QUALIFYING AS AN ASSOCATION CROQUET UMPIRE

Australia has a unique system of croquet officials, with two levels – umpires, and referees.

Umpires can assess the results of strokes on the lawn, while referees can interpret the laws. In practice, umpires conduct most of the referee functions, though if a complex problem relating to laws arises a referee is usually consulted.

To qualify as an umpire you need to do the on-line officials course of the AIS (which is not related to croquet, but covers general principles of officiating in sports), and then do the practical on-lawn examination which takes 2 to 3 hours for each candidate. This is done by two examining referees .

For the on-line course:  
1. Go into the ASC Learning Portal at <https://learning.ausport.gov.au/mylearning/dashboard/index>  
(or Google ‘Australian Sports Commission’ and click on Learning Portal)  
2.       Register by entering your email address and selecting a password  
3.       Browse the catalogue of courses  
4.       Select ‘Community Officiating General Principles’  
5.       Click on enrol  
6.       Complete the enrolment forms

You are unlikely to pass the umpire examination without a course of instruction. It is usually possible to ask an examining referee in your area to conduct such a course. The contact details for examining referees in NSW are as follows:

Neil Hardie – Cammeray: [nhardie@ozemail.com.au](mailto:nhardie@ozemail.com.au)  
Stephen Howes – Cammeray and North Avoca: [stephen.howes@optusnet.com.au](mailto:stephen.howes@optusnet.com.au)  
Jan Sage – Taree - [myoora803@bigpond.com](mailto:myoora803@bigpond.com)  
John Cook – Bathurst – j[oroam13@bigpond.com](mailto:oroam13@bigpond.com)   
Peter Tavender – Canberra - [tavender@webone.com.au](mailto:tavender@webone.com.au)  
Barb Piggott – Urunga - [johnpiggott@bigpond.com](mailto:johnpiggott@bigpond.com)  
Fay Stove – Coogee: [1962narara@gmail.com](mailto:1962narara@gmail.com)  
Jim Hicks – Port Macquarie and Killara - [jimhicks@westnet.com.au](mailto:jimhicks@westnet.com.au)  
David Stanton – Cammeray and Chatswood - [david@dsapl.net](mailto:david@dsapl.net)

An umpire should be familiar with:  
The Laws of Association Croquet <http://www.oxfordcroquet.com/laws/6th/full/6th.asp>  
ACA Tournament Regulations : <http://www.croquet-nsw.org/governance/policy/CNSW-Tournament-Regulations.pdf>

ACA Referee Manual – available from State Director of Refereeing or an examining referee  
ACA Lawncraft Video - available from State Director of Refereeing or an examining referee

QUALIFYING AS AN ASSOCIATION CROQUET REFEREE

You can qualify as a referee only if you have already qualified as an umpire. When you have gained experience as an umpire, you can take the referee examination, which is an exam that takes 2 – 3 hours and is conducted by two examining referees. The referee exam has an on-lawn section which covers more difficult cases than the umpire exam, and a section covering the detailed knowledge of the laws. As with the umpire examination, it is best to ask an examining referee to provide a course beforehand.

A referee should be familiar with:  
Official Rulings on the Laws of Croquet <https://www.croquet.org.uk/?p=association/laws/6th/orlc.html>  
ACA Refereeing Regulations <http://www.croquet-australia.com.au/aca-refereeing-regulations-october-2015.pdf>