

# The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 5, Issue 11

November 2022

## Golf in November

The year is winding down, and the holidays will soon be upon us. Please take advantage of the new stock in the pro shop, our Holiday Sale (December 6-12), or by placing a special order prior to December 15, to use up any credit book funds you may have before they expire December 31. 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 Thanksgiving!

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 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: 11-1 to 11-14: 7:30am  
11-15 to 11-30: 7:45am

Last tee time: 11-1 to 11-30: 4:00pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

11-1 to 11-30: Prime 7:30/7:45 - 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.

### November 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 bunkers and will be held on Monday, November 21st, at 2:00 pm at the practice chipping 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.

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.

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## Golf Maintenance News

### Cold Temps Are Here!

#### The Need For Frost Delays

This past Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> we had a temperature of 31 degrees behind #1 green, that's freezing cold! The rest of the week was also cold with temps in the low to upper 30s at sunrise. I want to remind everyone of the need and importance of frost delays. When we have a frost delay, it is to prevent damage to our turf and maintain our conditions. Foot traffic and especially equipment traffic across frosted green / growing turf causes damage that lasts for weeks, even months, when it's cold. This damage will lead to thinning turf and eventually bare dirt if we did not have frost delays.

I'm sure the comment will come up that we didn't overseed the Bermuda and that it's dormant. For the roughs, that comment is somewhat true, the roughs do go completely dormant for weeks during our coldest periods in December and January. For the tees, fairways and greens, that is not correct. Our shorter cut grass in the fairway, tees and greens may go 50% dormant for a few weeks, but there is always some green leaf tissue that we need to protect from frost damage. These green leaves are critical to keep our density and most importantly to be ready to produce energy for the plant as soon as we get a nice sunny afternoon and temps warm up for a couple days.

What determines the length of the frost delays? There's multiple factors that determine the severity of the frost and how long we need to stay off the turf - temperature, cloud cover, elevation, dew point, relative humidity, wind speed and our nightly irrigation cycles. Our property has varying microclimates, at your house it could be 40 degrees if you live at one of the higher elevations on property; but for the holes on the course that are adjacent to a low lying wash, the temperatures could be 10 degrees colder.

We must consider the above factors when making a decision of how long it will be before we can safely get onto the turf. We then look at the time needed to prepare the course ahead of play to determine the length of the frost delay. Typically we need a bare minimum of 30 minutes for a basic course set up but up to an hour if we have agronomic practices planned.



Below are 2 links from the USGA that explain in more depth the reasons and importance of frost delays

## Golf Maintenance News

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<https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/articles/2018/01/5-things-to-know--frost-delays.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eKR7z0fVeXs>

### Cart Path Only Days

With our limited overseeding the past 2 seasons, we have achieved much better year round conditions across the entire course. To maintain these conditions over the next couple months we need to be extremely cautious when we have wet conditions after rain events. To do this we need to restrict cart traffic on those wet days. I understand that every hole might not have standing water in the fairways, but the cart path edges might be wet in one location and the fairway might be wet in another. If we don't restrict traffic and 60 carts go through those wet areas, we will lose turf and conditions will decline, that's guaranteed.

This time of the year the turf does not recover from traffic damage, so please be understanding and be aware of wet areas, traffic patterns, obey cart directional signs and please disperse traffic as much as possible.

### Hole 16 Tee Markers

There are a couple residents along 16 fairway that are having golf balls hit in to their homes and yards. We have made a few changes to the setup on that hole. One of those is directing the tee markers to the left side of the fairway, we set these each morning. The past few days we have had golfers redirect the tee markers back towards the center of the fairway. Please do not move the tee markers on those tees or anywhere else on the golf course.

Thanks!

Aaron Thomas

SBR Golf Course Superintendent



## Tip from the Pro

### Range Tee Divot Pattern

The natural turf portion of the driving range tee opened recently. Most golfers prefer natural turf to practice on, and the beautifully overseeded surface was greeted happily and hungrily... We have many avid practicers here at SaddleBrooke Ranch, and in any given week, untold amounts of divots are taken as golfers work to perfect their swing.

Because of the heavy use of the range, the possibility that turf will be used up faster than grass can be regrown becomes problematic. One of the solutions to help this issue has been to install an artificial tee to give the natural tee more time to heal by alternating between the natural and artificial surfaces. Another solution is for golfers to help speed up the regrowth by modifying their divot pattern. We have placed signs on the range to remind everyone what pattern to use as well.

Have fun out there!

Mike Jahaske

SBR 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:** jackdon8@yahoo.com

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

Contact Us!