

# The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 4, Issue 9

September, 2021

## Golf in September

September has arrived, and with it, the countdown to opening day begins to wind down! We are excited to announce our *Golf Course Preview* on September 19th and the subsequent full opening of the course on Saturday, October 2nd! Specifics on the course preview and opening day can be found in the *Golfing News* section.

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 9-1 to 9-30: 7:00am

Last tee time 9-1 to 9-30: 5:00pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

The rates remain the same all day.

Annual: \$10

Resident: \$15



## 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

The **driving range tee** is planned to close for overseeding on Monday, September 20th through October 1st. The collars around the practice putting green and the practice chipping area will also be overseeded. The golf course will close September 20th to overseed tees and green collar. The entire course, including the new greens, will open for play on Saturday October 2nd, barring any unforeseen weather delays. We are excited to be on the verge of finishing and unveiling all the work done this past summer and able to welcome back all our resident golfers to playing the full course!



**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

Due to the renovation of the practice putting and chipping greens, clinics will be suspended until October. We apologize for the inconvenience and look forward to starting clinics again on our new surfaces.

## 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.

**This is especially important during the next several months with the renovation ongoing and while workers are busy running heavy equipment and not expecting to be in contact with residents other than golfers.**

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

## Golfing News Cont.

### Golf Course Preview Event!

**Sunday, September 19**, the pro shop will host a golf course preview event for residents. To sign up for the event, simply make a tee time request in Chelsea for that day. There will only be one option of an 18 hole 9:30am open play (no guests or public players) shotgun. The course will be available for one free-of-charge round of golf with range warm up. Range balls will be available at 8:30am, and the shotgun will head to the course at 9:30am. There will be room for 128 golfers. Any resident that has an active Chelsea number can sign up. On the course there will be several contests, including closest to the pin and straightest drive. In addition, complimentary beverages will be served on the course. Check in at the table outside the pro shop and receive two drink tickets per person as well as a listing of on-course contests and prizes. Make your tee time request in Chelsea and join us for the fun!

#### **Overseeding 2021**

This year will be the first year we do not overseed any fairways; and, because the greens are new, the greens as well. We will be overseeding 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.
-

## Golfing News Cont.

- 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).

### Course Preparation Calendar for Full Course Opening Day on Saturday, October 2nd

- **Monday, September 13 - Friday, September 17:** Preparation for seeding the tees, green collars, and practice area will begin. Wednesday, September 15 the entire course AND range will be closed all day. The range WILL NOT open as usual at 10am, but will remain closed to prep it for seeding.
- **Sunday, September 19:** Golf Course Preview with 9:30am shotgun. The course WILL NOT be open before or after the shotgun. The practice putting green, range, and chipping area will be available ONLY prior to the shotgun for warm up.
- **Monday, September 20 - Friday, October 1:** the golf course will be closed to overseed the tees, green collars, and practice area.
- **Saturday, October 2:** the course will open completely with the greens included. 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.

### 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.

---

## Golfing News Cont.

### Golf Course Update

- Chelsea has updated their app and resident portal. We took the plunge and had it installed September 1st! The look is refreshed, and fixes some older issues; but more importantly, the update will give us access to any improvements made to the program going forward into the future. Instructions were sent out to all subscribers on getting set up to use the new version.
- Our fairways are looking better every week! We ask golfers to support this progress by filling not only divots in the fairway, but also on the tee boxes. Use sand which is available throughout the golf course in brown bins, located at the tee area on holes #1, #6 and #10, and the restroom at #14/#15.
- The golf course and pro shop will be closed each Wednesday beginning June 16th and throughout the summer months; but, the driving range will offer limited Wednesday hours and will be open 10am through dusk. Please plan accordingly and purchase tokens ahead of time.
- Rakes are purposely placed at 90 degrees to the edge of the bunker; this location provides easiest access to the rake handle. Please replace in this fashion, avoiding the upper edges.
- The newly sprigged greens are out of play. If your golf ball ends up on a new green, please lift and drop the ball at the nearest point that is not on the green or collar, with no penalty.
- Cart crossings have been white lined to enhance safety for golfers when crossing streets to go from one hole to the next throughout the course. Signage was created and posted several weeks ago as well.



## Golf Maintenance News

### Non-Overseeded Greens - What to Expect

We will not be overseeding the greens this fall. The practice of not overseeding is starting to grow in popularity around the state. At my previous club we did not overseed the greens for the past 8 years. Our membership and daily play loved the putting surfaces throughout the season; and, I'd bet that half the public players in the winter didn't know the greens were not overseeded!

#### **Advantages of Not Overseeding**

- Allows for better establishment of new greens.
- No growing in of overseed in the fall or transition in the spring.
- Allows for control of Poa annua and other weeds in the winter, which results in a pure stand of grass throughout the year.
- My experience is that there are fewer ball marks.

#### **Disadvantages of Not Overseeding**

- Firm greens the first year after grow in.
- There will be a period of a few weeks, during the coldest part of the winter, that the greens will be extremely fast.
- If the old cups/plugs are not replaced properly they may show. Luckily for us, we have large greens with plenty of pin-able areas.

#### **What to expect this fall and winter**

Going into the fall we need to make sure the greens are not too fast; ideally, we'll be at a medium to fast speed during the first part of October and will maintain that through November. As soon as the temperatures begin to fall, we'll start to raise the mowing heights on the mowers. This will be a balancing act for a little while to keep consistent speeds as temperatures cool. During the coldest part of the winter, greens speeds can become extremely fast. At this point, the greens will be at their most dormant period; and there's not much we can do until the temperatures warm slightly, and we come out of dormancy. At that point, we'll be following the USGA guidelines regarding greens speeds and degree of slope when we cut cups. Once the temperatures begin to rise, we'll get back to a medium to fast speed. During this entire fall and winter we will still be mowing, fertilizing, topdressing and painting the greens to keep the turf as active as possible.

I hope everyone enjoys the new greens this season. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Aaron Thomas, Golf Course Superintendent



## Tip from the Pro

### Using Found Balls on the Range

The practice of using found balls on the driving range has become a frequent action by golfers. So frequent, in fact, that staff are culling the quantity of two to four full five-gallon buckets per month. Some may ask, "What is wrong with that?" Imagine people coming to a restaurant, sitting down, taking time and space at a table eating food that they brought in, and then leaving the mess for restaurant staff to clean up. That visual might make the issue clear. There is a positive solution for the problem though, and one hopefully everyone will embrace. Beginning this month there will be a crate next to the check-in window. A sign on the crate will ask for donations of used or found golf balls to the First Tee of Tucson. We ask that those found balls are simply dumped into the crate, and we will get them to some deserving kids. Not only that, but the staff can get back to culling old range balls and replacing them with new ones ready to hit!



Have fun out there!

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:** 520-260-9314

**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)

Contact Us!