

The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 4, Issue 10

October, 2021

Golf in October

October has arrived with the entire course and practice areas open! We are excited to share the results of a summer of hard work with you. This will be our first winter season with **all** the greens and fairways dormant, leading to a summer to follow without the woes of having to transition.

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.

See you at the pro shop,
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 10-1 to 10-14: 7:00am
10-15 to 10-31: 7:15am

Last tee time 10-1 to 10-31: 4:30pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

10-1 to 10-31: 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.

October Maintenance Schedule

The **driving range tee** is planned to open following overseeding on Saturday, October 2nd, but the tees will remain on the artificial turf for two more weeks to allow the natural turf time to mature. 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.



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. In addition, we will start tee times one hour later on Wednesdays to allow maintenance more time to complete necessary applications and other regular maintenance. With the use of single rider carts due to COVID, pace of play has decreased, and the window maintenance normally uses for regular upkeep has been greatly diminished.

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 October will cover chipping and will be held on Monday, October 25th 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!

Golfing News Cont.

Overseeding 2021

This year will be the first year we did not overseed *any* fairways; and, because the greens are new, the greens as well. We overseeded the tees and the greens' collars on the course, and the driving range tee and collars of the practice greens. Fairways and greens will be painted for aesthetics, to retain heat, and to reduce wear. In some parts of the country the practice of not overseeding has occurred for years; but in the desert southwest, it is still an emerging trend. Since this will be our first time, we will review the results of not overseeding and review the benefits each year to determine if the program will continue as is or be modified. Below are listed some of the main benefits to not overseeding the greens and fairways.

- The health of the base Bermuda turf will continue to improve without the competition of Rye seeded over it. Overseeding weakens the base Bermuda leading to turf loss increasing with each time the turf is overseeded.
- Not overseeding eliminates the transition period in the summer allowing for improved turf conditions in the spring, summer, and fall. Transition occurs when the Rye overseed dies out from the pressure of applying herbicide, lowering mowing heights, and restricting irrigation. It can often create brown or bare spots until the Bermuda reestablishes itself.
- Not overseeding reduces the closed period in the fall and completely eliminates the period of cart-path-only following overseeding.
- Non-overseeded turf reduces frost delays in the winter.
- Allows for cleaner turf with less weed intrusion due to being able to treat the entire course and not damage overseeded areas.
- Reduces water consumption and saves on seed costs (which have doubled just in the last year).

Full Course Opening Day on Saturday, October 2nd

- **Saturday, October 2:** the course opened completely with the greens included. Flagsticks may now be removed! The range tee will stay on the artificial turf for two additional weeks to allow the natural turf tee to mature. Golfers will be able to drive to the ball because the fairways will not be overseeded. One hole per nine will have the fairway closed to cart traffic. This practice will continue through the winter to help rest the turf from cart traffic. Those with disability placards may request an orange shop flag to access the closed fairways. **Personally owned BLUE flags will not be honored.**

Cart Rule Extended

Cart sharing will remain optional when we open on October 2nd 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.

Golf Maintenance News

Cart Traffic Control this Season

The most detrimental thing to the course's conditions in the coming months is cart traffic. **WE** need to work together to minimize wear patterns as play enters and exits the golf holes. The key to this is dispersing cart traffic throughout the entire golf hole as much as possible.

Here's how you can help preserve our conditions.

1. 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.
2. **Do not** enter the turf as the soonest possible entry point; follow the 90 degree rule.
3. If you see wear patterns starting to develop, don't drive through the thinning area; look for an alternative entry/exit.
4. Double up in carts as much as you feel comfortable. When everyone has their own cart, that's twice as much wear on the course.

Here's what we'll be doing to regulate traffic patterns and wear on the course. Please follow these guidelines to help preserve our conditions.

1. We will use white stakes to designate areas to avoid with your cart, please go around these areas; don't drive over the stakes and through the area. The stakes will designate -
 - Weak areas, wet areas, areas developing wear patterns and used as a general traffic control. This is to try to allow the area some recovery from traffic.
2. Cart directional signs - as you approach the greens, these will be yellow arrows pointing towards the cart path. This designates for you to proceed to the cart path; don't continue driving to the green.
 - This will allow us to control wear patterns at the exit point of the hole. We will be shifting the arrows forwards and backwards based on developing wear patterns anywhere from 20 - 50 yards from the front of the green. These distances will vary on each hole dependent on wear patterns.
3. As a last resort to control traffic, we will use the red gates to designate entry and exit points. I prefer not to use the gates because it focuses all cart traffic through a limited area, which results in severe thinning of the turf, compaction and eventually large bare areas in the winter season. The gates may be used only at an entry or exit or both. As you approach the hole, look to see if there's a gate. If so, use it; if you miss it, remember for your next round.



Tip from the Pro

Ball Marks, Divots, and Cart Traffic

The golf course is now fully open! Brand new greens and restored fairways! There is a lot of excitement and enthusiasm out there regarding the course. It would be great if we can harness some of that energy and use it to get everyone doing their part to help keep the course looking good. What can every golfer do that helps support the course? Simply by caring for the course in the three areas that cause the most damage to it through ball marks, divots, and cart traffic.

1. Repair your ball mark and one other on the green.
2. Fill your divot with sand.
3. Pair up in a cart when comfortable, and keep the cart on the path as much as possible.

If you aren't sure how to properly repair a ball mark or fill a divot check out these links for a good demonstration!

How to Correctly Repair Ball Marks

<https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/videos/2016/07/14/fore-the-golfer--how-to-repair-ball-marks-mp4-5035706703001.html>

How to Correctly Repair a Divot

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kzEGA-nws8Y>

We sincerely appreciate your efforts to help care for the course. Thank you!

Mike Jahaske, PGA 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: 520-260-9314

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

SBRWGA: www.sbrwga.com

SBR Ranchette Putters: ljsentivanac@gmail.com

Greens Committee: sbrgreencommittee@gmail.com

Contact Us!