

# The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 6, Issue 9

September 2023

## Golf in September

In the second half of September we will close the course for 11 days to prep for the dormant winter season. While we still call it overseeding, only the driving range tee, chipping and putting green collars, and a few select tees are actually seeded. The rest of the time is spent edging bunkers, filling them with sand, trimming trees, edging cart paths, and painting markers and signs. In addition, the greens will also be top dressed, fertilized, and deep watered along with the fairways. All turf cutting heights will go up a bit to compensate for the flattening effect of dormancy. Except for the greens being a little slower, everything will be in top condition to kick off our fall and winter seasons! 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: 9-1 to 9-30: 7:00am

Last tee time: 9-1 to 9-30: 5:30pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

9-1 to 9-30: 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.

### September Maintenance Schedule

September 18 to 29, the course will be closed for maintenance. During this time, activities such as top-dressing, fertilization, and heavy watering are performed, as well as other tasks as time allows. The September maintenance is not as disruptive as the August maintenance week, with the focus on getting practice areas ready, topping bunkers, and cleaning cart path edges and trimming trees.

The **driving range** will be on the mat for about two weeks after opening to allow the newly overseeded areas to mature.

We will continue closing one hole per nine to cart traffic to help maintain the quality of the turf. We will also 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.

**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. Our golf clinics are great for learning a new skill or brushing up a skill that needs some work.

**Due to overseeding, there will not be a clinic in September. The next clinic will be in October and cover bunkers. It will be held on Monday, October 23rd at 2:00pm at the pitching 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 24 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

### Dropping Ball "Back on the Line"

**Q:** When dropping a ball on "Back on Line" relief from a Penalty Area, or from an Unplayable Ball, after striking the ground, can the ball roll forward?

**A:** Yes, under the new Rule for 2023, the "Relief Area" is one club-length *in any direction* from the point it strikes the "Back on the Line" reference point (where it hits the ground on the imaginary line from the flagstick back through the ball).

Please reference Rules: 14.3b(3), 16.1c(2), 17.1d(2), 19.2b, and 19.3, and the Definition of a Relief Area.

## Golf Maintenance News

### Overseeding Preparation

Last month I provided an outline of our maintenance plans during our closure September 18<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>. I'd like to take this time and be sure everyone is aware of the preparations that will take place the week before we close.

Overseeded areas for 2023 - same as last year, we will not be overseeding the greens, fairways, collars and the majority of the tees. These areas will be painted and fertilized on a 3-week interval starting late September/first week of October.

Areas to be overseeded:

- **Driving Range tee complex**
- **Putting and Chipping green complex**
- **Tees - all par 3 tees (except black tees) 3 Rust, 11 Rust, Plum, 13 Rust, Plum**
- **Selected area behind #9 green, 20 yard band around lake edge**
- **SaddleBrooke Ranch Drive on left side of 10**

*Continued on next page*



## Golf Maintenance News Cont.

Week of September 11<sup>th</sup>:

- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - apply growth regulator - Primo Maxx - this will greatly slow down the growth of the Bermudagrass and help give the advantage to the emerging seedlings.
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> - apply turf desiccant - Reward - to "burn down" the leaf material. This enables us to do less mechanical preparations to the overseeded areas and greatly reduces the overall stress to the Bermudagrass going into the fall season.
  - The attached link is the program I follow: [https://www.greencastonline.com/programs/fairways---bermudagrass-overseeded-with-perennial-ryegrass---west-\(ca,-az,-nv,-ut\)](https://www.greencastonline.com/programs/fairways---bermudagrass-overseeded-with-perennial-ryegrass---west-(ca,-az,-nv,-ut))
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>— during our closure we will "scalp" down and prepare the areas mechanically with our mowers.
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> - these area will be playable just cut short and ready for seeding.
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> - start the seeding process.

Thanks for reading. I'm looking forward to a great fall season and hopefully a warmer winter 😊

Aaron Thomas

SBR Golf Course Superintendent



## Tip from the Pro

### Course Etiquette Reminders

Our golf course is in the best shape of the last six years. Much of this is due to hundreds of thousands of dollars from Mr. Robson, but also in the hard work and dedication of our superintendent, Aaron Thomas, and his crew.

As the turf condition improves, we find softer greens and softer fairways. The softer conditions are most welcome because now the ball stops on the greens, and a divot can be taken in the fairway without jarring oneself to the teeth.

Unfortunately, the result is plenty of ball marks on the greens and divots galore on the fairways. I think that over time, since the greens weren't marking, and the fairways weren't divoting, players slowly lost the habit of repairing ball marks and filling divots.

Golfer etiquette calls for caring for the course, regardless of ownership, or green fee paid.

Please repair your ball mark, plus one other, and fill those divots to support the efforts and dollars invested, to give SaddleBrooke Ranch Golf Club not only a fine reputation in the Tucson area, but also a beautiful home for our golfing residents.

Thank you for your efforts!

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 Lady Niners:** [www.sbrladyniners.home.blog](http://www.sbrladyniners.home.blog)

**SBR Ranchette Putter:** [susanamorrill52@yahoo.com](mailto:susanamorrill52@yahoo.com)

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

Contact Us!