

# The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 6, Issue 4

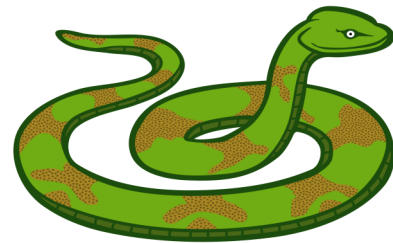
April 2023

## Golf in April

April has brought in the hot weather and lots of Bermuda grass growth. We are poised to have a great summer turf-wise! Be careful around desert areas as the snakes will be up from hibernation and out moving across the course. 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.

Mike Jahaske, PGA  
Director of Golf  
SaddleBrooke Ranch Golf Club



---

## 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 5:00.

Staff is available until one hour before sunset.

First tee time: 4-1 to 4-30: 7:00am

Last tee time: 3-1 to 3-31: 5:00pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

4-1 to 4-30: Prime 7:00 - 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.

### April Maintenance Schedule

We will continue closing one hole per nine to cart traffic to help maintain the quality of the turf. We will continue our program of resting the natural turf one week per month, except in December and January, when it will be rested for two weeks in those months due to the slowing of the growth rate of the rye overseed, and the heavy use of the driving range.

The Bermuda turf is up, and in full growth mode. Please support our maintenance staff by filling divots with sand and repairing ball marks on the green. Cart traffic is highly damaging to the turf, so please limit time on the turf as much as possible.

During April the crew will be spending more time on the course mowing, as all the turf, including the rough, will be actively growing. Please be patient if you encounter them. Heavy mow days are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

**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.



## 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 next clinic will cover bunkers and will be held on Monday, April 17th at 2:00 pm at the practice chipping green. Please see your Chelsea home page event calendar for the full clinic schedule.**

## 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.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

### Eliminate Potential for Cup Damage

When using a "ball grabber" attached to the end of a putter to extract a ball from the cup, please remove the flagstick first to eliminate the potential for damage to the edge of the turf surrounding the cup. Thank you.

## Golfing News Cont.

### Cart Rules

The following rules shall apply to all types of golf carts, both rental and privately-owned:

- DRIVE ON CART PATH until even with ball, then enter turf at 90° when gates are not present.
- SCATTER ACROSS TURF until ball is on green.
- EXIT TURF at 90° to cart path.
- REMAIN ON CART PATH on all Par-3 holes.
- STAY 25 FEET from tees and greens.
- DO NOT DRIVE around sides or back of greens.
- DO NOT DRIVE in the desert.
- DO NOT ENTER private resident property to retrieve golf balls.

### Ball Marks

Our greens have been in service for almost 18 months now. Aaron and his crew are doing a great job keeping them smooth and fast. To do our part as golfers, we should make every effort to keep ball marks repaired! Ball marks that are repaired immediately heal faster and create less surface disruption resulting in a smooth green. Let's do our part to keep the greens looking good! Please remember to stay in the habit of finding and repairing ball marks on the greens to help keep them rolling smoothly.

### Pace of Play

Please follow these simple tips to improve pace of play without having to rush around the course:

1. Be prepared to play your shot while waiting for others to hit, so you can play immediately without delay. This includes shots played while on the putting green.
2. Clean and replace your club in the bag; and record your score, at the next tee, not at the green.
3. Hit a provisional ball when appropriate, and limit searches for lost balls to 3 minutes. Players in the group that can hit safely should do so; while those that can't, should help search.
4. Limit socializing to periods when you are prepared to hit and there is a wait to safely hit.

Have fun on the course, and keep your play efficient, so all can experience an enjoyable pace of play!

### Cart Damage to the Course

Without question, cart traffic is the number one cause of damage to the turf on the course. Please do your best to limit the time your cart is on the turf. One easy way to do that is by staying on the cart path until even with your drive. This simple tip can reduce wear and tear exponentially because entering the turf area early is the most common mistake made by golfers in terms of course damage.

---

## Rules Question of the Month

**Q:** My ball is in a Red Penalty Area under a bush. Can I take "Unplayable Ball Relief" and drop the ball within two club lengths of the ball position?

**A:** No, "Unplayable Ball Relief" does not apply to Penalty Areas (Rule 19.1)

You may try to play the ball as it lies, or utilize one of the Penalty Area Relief Options found in Rule 17.1d for one penalty stroke.

- Stroke and Distance Relief
- Back-On-The-Line Relief
- Lateral Relief

## Golf Maintenance News

### Warmer Temps are Here!

To continue with last month's topic of warmer temperatures and spring green up, I'd like to discuss some additional practices we'll be focusing on over the next month as we promote Bermudagrass growth and recovery.

**Watering** - With our abundant precipitation the past several months we haven't had to rely greatly on our irrigation system. Unfortunately April is the start of our dry season and over the next three months we are heavily dependent on our irrigation for watering to promote Bermudagrass green up, growth and maintenance. Now that we'll be running the system regularly we'll find issues that have developed over the winter. As a result, you will be encountering water occasionally running during the day as we work to complete the following processes.

Continued on next page.



## Golf Maintenance News Cont.

- Adjust sprinklers to ensure they are operating correctly.
- Spot watering with sprinklers to help fill in weak areas and irrigate hot spots.
- Use portable stations - these are the small portable sprinklers we use to address localized dry areas.
- Wet areas - if there are sprinklers that are not operating properly, these may cause wet areas where we'll work promptly to make corrections to these locations.
- Watering in fertilizer

**Fertilization** - as the Bermudagrass wakes up, we need to provide the necessary nutrients to aid in the recovery from our winter traffic. To do this we'll be out spraying liquid fertilizers and applying granular fertilizers as well. Some of these products are required to be watered in prior to play. As mentioned above, be prepared to possibly encounter water if you're one of the first tee times out in the mornings.

**Traffic control/Traffic wear patterns** - Please be aware that the white stakes designate weak or thin areas of turf. Most of the stakes are located in traffic wear patterns. As you enter and exit a hole, please be concise of where you're driving and proactively look for wear patterns in the turf. It is **ALWAYS** better to distribute traffic than to focus it in one area.

**Early Closure** - On April 12<sup>th</sup> the course will be closed at 2:30 so we can apply a summer pre-emergent application for grassy weeds. We cannot have any traffic after the application until its completely watered in the evening. If there is traffic after the application, it will cause severe burning of the turf.

**Reminder** - The area behind your fence/immediate property line is not your property! It belongs either to the Golf Course or the HOA. You are not allowed to do anything to this area, trim or remove plants, add any type of plants or landscaping or apply any chemicals. You can be held liable for the destruction of the property or the associated cost to remove any installed landscape features added. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Aaron Thomas

SBR Golf Course Superintendent



## Tip from the Pro

### Back to Golf Tips

Many of my articles have been on topics other than the golf swing the past several months, so I thought I would get back to golf tips.

As I watch golfers practice, it is easy to see how many have bought into the bill of goods called "keep your head down and your eye on the ball." I'm going to make this statement: blind people play golf. What does it mean? It means golf is NOT a hand-eye coordination game like moving ball sports (think baseball, tennis, pickle ball). Humans can't consciously see impact, let alone control a club head going 50-100 mph, and "square" it. The golf swing shape is an oval, not a concentric circle. To make this motion, the center of the body moves side to side as the torso rotates on one hip, and then the other, while the head moves with the center. The eyes move from side to side and then with the head forward into the follow-through. Employing this motion allows the golfer to swing the club and not just hit at the ball, dramatically improving ball striking and consistency.

Mike Jahaske PGA

Director of Golf



## Contact Information

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

**Golf Maintenance: Email:** aaron.thomas@robson.com

**Phone:** 520-600-8797

**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](http://www.sbrmga.com)

**SBRWGA:** [www.sbrwga.com](http://www.sbrwga.com)

**SBR Ranchette Putters:** susanamorrill52@yahoo.com

**Greens Committee:** SBRGreens@gmail.com

Contact Us!