

The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 4, Issue 2

February, 2021

Golf in February

February brings with it longer days and warming (usually) temperatures. Please note the first tee time changes as well as the rate period changes mentioned below. Every two weeks the tee times will start 15 minutes earlier through mid-March. Stay in tune with the Forecaddie to keep up-to-date with everything pro shop and golf course related. In the sections following, you will find all the information relating to this month in golf, as well as contact information for our golf associations and our Greens Committee. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

See you at the pro shop,
Mike Jahaske, PGA
Director of Golf
SaddleBrooke Ranch Golf Club

Happy
Valentine's
Day

Pro Shop Schedule

Pro Shop Hours - Open 30 minutes before the first tee time and 1 hour before shotguns. Soft close at 4:30pm as staff go out to check the course carrying the pro shop cell phone (520-561-1196).

Staff is available until one hour before sunset.

First tee time 2-1 to 2-14: 7:45

2-15 to 2-28: 7:30

No Shotguns at this time

Rate Periods:

Prime: 2-1 to 2-14: 7:45 - 11:52

2-15 to 2-28: 7:30 - 11:52

Midday: 12:00 - 1:52

Twilight: 2:00 - 3:22

Super Twilight: 3:30 - Sunset



Golf Maintenance Schedule

A maintenance plan is put into place at the beginning of the year. Variance in weather and agronomic conditions may require changes to the schedule.

February Maintenance Schedule

The **driving range tee** is planned to move onto the artificial turf on Tuesday, February 23rd. During the winter months we will utilize the artificial tee for about 7-14 days each month to allow the natural turf to recover as much as possible from the expected heavy traffic.

The winter, especially during frost season, is when the staff gets most of the trimming around the perimeter of the course done. Now that we have a staff member designated for this duty, we hope to stay ahead of the ever-expanding amount of finished lots on the course.

Back Nine morning nine hole times will not be available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday on a year-round basis to allow maintenance time to complete weekly tasks. In addition, we will start tee times one hour later on Wednesday to allow maintenance more time to complete necessary applications and other regular maintenance. With the use of single rider carts due to COVID, pace of play has decreased, and the window maintenance normally uses for regular upkeep has been greatly diminished.



Free Monthly Golf Clinic

Every month Mike and Ken will conduct a free golf clinic. All residents and their guests are welcome to attend, and there is no cost. Please sign up in the pro shop. The staff have a book behind the counter with all the scheduled clinics that you can sign up for. You are welcome to attend as often and as many as you like! The clinics will cover basic technique and mechanics of each topic and are great for learning a new skill or brushing up a skill that needs some work. **The clinic for February will cover bunkers and will be held on Monday, February 22nd, at 2:00pm, at the practice pitching green.**

Golfing News

Golf Course Access

Dear residents, as much of the community activities have been closed for precautionary measures to help reduce exposure to the COVID-19 virus, many of you have taken to walking as a way of exercise and to get out of the house. Please remember that for your safety we do not allow joy riding, walking, biking, jogging, etc. on the golf course **AT ANY TIME**. Only golfers, golf staff, or emergency or other authorized service vehicles are allowed on the golf course and paths.

This is especially important during the early morning while workers are busy with prepping the course and not expecting to be in contact with residents.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

Golfing News cont.

Valentine's Week Sale

February 10th to the 16th, the pro shop is holding our annual Valentine's Week Sale. Merchandise will be 15% to 80% off! Stop by and see our new stock!!

Golf with the Pro

Come join Mike and Ken for a round of golf every Wednesday at 11:00am. The tee time has room for 3 residents. Mike will play nine holes and Ken will play nine holes. This is an opportunity to golf and socialize with your pros! Although there isn't time for a playing lesson, all topics and questions are welcome. The sign up book is at the counter in the pro shop. Regular green fees apply per membership status, but no placement points are assessed. Stop in or call the pro shop and get signed up today!

Frost Delay Season

Frost Delay Season continues through March 15th, so please remember to check your Chelsea home page to see if your tee time has been delayed by frost. The information will be posted as close to 7am as possible. If your tee time is later in the morning or early afternoon, we ask that you check with the Pro Shop to see if any time has been made up.

Golf Club Fitting Day

Monday, February 22nd we will have a fitting day from 10am to 2pm. Cobra, Cleveland/Srixon, PING, and Callaway will be in attendance. Sign up form for appointments will be available in the pro shop starting Monday, February 1st.

Greens Committee

The Greens Committee is expanding with several additional sub-committees planned to cover all aspects of the golf experience here in SaddleBrooke Ranch. The Greens Committee is committed to providing communication between the resident golfer and Robson management. To contact the Greens Committee, use this email: sbргreencommittee@gmail.com

Annual Range Cards

The annual complimentary range cards are ready for pick-up in the pro shop. To receive your card, simply request it from the counter staff. They will ask you to record the date, and then print and sign your name prior to receiving the card.

Golf Course Property Access

The golf course is not part of the SBR HOA and also NOT an extension of residential property. Under no circumstances should a resident take it upon themselves to modify the golf course property behind their lot. No trimming, planting, weed eating, or applying of herbicides should be done by the resident or their landscapers. Any plants added are subject to removal without compensation at the discretion of the superintendent.

Golfing News cont.

Community Snack Shack (Ed's Dogs) Update

The facility layout for Ed's Dogs was reviewed early in January. Work on making the revision could start as soon as February. Revisions are to include a parking area for golfers stopping for the restroom or to make a food pick up, an additional lane for "drive thru" for so golfers do not have to negotiate the regular parking area twice, and a golfers' menu designed for grab and go, as well as a window for faster pick up.

Course Staking Revisions

After review and hearing from the rules sub-committee, the greens committee voted to remove the additional red staking that had been recently added to holes #7, #10, and #15. The stakes were removed during the week of January 25th.

Cart Path Repair at #3 Green

Contractors are scheduled to replace a 30-foot section of the cart path past #3 green with concrete. This work should be done in late January or early February.

Soggy Ground Local Rule

In 2020, we added a local rule to aid golfers that found themselves with a lie on water saturated ground. Modifications in irrigation have reduced the areas, but we won't have a complete remedy until drainage additions are done this coming summer. Until then, please be aware of and able to use this helpful rule (see below).

SOGGY AREAS AROUND DRAINS, LOW LYING AREAS, OR IRRIGATION HEADS:

1. The ball must lie within 10 paces of a drain or a blue stake (indicating a low lying area) or within two club lengths of an irrigation head.
2. The soil below the turf must be displaced when taking a stance. Determining this condition is similar to casual water. As the golfer moves onto the condition, a change can be felt as the soil changes from firm to soggy.
3. The condition can be verified with fellow golfers easily enough both visually and from what can be felt with the feet.

Relief: When the conditions as outlined above are met, the golfer is allowed to take free relief at the nearest spot wherein relief is afforded for stance, swing, and lie. The ball must be dropped within one club length no closer to the hole.

Golf Maintenance News

Course Update February

Painted Fairways:

With the heavy cart traffic and little to no growth, we have noticed some changes with the efficacy of the paint. Grass plants are suffering due to the heavy traffic tearing the leaves of the grass plant which then deposits the leaf litter into the canopy. After we paint, some of the leaf material gets blown away with our heavy winds. Going forward, we have a different approach planned. We will mow with our tee units instead of fairway mowers because the tee units are equipped with catcher baskets. The fairway units do not have basket ability. Hopefully we can clean the surfaces more thoroughly than we have been and the paint will hang around longer.

Golf Car Traffic:

Golf cart traffic continues to be a concern. Please leave your golf car on the path when it makes sense to do so, and ride with a playing partner when comfortable doing so. We should all expect weak conditions as we break dormancy early this year. Entry and exit gates have been discussed with the newly formed grounds committee. Traffic on grass that isn't actively growing presents the possibility of turf failure or poor conditions.

Greens:

Although some may not agree, the greens are improving. I am constantly monitoring overall appearance, smoothness, growth habit and general playability. Vertical mowing and lower cutting height started last week. Vertical mowing opens a groove in the turf which makes it easier for the new bent grass turf to spread horizontally. Competition between turf types and varieties is not how things should be done. We will be fine with a little help from Mother Nature. All signs point to an early spring and this will help support our complex efforts to improve the greens surfaces. The competitive advantage is in the favor of the new bent grass as the Bermuda stays dormant. Please be patient.

Details:

I hope everyone has noticed the nice job the crew has done with the detail work. Specifically, bunker work and desert detail work. These processes have made a noticeable impact and the feedback has been positive.

New contact info:

A new email account has been set up to make things easier for everyone. Please use sbgolfmaintenance@gmail.com for all questions or comments.

Christopher L. Blake

Class A GCS SBR



Tip from the Pro

Better Contact from a Tight Lie

During the winter when much of the turf is dormant and the soil is firm, you may find yourself faced with a "tight lie." A "tight lie" is simply the condition when the "cushion" of the turf grass leaf and thatch is minimal, and there is little room for error during impact.

In order to create your best impact under these conditions, you must do what is called "maintaining your shaft angle." What does that mean? It means that at impact, the shaft of the golf club leans toward the target and not away from it. Achieving this affect is created at address by pushing the handle (grip) of the club slightly forward before taking your grip *and maintaining that angle* throughout the swing by keeping a light grip, moving your lower body through to a finished follow through, and above all, not pushing or accelerating the club to "hit" at the ball.

If, during the swing, you can focus on swinging and brushing the grass, and not on hitting or applying power to the ball, you will have a good start on getting the proper feel for clean hits off of "tight lies."



Mike Jahaske PGA

Director of Golf

SaddleBrooke Ranch Golf Club

Contact Information

Pro shop: 520-818-6403 **After Hours Cell:** 520-561-1196

Golf Maintenance: **Email:** sbrgolfmaintenance@gmail.com

Phone: 520-260-9314

Chelsea: <https://sbranch.chelseareservations.com>

Your Chelsea home page has access to tee times and events as well as the golf event and maintenance calendars, special event news, rate sheets and annual/play card applications, seasonal daily frost delay info and golf starting times, and Greens Committee minutes.

SBRMGA: www.sbrmga.com

SBRWGA: www.sbrwga.com

SBR Ranchette Putters: ljsentivanac@gmail.com

Greens Committee: sbrgreencommittee@gmail.com

Contact Us!
