

The Air-Grip Shaft

- hand-crafted high performance -

Modern specifications for high performance croquet mallets call for a shaft weight not to exceed 10 oz. in combination with an approximate (mallet) head weight of 2 lbs.- 6 oz. in order to develop the force required to hit a croquet ball most effectively.

Most mallet manufacturers achieve this lightweight handle through the use of graphite rods designed for other sporting equipment such as fishing poles.

Being upstarts in this industry (but traditionalists at heart) – we at the **Norwich Croquet Company** wondered if an effective and ergonomic 10 oz. wooden shaft was at all possible. Here's what we came up with:

The Material:

- White Ash – a strong, lightweight wood used for all manner of handles for hundreds of years.

The Construction:

- The lower shaft is laminated to achieve maximum strength in the smallest section of the handle.
- The upper shaft (the grip) is an (octagonal section) hollow box beam with applied end cap and a series of holes that run vertically all the way up the grip.
- The upper and lower shaft joint and all laminations are glued with West System Epoxy for maximum strength and water resistance.

The Result:

- An elegant 38" hand-crafted handle weighing only 9.8 oz. yet engineered to be stronger than its solid wood equivalent. Features include:
 - **Self-Indexing Grip.** The perforations in the grip create a "memory board" for your fingers and hands to find their referred position and insure your best shot
 - **Comfort Grip.** The perforated grip "breathes". It is air-cooled and comfortable without a leather wrap. Your hands don't sweat, you don't "over-grip" – so your accuracy and control are improved.

Available:

On all Norwich Croquet Company high-end mallets.

