

# The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 4, Issue 12

December, 2021

## Golf in December

December has begun with some of the best weather we have seen in several years. Cooler weather may be upon us as we head towards January, so please remember to check your Chelsea home page for frost delays, or call the pro shop and select #3 for course conditions. 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.

Happy Holidays!

Mike Jahaske, PGA

Director of Golf

SaddleBrooke Ranch Golf Club

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## Pro Shop Schedule

Pro Shop Hours - Open 30 minutes before the first tee time and 1 hour before shotguns. The pro shop closes at 3:00pm. 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 12-1 to 12-31: 8:00am

Last tee time 12-1 to 12-31: 4:00pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

12-1 to 12-31: Prime 8:00 - 11:22

Midday 11:30 - 1:22

Twilight 1:30 - 3:00

Super Twilight 3:00 - 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.

### December Maintenance Schedule

The **driving range tee** is planned to be on the artificial turf for two weeks beginning Monday, December 20. The natural turf will be rested 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.



Every 3-4 weeks November through March we will delay tee times one hour on a Monday and Wednesday to allow the staff to paint the greens and fairways.

**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.

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## 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 December will cover bunkers and will be held on Monday the 20th at 2:00pm at the practice pitching green.

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## 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!

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## Golfing News Cont.

### Cart Rule Extended

Cart sharing will remain optional again for December and will be reviewed monthly as the outlook on COVID 19 is quantified. We do request that golfers consider sharing a cart whenever comfortable to help in reducing the wear and tear on the turf during this busy golf season.

### Holiday Sale

The pro shop Annual Holiday Sale runs Thursday, December 9 through Wednesday, December 15. Come on in and take advantage of great year-end values!

### Credit Books Monies Expiring

Credit book monies expire on December 31, 2021 so please come visit us during the Annual Pro Shop Holiday Sale, pick up a spare range card, or have us place a special order for that item you have been saving up for.

If you place a special order by December 15 that doesn't arrive before the end of year, we will hold your credit book monies until it comes in.

Any winnings you receive in December automatically go into your 2022 credit book to give you extra time to spend them!

### Tee Sheet Changes Coming in January

Starting Monday, January 3rd, significant changes will begin regarding tee sheet set up for public access. In a nutshell, due to the increasing volume of resident play, public access will be greatly reduced, allowing more space for resident booking.

The changes are as follows:

1. All pre-blocked public access booking slots will be eliminated until after placement of residents onto the tee sheet.
2. Public access booking (including barter times) will begin at 4 days ahead of play instead of 5 days ahead of play. Since residents are placed 6 days ahead of play, this will allow residents to adjust their booking or to add a booking for 24 hours before the public has access to the tee sheet.
3. As initiated since the fall of 2020, no outings will be booked before 12:00.

### 2022 Golf Rates

The 2022 golf rates are now available, viewable, and printable on your Chelsea home page. Annuals and playcards for 2022 are available for purchase at the pro shop beginning Monday, December 6!

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## Golf Maintenance News

### Quick December Update

#### Poa annua/Annual Bluegrass

Poa is a cool season grassy weed that begins to germinate towards the end of September and will continue growing into early summer. This bunch type grass produces an incredible amount of seed which can be spread around the entire course.

We manage Poa annua with both pre and post emergent products. Pre-emergent products ideally kill the young grass plants as they emerge from the seed and begin to grow through the soil. Post-emergent products only kill the plants that are already above ground and require direct contact to the plant.

The tricky part of controlling Poa annua is that the products available will also kill the winter Ryegrass as they are both cool season grasses. This is why we have closed the course early a couple of times over the past few weeks. We needed to close, so that the application to the roughs and fairways did not get tracked onto the Ryegrass by cart or foot traffic after we sprayed as it would have killed the Rye.

We are scheduled to close the course early again on the 13th to treat the greens. I did not see the greens prior to the renovation but have been told there was an abundance of Poa in them last year. I have been seeing a lot of young Poa plants emerging in the green's surfaces. This is a testament to the amount of seed the plants produce and the hardiness of that seed as it can remain viable in the soil for years. We will likely have to make a couple of applications this year, and over the next few years to try and eliminate the existing seed bank in the greens profile.

#### Cart Traffic and Wear on the Course

A reminder to please follow the 90 degree cart path rules,

- Strictly follow the 90 degree cart path rule. What this means is that you stay on the cart path after your tee shot until you are 90 degrees to your ball, then you drive to your ball.
- After your final shot onto the green again drive 90 degrees to the cart path, don't continue up the fairway and exit as close as you can to the green.
- Do not enter the turf at the soonest possible entry point, follow the 90 degree rule.
- If you see wear patterns starting to develop, don't drive through the thinning area, look for an alternative entry/exit.
- Double up in carts as much as you feel comfortable. When everyone has their own cart, it's twice as much wear on the course.

Have a great holiday season!

Aaron Thomas SBR Superintendent



## Tip from the Pro

### Cart Traffic

I know everyone has been talking about cart traffic the past few months. I think it is well known that cart traffic is THE number one cause of turf damage. We also know that for many, golf isn't possible, or enjoyable without the use of a cart. During these times of COVID, we have the added traffic level due to safety concerns (and resulting damage) caused by single rider carts. So carts are a necessary part of golf here at SBR, and single rider carts are often the precautionary action when COVID is a concern. What to do?

1. Follow the 90 degree rule, most importantly, by staying on the cart path until even with your drive to begin the hole.
2. Leave the turf when it won't create extra entry/exit trips from/to the path.
3. Ride with a partner whenever you feel comfortable doing so.
4. Be aware and avoid wet spots that are more common during colder weather.
5. If using a handicap flag, be sure to stay 25 feet from the greens, and do not drive around the sides or the backs of the greens.

Thank you to everyone that is doing their part to limit cart traffic and the resulting damage to our golf course turf!

Happy Holidays!

Mike Jahaske, SBR Director of Golf

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## Contact Information

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

**Golf Maintenance:** **Email:** aaron.thomas@robson.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](http://www.sbrmga.com)

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

**SBR Ranchette Putters:** [ljsentivanac@gmail.com](mailto:ljsentivanac@gmail.com)

**Greens Committee:** [sbreencommittee@gmail.com](mailto:sbreencommittee@gmail.com)

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Contact Us!