

GUNGAHLIN LAKES LOCAL RULES – DROP ZONES

Following feedback from members, and based on advice from Golf NSW, the GLGC Committee has decided to undertake a trial expansion of drop zones around the course. There are two main principles being applied;

- The natural structure of our golf course, particularly the penalty areas around greens, means that it can be difficult to take a drop from these penalty areas without being closer to the hole – a breach of the Rules of Golf
- The water carry on 14 is difficult for some of our members to carry. A drop zone will be trialled on the fairway side of the penalty area to provide an additional relief option.

Drop zones have been installed in areas of the course where the natural layout of the hole makes it difficult to take a drop within two club lengths of where the ball last crossed the edge of the penalty area without dropping closer to the hole (subject to pin location). Accordingly, expanding the number of holes with such drop zones was considered the best outcome to ensure players do not inadvertently drop the ball closer to the hole and therefore breach the Rules of Golf. Holes with such drop zones will be expanded and will now be on holes 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 12, 16, 17 and 18.

With the expansion of the drop zones around the course, it is important to note that the new and existing drop zones are all optional, and that a player may choose, rather than using the drop zone, to play another ball from where the last shot was played.

The relevant penalty areas will continue to be marked by red pegs with blue tops, with the drop zone marked by a blue stake. The GLGC local rules specify that where a player chooses to take relief from one of these penalty areas, the player may (as an additional option to relief options outlined in Rule 17.1d of the Rules of Golf) take relief by dropping the ball in the closest drop zone and incurring a 1 shot penalty. The blue drop zone stakes are not in fixed locations may be moved by the Green Keepers to support the health of the relevant area. The drop zone is defined as an area 2 club lengths in *any* direction from the blue stake.

It is important the ball must last cross the penalty line marked by red pegs with blue tops for the drop zone to be used – this is particularly relevant on holes 2 and 16. You cannot take relief in the drop zone if your ball goes straight into the water before crossing the line marked by red pegs with blue tops. In some cases, such as due to course vandalism, a blue stake may not be present. In this case, a player should take relief from the penalty area at a point as close as possible to the point at which the ball last crossed the hazard, but not closer to the hole – this may mean taking more than the club length relief allows for in Rule 17.1d.

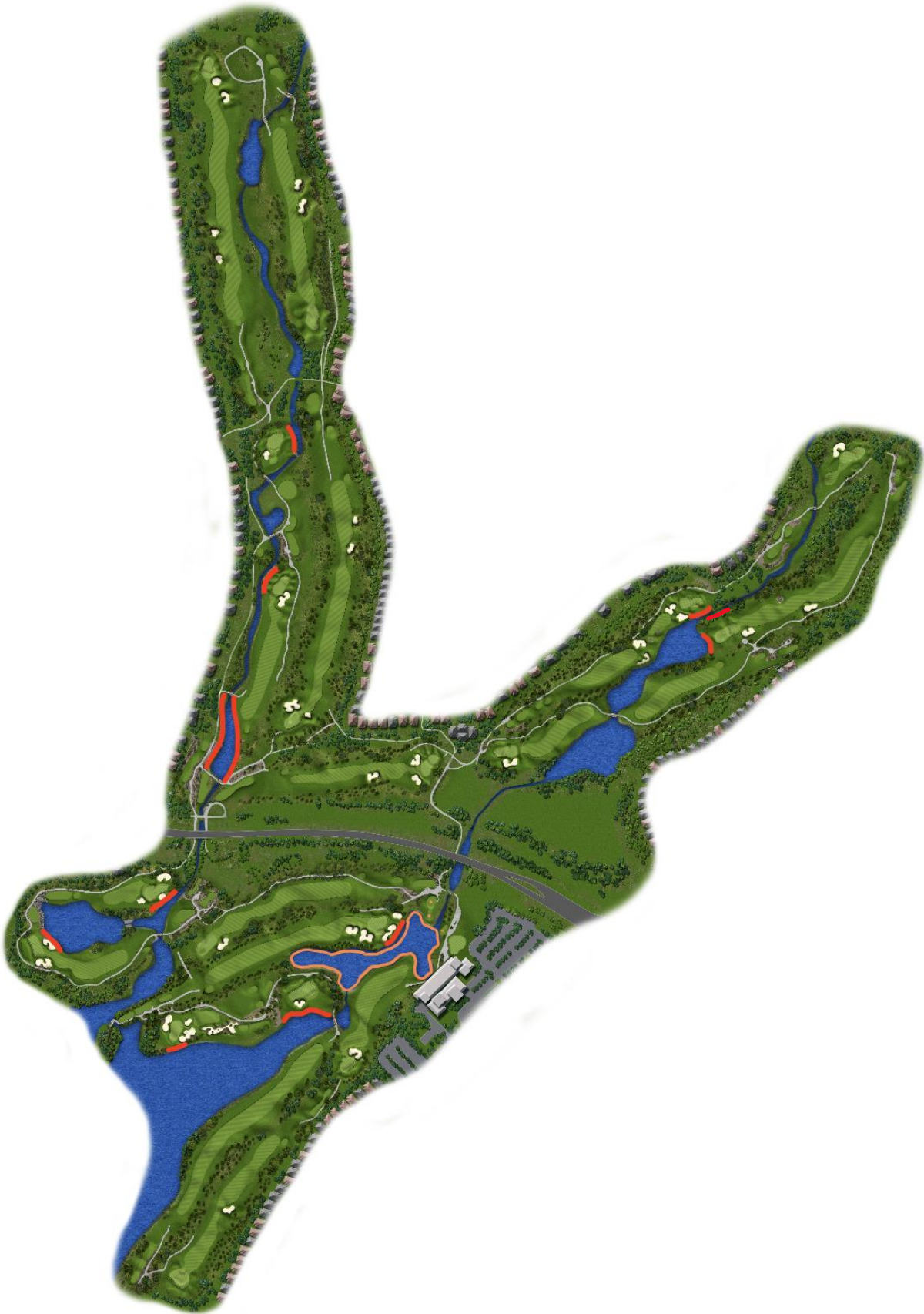
A drop zone will also be installed around the start of the fairway on the 14th hole. Under the new local rule, a player whose ball comes to rest in the penalty area identified by the water between the 14th, 16th and 18th holes may choose to continue play from the dropping zone at the start of the fairway, incurring a one shot penalty. The player does not have to cross the edge of the penalty area on the far side of the water to be allowed to use the drop zone. A player whose ball comes to rest in the penalty area, but not actually in the water, may also choose to use the drop zone, still incurring the one shot penalty. A permanent marker will be installed on the 14th hole indicating the location of the drop zone in the circumstance that a blue stake is not present (such as due to an act of vandalism).

It is important to note that the player must tee off from the relevant teeing area as defined under Rule 6.1b of the Rules of Golf. Failure to correctly commence the hole from the teeing zone will result in the player being disqualified.

Examples of some of the holes on the course for which drop zones are in play are available on the following pages.

Drop Zone Locations

Penalty areas supported by drop zones are shown below. Red lines indicate penalty areas around greens marked by red/blue stakes, with the orange line indicating the penalty area, when teeing off the 14th hole, from which the fairway drop zone can be used.



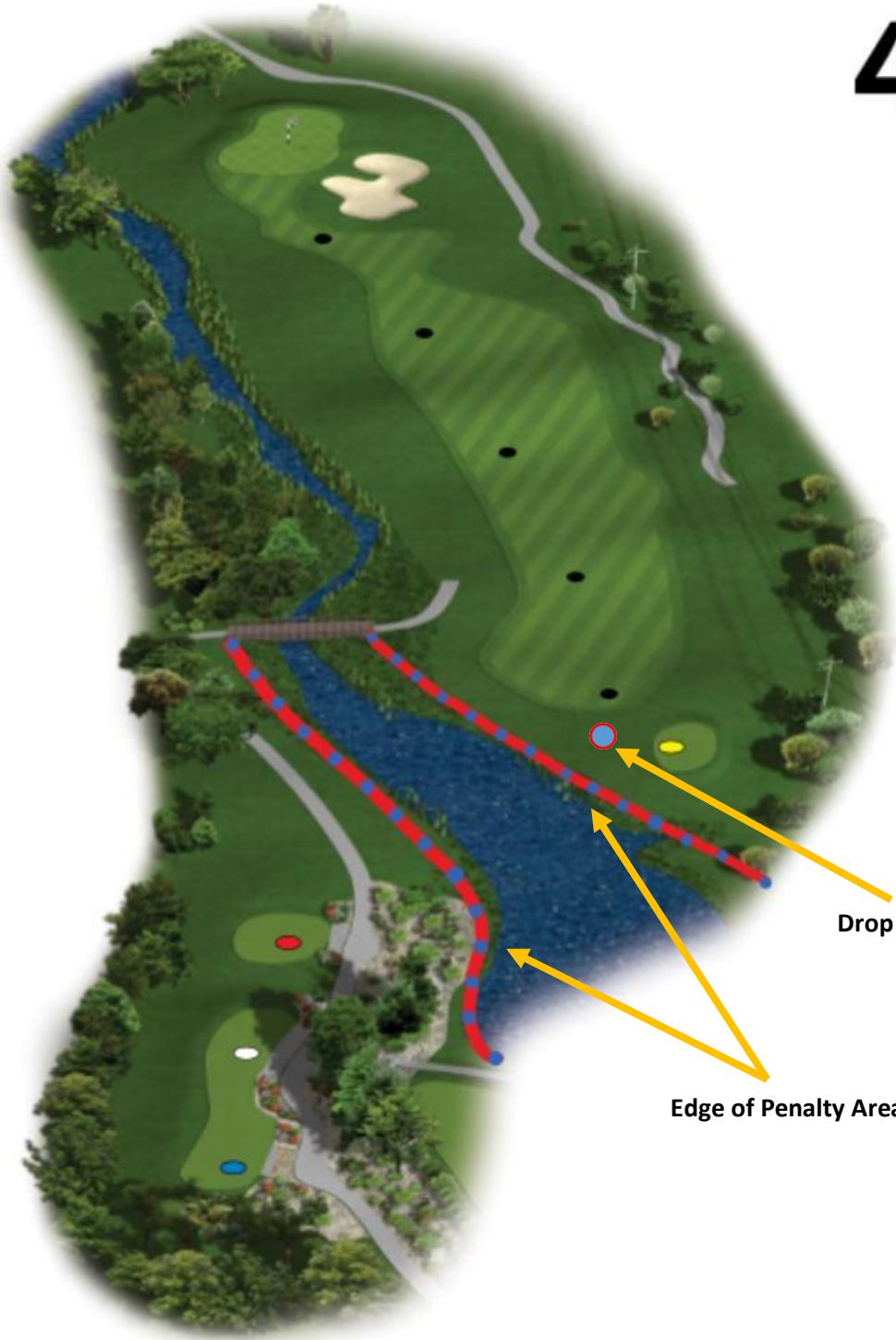
Example Drop Zone Illustrations

2



On this hole the ball **MUST** cross the relevant red/blue penalty area edge to use the drop zone. A ball that enters the water but never crosses the relevant red/blue penalty area edge must be played in accordance with Rule 17.1d for taking relief from the edge of the red penalty area it last crossed.

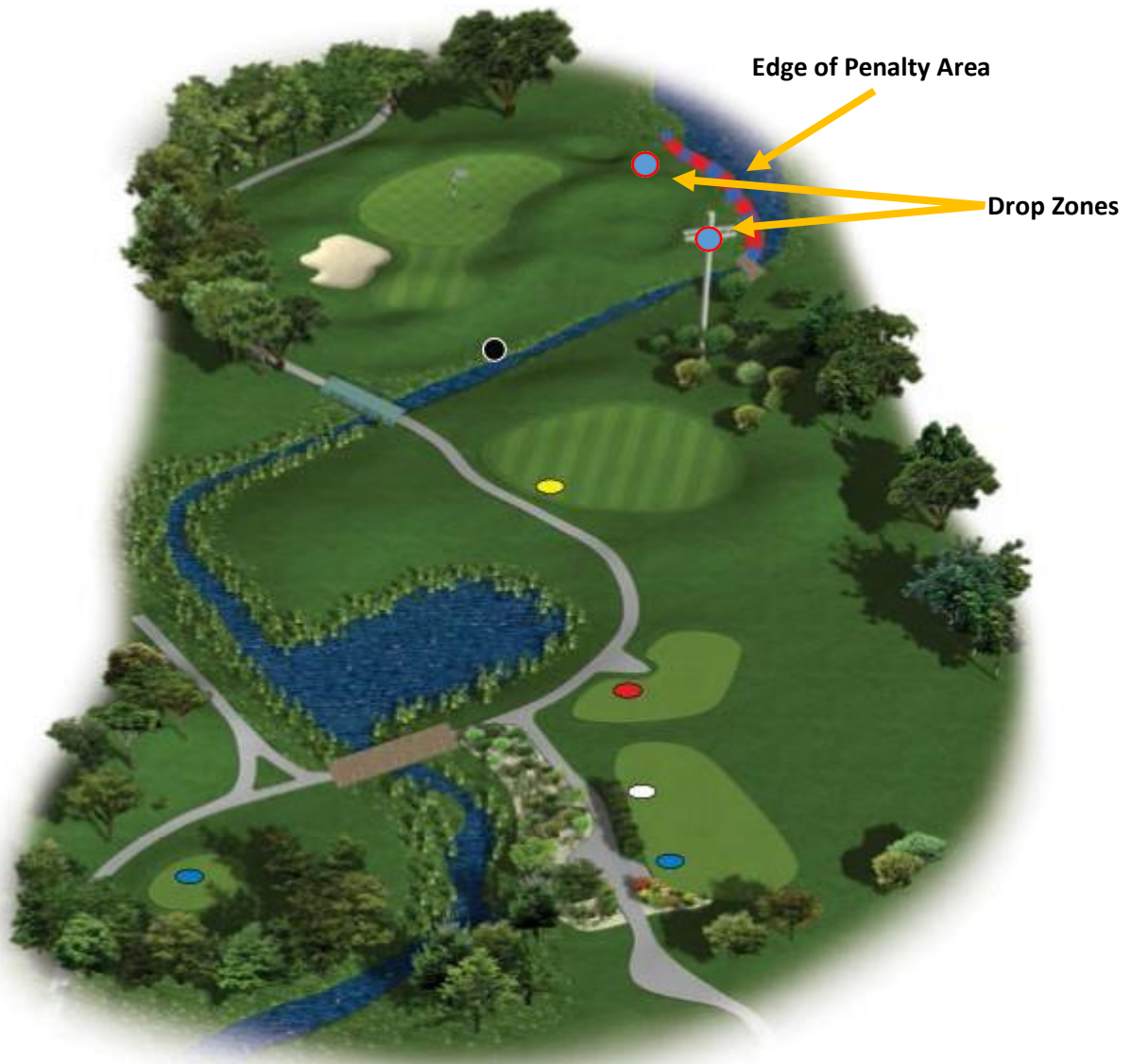
4



Drop Zone

Edge of Penalty Area

5

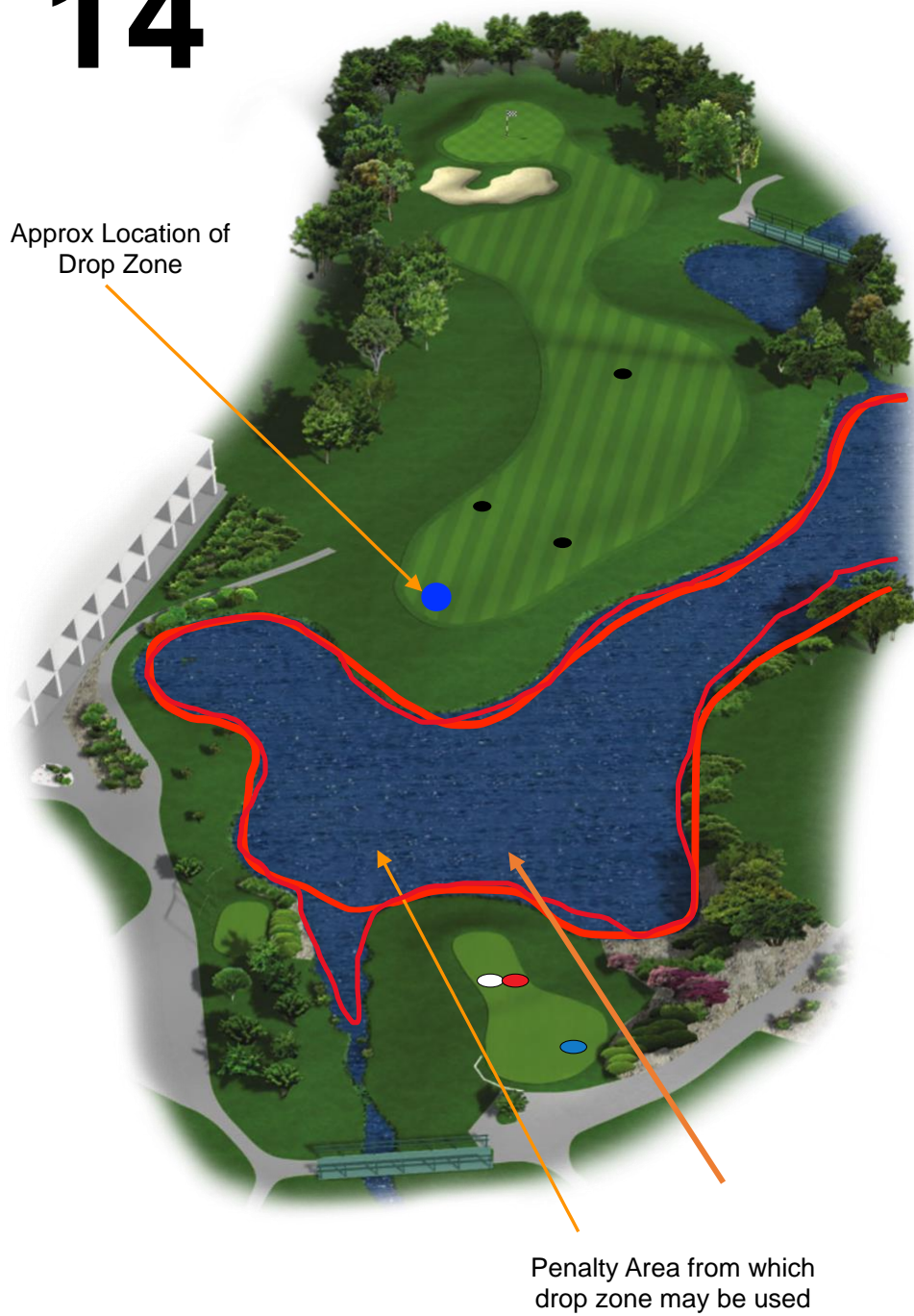


16



On this hole the ball **MUST** cross the relevant red/blue penalty area edge to use the drop zone. A ball that enters the water but never crosses the relevant red/blue penalty area edge must be played in accordance with Rule 17.1d for taking relief from the edge of the red penalty area it last crossed.

14



On this hole the drop zone can be used when taking relief from the red penalty area, regardless of the point at which is last crosses the edge of the penalty area.