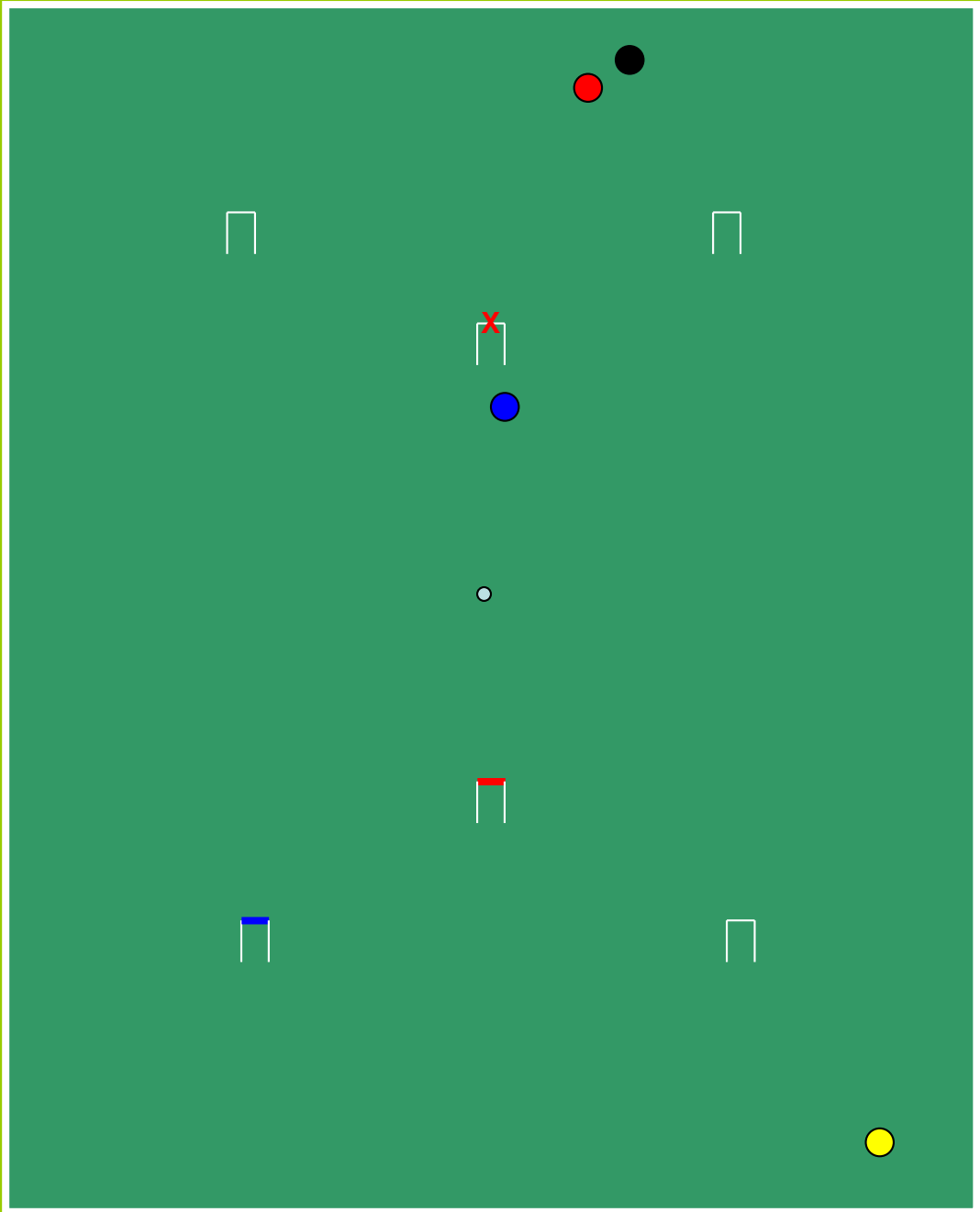
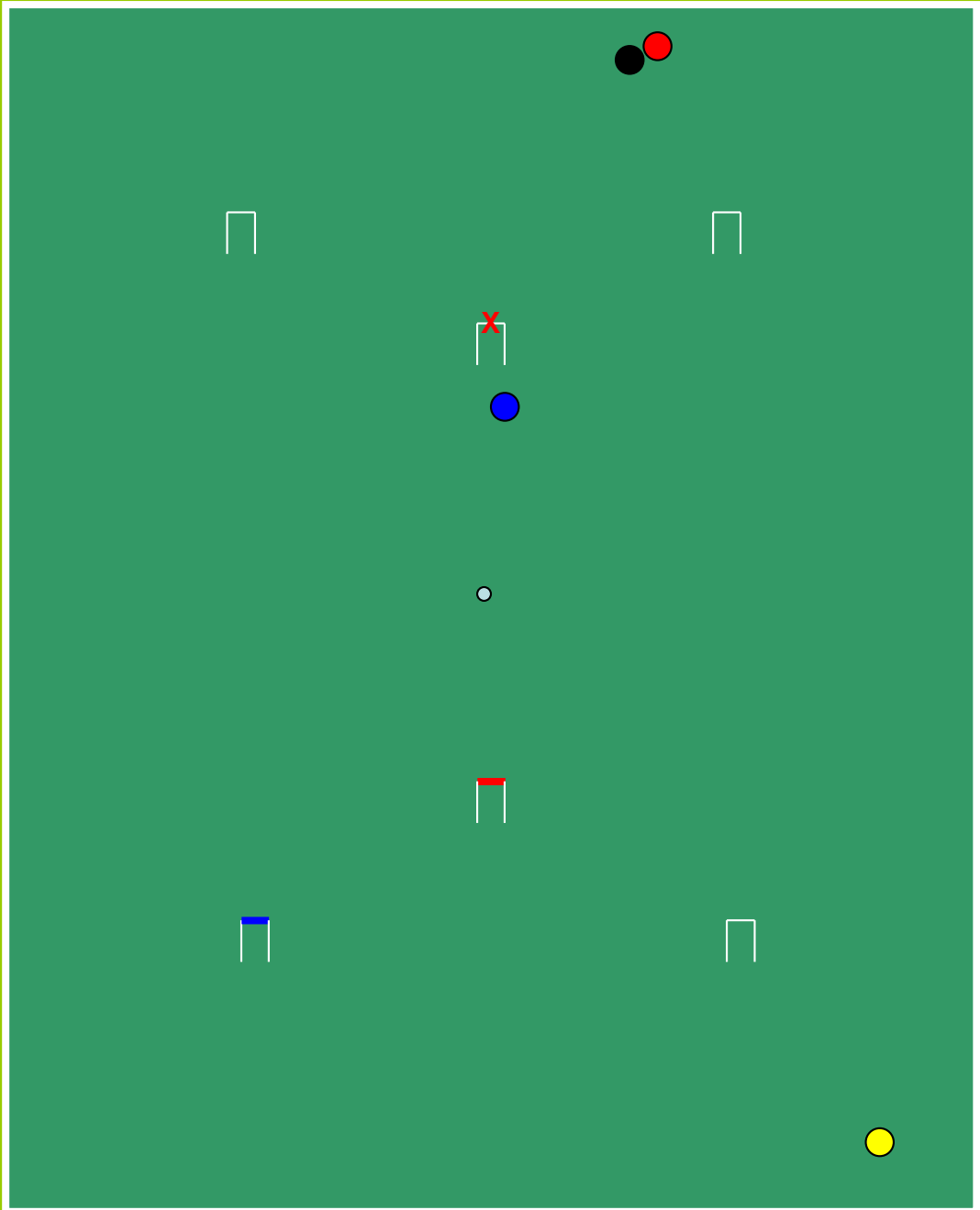


Red (to play) is in the jaws of hoop 5.

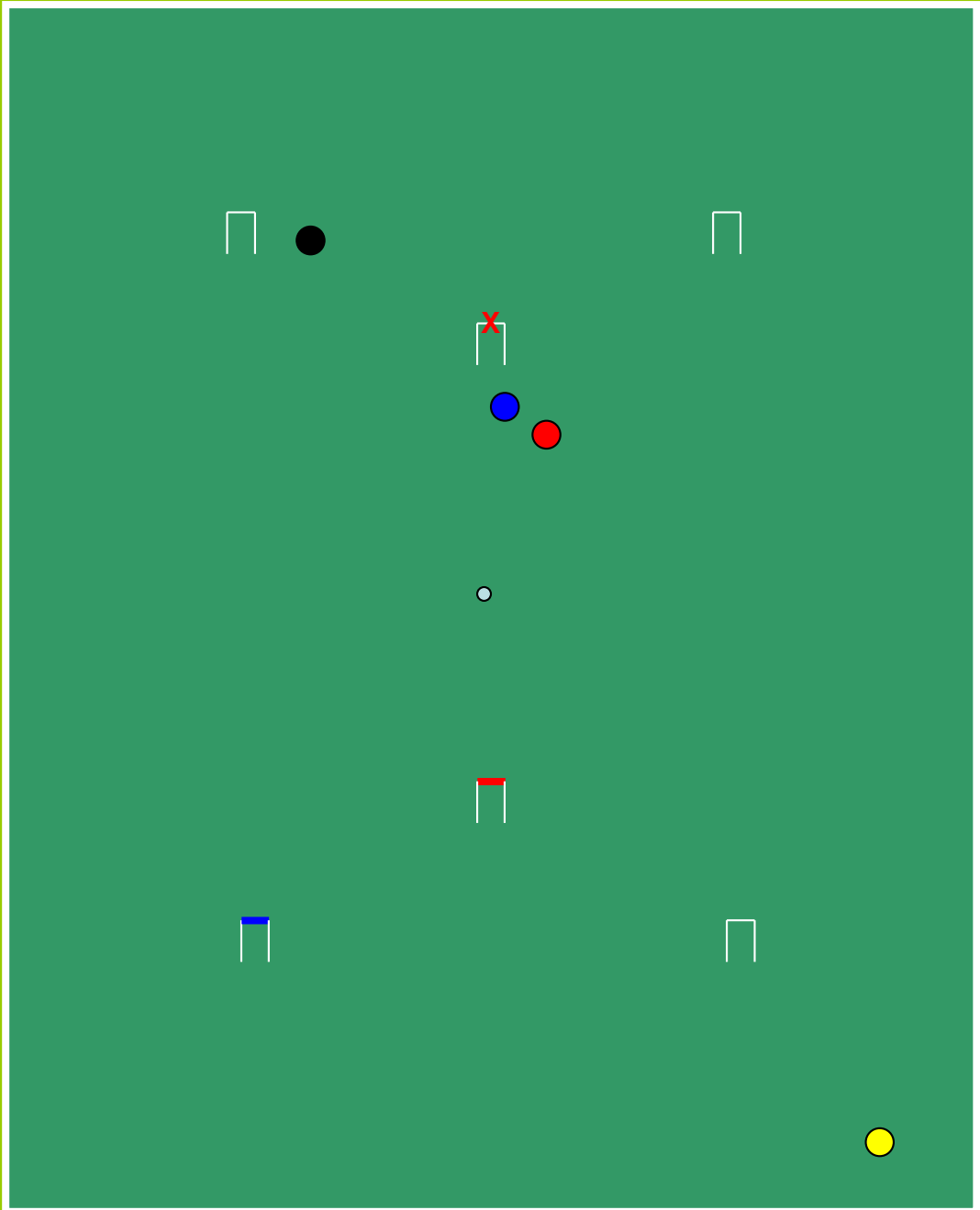
What should red do?



Red runs the hoop to the north boundary.



Red picks up black and split shots to send black to 1-back while gaining position on blue for hoop 6



Red now has a 3-ball break established

# Commentary

- As in other examples, the temptation is to see the obvious – the blue at hoop 6. But playing that would make it very difficult to get any other ball into play.
- By hitting through to the boundary there is an easy roquet on black with a simple split shot to send black to 1-back and picking up blue in making hoop 6.
- If red ends up east of black there is the possibility of a rush to 1-back. That is all very well if you can do it accurately, but the croquet split shot is more guaranteed to put red and black exactly where you want them.

Ian Harrison      April 2018