

OFFICIAL RULES - GERRINGONG GOLF CLUB (Rules to apply from 15 Apr onwards)

The General Area:

1. Refers to the entirety of the course except for the following four defined areas:
 - the teeing area the player must play from in starting the hole they are playing,
 - all Penalty Areas,
 - all bunkers,
 - the putting green of the hole the player is playing.

Out of Bounds:

2. Gerringong Golf Club has clear, physical 'fence lines' on the northern, western and southern boundaries. Crossing the 'fence line' will constitute Out of Bounds (OOB). The player will then have three options:
 - taking 'Stroke and Distance' relief (1 Stroke Penalty) and playing from where the previous stroke was made (**Rule 14.6**),
 - a Provisional Ball (1 Stroke Penalty), or
 - invoking **Model Local Rule E-5 (Ball OOB)**. For 2 Penalty Strokes, where 'a player's ball is known or virtually certain to be out of bounds'; the player may take a drop (and then 2 club lengths relief) in the General Area between the point the ball crossed the OOB boundary and the nearest edge of the fairway (no nearer the hole).
- 2a. Note: The **Model Local Rule E-5 (Ball OOB)** is not available if a provisional ball has been played.

Penalty Areas:

3. Definition - Any part of the General Area from which relief with a 1 Stroke Penalty is allowed if the player's ball comes to rest there. Gerringong Golf Course Penalty Areas consist of:
 - any 'body of water' on the course; including ocean, lake or pond, river, ditch, surface drainage ditch or other open water course, and
 - 'unmaintained' sections of the General Area.
4. **Body of Water Penalty Areas** (not including the ocean) will be distinguished by red markers (pegs and stone blocks) and give the player three relief options under **Rule 17**.
5. **Unmaintained Sections of the General Area**
 - All areas (other than 'maintained' or defined Garden Areas) consisting long grass, unstaked shrubs or trees, will not be pegged and will be treated as 'Red Penalty Areas' under **Rule 17**. The tree penalty area is defined by its external drip line.
 - Players proceeding under the above rules will then be unable to take relief under 'Other Rules for Ball in Penalty Area' (**Rule 17.3**), these include:
 - Interference by an abnormal course condition (**Rule 16.1**), an embedded ball (**Rule 16.3**) or an unplayable ball (**Rule 19**).

Penalty Area Rule Exceptions (Printed on the back of scorecards):

6. Under these exceptions, the player may take a free drop (**Rule 16.1b**) at the nearest point of complete relief in the General Area - no nearer the hole:
 - The Garden Area between the 13th and 3rd tee areas including the pitfall toilet behind the 6th green and the Garden Area to the rear of the 8th Green. These areas are bounded by concrete cart paths, chipped gardens, and stone borders.
 - The drainage area to the right of the 12th fairway (to the left of the dam).
 - All cart/pedestrian pathways (not within a Penalty Area) resulting in uneven/bare patches.