

The Ranch Forecaddie

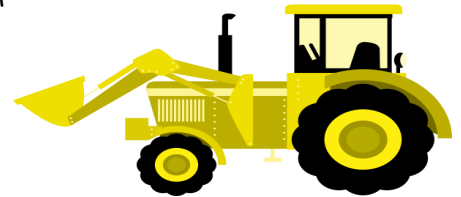
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July, 2021

Golf in July

July has arrived and the course is in full "grow in" mode. This means lots of water being thrown and softer conditions as we provide the extra water essential to promote the moisture level that Bermuda thrives in, while we keep the sprigs alive and happily growing into solid putting surfaces, assist the new sod to root deeply, and encourage weaker areas of turf to fill in. Continued cultivation through aerification along with loads of fertilizer and sand topdressing complete the activity. 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



Pro Shop Schedule

Pro Shop Hours - Open 30 minutes before the first tee time and 1 hour before shotguns. The pro shop closes at 4:00pm. Pro shop staff will carry the pro shop cell phone (520-561-1196) until 5:30.

Staff is available until one hour before sunset.

First tee time 7-1 to 7-31: 7:00am

Last tee time 7-1 to 7-31: 4:00pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

The rates remain the same all day.

Annual: \$10

Resident: \$15



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.

July Maintenance Schedule

The **driving range tee** is planned to move onto the artificial turf on Monday, July 26th. During the summer we will utilize the artificial tee for one week each month to allow the natural turf to recover as much as possible from the expected heavy traffic.



Slicing of the rough and aerification of the fairways will continue throughout the summer. The extra slicing and aerification is planned due to the heavy compaction caused by COVID single rider cart traffic levels. **SBR Local Rules cover this surface disturbance.**

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 Wednesdays 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

Due to the renovation of the practice putting and chipping greens, clinics will be suspended until October. We apologize for the inconvenience and look forward to starting clinics again on our new surfaces!

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 next several months with the renovation ongoing and while workers are busy running heavy equipment and not expecting to be in contact with residents other than golfers.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

Golfing News

Golf Course Update

- In a reversal of procedure, golfers are called on to fill not only divots in the fairway, but also on the tee boxes. Use sand which is available throughout the golf course in brown bins, located at the tee area on holes #1, #6 and #10, and the restroom at #14/#15.
 - The golf course and pro shop will be closed each Wednesday beginning June 16th and throughout the summer months, but the driving range will offer limited Wednesday hours and will be open 10am through dusk. Please plan accordingly and purchase tokens ahead of time.
 - Water is available at the pro shop outside and inside (for purchase), Ed's Dog's, and at the restroom between Holes 14 and 15. Water coolers will not be replaced due to health code regulations through Pinal County. Please make sure you have plenty with you, especially during the summer months.
 - Rakes are purposely placed at 90 degrees to the edge of the bunker; this location provides easiest access to the rake handle. Please replace in this fashion, avoiding the upper edges.
 - The back nine green collars were sodded on Monday June 7th and the back nine greens were sprigged on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 8th and 9th.
 - The front nine greens and the practice greens are progressing nicely, and received their first cut the week of June 7th.
 - All the fairways, tees, and rough were core aerified and top-dressed the week of June 7th. Fertilizer and a heavy water application followed to stimulate growth in the cultivated turf.
 - The range tee was core aerified, top-dressed, and fertilized during the week of June 7th as well.
 - The temporary greens received a fresh paint ring around them so golfers can distinguish if the yare on or off the green and within the "two putt maximum".
 - The Plum tee was opened on #16 on Monday, June 14th. All tees will tee off from that point until the newly sodded Pine and Rust tees are ready for play.
 - The newly sprigged greens are out of play. If your golf ball ends up on a new green, please lift and drop the ball at the nearest point that is not on the green or collar, with no penalty.
 - New upper rings were purchased and installed on the cups of the temporary greens to protect the edge.
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Golfing News cont.

SaddleBrooke Ranch Golf Club welcomes Aaron Thomas as the Superintendent of Golf Course Maintenance for SBR effective 5/11/21. Mr. Thomas hails from the finger lakes region of New York and was raised on a small farm. He attended Ohio State University in Columbus earning a BA in Agronomy, Turf Science. He interned with Marriott Corporation in Arizona where he learned to love the State and golf courses.

Aaron spent the next twenty years with Marriott in Phoenix, Palm Desert, Orlando, Dove Mountain, and most recently Camelback Golf Course in Phoenix. He enjoys the outdoors, fishing and hiking, usually accompanied by his German short-haired pointer, Tank. His wife, Kelley, is a schoolteacher in Catalina and both enjoy vacations at the beach and concerts that lean toward country.

Once the SBR greens are sprigged, Aaron's crew will have a lot of work to do on the greens, including rolling, topdressing and carefully monitoring the watering. Aaron plans a three-pronged fairway and rough fix over the summer months: Concentrated sand topdressing, aerification, and spot watering and fertilization. The goal is to reduce the amount of thatch and get the soils more active. Technical equipment like the existing weather station which measures evapotranspiration, and a new deep tine slicer are important to meeting his goals.



Integral to this golf course project at SBR, are his great support staff and an educated golf community. Welcome, Aaron Thomas.

Toni Graves

SBR Greens Committee

Communications Sub-Committee

Golf Maintenance News

Monsoon Moisture, Recovery and Traffic

Hopefully, the monsoon moisture is here to stay for the next few months, this is key to the recovery in our thin areas around the course. Although the Bermudagrass is green in May and June, there is actually little growth from the plants beside the emergence of new leaf tissue. The increased moisture from the monsoon is key to Bermudagrass growth since it's originated in the tropics. Most importantly is the increase in the dew point and humidity. Once the dew point gets to be above 45% consistently, the Bermuda will begin to start spreading out. This is done two ways, above and below ground. The above ground growth is called a stolon, these are the long "runners" that you see going across the sidewalk or cart path. The stolons are able to spread and start new plants wherever they make contact to the surface. The second way is underground, this is what is called a rhizome. This underground structure will spread below the surface and emerge above the soil creating new plants every few inches. These two reproductive structures are what fills in the thin areas on the course and is why we need to protect our weak areas from cart traffic.

In order to gain as much recovery as possible this summer, I want our cart traffic onto the turf to be done using the healthy green areas of the rough along the cart paths. These areas have more live material that will act as a cushion and help reduce compaction versus driving over the areas that are bare soil. The healthy areas also have a much better ability to recover from traffic once it is diverted to another location. This is why the gates along the cart paths are located in the healthy areas, not in the bare ground areas along the cart path. For locations that do not have gates, focus your entry and exits from the holes in the healthy areas. We need to STAY OFF the weak areas as much as possible to allow the stolons and rhizomes to do their thing; grow and re-establish new plants. If we are continually driving over these young tender plants, they don't stand a chance of establishing and filling in our weak areas.

I have now been here six weeks. I can't believe how the time has flown. There's a lot of exciting things happening on the course. The Bermudagrass is really starting to take off. The greens are coming in great and we are getting ready to lay two acres of sod over the next several weeks. The course should be in great shape in another month or two and I look forward to having some outstanding greens this fall.

Thanks for the support,

Aaron Thomas

Golf Course Superintendent



Tip from the Pro

Hydration

This time of the summer, the temperatures are high and the humidity is low. While we are thankful for the low humidity, it masks the real loss of hydration from our bodies. To replace the hydration, it is important to always have water on hand to replenish the loss. And, not only water, but water with electrolytes that is free from sugar and caffeine, as they can cause the body to lose even more water, increasing the possibility for dehydration. It is important to note, that once dehydrated, it can take as long as 24 hours to re-hydrate. Chronic dehydration can get to a point where IV fluids are necessary to get the body back on track, so be careful when your schedule calls for multiple days in a row out in our blazing heat, especially if this is your first experience with an Arizona summer!



Have fun out there!

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!