “kick” through the hoop instead of bouncing out. This allows the striker to align the mallet outside the green line as shown, and there will be a tendency as it is swung to want to turn the mallet head slightly anti-clockwise in order to again keep it pointing toward the centre of the hoop. In this case there is less likelihood of the shot being a crush against the hoop leg, because the ball is being hit outside the purple line.

Note that if the ball is not touching the hoop leg, or is placed so that more of it is within the jaws of the hoop, some of the above statements may no longer apply, and either sort of brush stroke, as well as a normal stroke, may enable the hoop to be legally made.

Referees may incorrectly assume the ball is being hit into the hoop-leg when this “reverse “ action is used, but it is less commonly a crush in (a) the top diagram because they go by the direction of the swing instead of the mallet alignment.

In summary mark the ball, along the purple line (mentally or physically), and then ask the player how he/she intend to play the stroke.

Kroeger September 2013 U Tube series

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nsOe5X3HKdQ>

SB	Real time sight	Slowmotion	Ref Call	Comment1	
1 Yellow (white band) and 4	Bevel	Bevel	Both are Faults	End of turn adversary's choice balls	
2 Blue (white band)	Clean	Probably Ok	Ball not through the hoop	End of turn	
3 Red (white band)	Clean	Clean	Play on	No fault seen or heard.	
4 Yellow	Scrape, bevel and scrape sounds	Scrape prolonged poor contact	Fault	Can replace balls	adversary decision
5 Yellow	Clean	Clean		Play On	

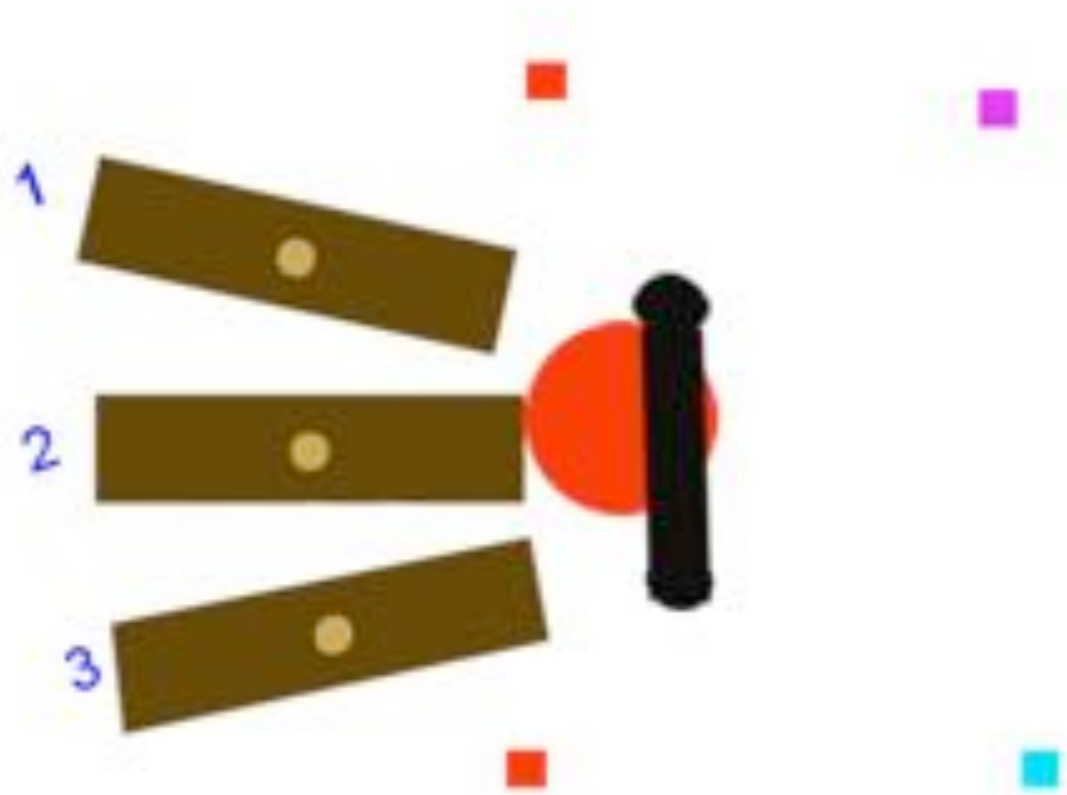


Fig 3.6-3

If the ball is struck as in 2, a crush would occur against the L Hoop leg.

Hence the mallet in the sweep stroke (Bray) tries to propel the ball away from the wire, through the hoop, by moving the mallet sideways through positions 1-2-3 illustrated above.

The possibility of a bevel fault is now revealed where the edge of the mallet face strikes the ball below the centre of the ball, before propelling it forward. Both the crush and bevel edge would be faults, the markers are in place to revert to the original ball position should the adversary request it.

Further Examples:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fs_W5AWbhZM

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nsOe5X3HKdQ>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DC7k4zbmJGQ>