

# The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 5, Issue 12

December 2022

## Golf in December

The new year is only a few weeks away and will soon be upon us. Please remember all credit book monies expire on December 31st. If you can't find what you want in the shop, a special order that is placed prior to December 15 will hold your monies until the order arrives. If you are the person that already has every golf-related item, consider buying a range card. Range cards do not expire and will help keep your game in shape! 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



## 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 4:30.

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 - 2:52

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

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.

The Bermuda turf is slowing down and will go fully into dormancy following our first frost. 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.

We will delay tee times for one hour two days a month to help facilitate painting the course. Painting will be done on regular weekday tee time days (Mon, Wed, or Fri).

**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 the full swing and will be held on Monday, December 19th, at 2:00 pm at the driving range.**

## 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 a little over one year 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.

---

## Golf Maintenance News

### Fairway Color Patches



#### What are those patches in the fairways?

The patches you see in the fairways are what's called "Off-type" Bermudagrass. When the course was originally grassed 17 years ago, the entire course (except for the greens) was planted with Tifway 419 Bermudagrass. Tifway 419 has been one of the most popular hybrid Bermudagrass used in the past 30 years on golf courses. Its density, green color and recuperative ability make it the ideal golf course turf for southern states.

#### What is an Off-type Bermudagrass?

Basically a grass that displays characteristics different from the desired or originally planted turf, in our case Tifway 419. In the picture above you can see the blond patches, these are the Off-type. These patches can coalesce into larger areas, as an example #11 fairway is mainly Off-type.

#### How do Off-types get here?

Off-type grasses can arrive on a course in multiple ways, especially on a course that is 17 years old.

- Sod brought in from the sod farms can have Off-types in them (contamination), although the sod growers work diligently to eliminate Off-types at their locations it does happen. They have many different types of Bermudagrass growing at their farms so it's not impossible for contamination to occur in their fields.
- Previous Superintendents using different Bermudagrass sod other than Tifway 419.



## Golf Maintenance News

- Previous Superintendents using Bermudagrass seed instead of sod. Seeded Bermudagrass is what's called a "Common Variety" and has very different growth characteristics than the Tifway.
- Genetic mutations or segregation of the Tifway 419. I relate this to us as we get older. For guys, I compare it to the growth of more ear hair, nose hair, bigger noses or ears. Unfortunately as things get older they change!

To sum up, our Off-type grass in the fairways has very little effect on the health and conditions of our course. The biggest difference is that it grows a little more aggressive in the summer and doesn't tolerate the cold temperatures as well in the winter months. That's why it's blond and the Tifway 419 is green. Here is a link describing Off-types in more detail. This is speaking about greens with Off-types, but it's the same principal - **NO** we don't have Off-types in our greens.

<https://www.usga.org/articles/2011/12/offtypes-in-ultradwarf-putting-greens-21474843981.html#:~:text=Off%2Dtypes%20that%20differ%20only,moderate%20to%20severe%20vertical%20mowing.>

Please help to reduce cart traffic and wear on the course, reminder to follow the 90 degree and cart path only 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 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 thicker areas to enter and exit.

On #10 we have added white posts with reflective tape at the front of each wash crossings, which is to give you a more accurate yardage to the washes as you play the hole.



## Tip from the Pro

### Happy Holidays!

We are right in the middle of the holiday season with the new year right around the corner. During this time I want to wish all of you joy and contentment and the very best of health in the new year!

From myself and all our staff in the Pro Shop, thank you for a great year! We are looking forward to getting started in a new season of golf in 2023 with you here at SaddleBrooke Ranch!

All the best to everyone in 2023!

Mike Jahaske PGA



## Contact Information

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

**Golf Maintenance:** Email: [aaron.thomas@robson.com](mailto: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 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:** [jackdon8@yahoo.com](mailto:jackdon8@yahoo.com)

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

Contact Us!

golf