

# The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 4, Issue 3

March, 2021

## Golf in March

March is here and season is in full swing with our busiest month of the year! Please note the first tee time changes twice in March (on the 1st and 15th). Enjoy the beginning of spring! 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



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## Pro Shop Schedule

Pro Shop Hours - Open 30 minutes before the first tee time and 1 hour before shotguns. Soft close at 5:00pm as staff go out to check the course carrying the pro shop cell phone (520-561-1196).

Staff is available until one hour before sunset.

First tee time 3-1 to 3-14: 7:15

3-15 to 3-31: 7:00

No Shotguns at this time

Rate Periods:

Prime: 3-1 to 3-15: 7:15 - 11:52

3-15 to 3-31: 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.

### March Maintenance Schedule

The **driving range tee** is planned to move onto the artificial turf on Monday, March 22nd. During the year we will utilize the artificial tee for about 7-14 days each month to allow the natural turf to recover as much as possible from the expected heavy traffic.

Slicing of the rough began in February, and will continue as the turf begins to wake up from dormancy. Extra slicing and aerification is planned due to the heavy compaction caused by COVID single rider cart traffic levels. **SBR Local Rules cover this surface disturbance.**

**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 Wednesday 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 March will cover the full swing and will be held on Monday, March 29th, at 2:00pm, at the driving range tee.**

## 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 early morning while workers are busy with prepping the course and not expecting to be in contact with residents.**

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

## Golfing News cont.

### St. Patrick's Week Sale

March 15th-21st, the pro shop is holding our annual St. Patrick's Week Sale. Merchandise will be 15% to 80% off! Stop by and see our new stock and special deals!!

### Golf with the Pro Update!!

Come join Mike and Ken for a round of golf every Wednesday at 11:00am. The tee time has room for 3 residents. Mike will play nine holes and Ken will play nine holes. This is an opportunity to golf and socialize with your pros! Although there isn't time for a playing lesson, all topics and questions are welcome. The sign up book is at the counter in the pro shop. **Regular green fees are now comped!!** and no placement points are assessed. Stop in or call the pro shop and get signed up today!

### Golf Club Fitting Day with PING

Monday, March 8th we will have a fitting day from 9:30am to 2:00pm. PING will be in attendance. Sign up form for appointments were available in the pro shop starting Monday, February 22nd.

### Golf Course Property Access

The golf course is not part of the SBR HOA and also NOT an extension of residential property. Under no circumstances should a resident take it upon themselves to modify the golf course property behind their lot. No trimming, planting, weed eating, or applying of herbicides should be done by the resident or their landscapers. Any plants added are subject to removal without compensation at the discretion of the superintendent.

### Greens Committee

The Greens Committee is expanding with several additional sub-committees planned to cover all aspects of the golf experience here in SaddleBrooke Ranch. The Greens Committee is committed to providing communication between the resident golfer and Robson management. To contact the Greens Committee, use this email: [sbrgreencommittee@gmail.com](mailto:sbrgreencommittee@gmail.com)

### Frost Delay Season

Frost Delay Season continues through March 15th, so please remember to check your Chelsea home page to see if your tee time has been delayed by frost. The information will be posted as close to 7am as possible. If your tee time is later in the morning or early afternoon, we ask that you check with the Pro Shop to see if any time has been made up.

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## Golfing News cont.

### Community Snack Shack (Ed's Dogs) Update

The facility layout for Ed's Dogs was reviewed early in January. Work will begin once the design work is complete and approved by the county. Revisions are to include: a parking area for golfers stopping for the restroom or to make a food pick up, an additional lane for "drive thru" so golfers do not have to negotiate the regular parking area twice, as well as a pick-up window for orders phoned in. A golfers' menu designed for grab and go is in place and ready for consumption!

### **NEW** Medical Access Flag Use Program

This Medical Access Flag Use program has been established to allow those who have handicap placards issued by the DMV to access fairways that are closed to cart traffic in certain circumstances. These circumstances are limited to:

1. Par three holes that are closed to cart traffic.
2. Any holes closed to cart traffic to reduce wear and tear. In most cases there will be one hole per nine selected for these purposes.
3. Medical Access Flag users must follow all other cart traffic rules as listed below:
  - **DRIVE ON PATH** until even with the ball then enter turf at 90° (on gated holes enter and exit at the gates).
  - **SCATTER ACROSS TURF** until the ball is on the green complex.
  - **EXIT TURF** at 90° to the path (or gate if used on that hole).
  - **STAY 25 FEET** from tees and greens, **DO NOT** drive around the sides or back of greens.

The Medical Access Flag Use program DOES NOT apply when the one or more holes, or the entire course is closed to cart traffic on the fairway due to conditions created by weather or following overseeding. During those times, ALL carts must remain on the cart path regardless if the operator possesses a medical placard.

### **Process to Obtain a Medical Access Flag for Daily Use**

This program is set up for daily use wherein the flag is picked up on the day of play prior to teeing off and returned when finishing the round. The following process will be used:

1. The golfer will enter the pro shop with their DMV issued placard.
  2. The golfer will give the placard to the golf staff in exchange for a Medical Access Flag for use during their round.
  3. The golf staff will verify that the placard is valid by checking the date range on the placard and will issue a flag after verification.
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## Golf Maintenance News

### Golf Course Update March

As the weather begins to change to more favorable growing conditions, our management practices will begin to change. This is consistent from year to year when the weather allows the maintenance team to put forth the necessary cultural inputs that the turf needs to survive and thrive. With the increase in cart traffic, the plan and management strategies are a little different this year as we continue to suffer from weak fairway conditions on holes that were overseeded. Remember, the reason we over seeded the fairways was because we had had weak Bermuda going in to dormancy. And now, with the increased traffic, I feel that we have lost or weakened our progress to a certain degree. Please stay on the path when it makes sense.

#### **Greens update:**

Condition of the greens continues to improve. Like all plants, a certain level of average daily soil temperature needs to be available to the plant. At a certain temperature, plants including grasses will begin to function in different ways. This mechanism isn't plant specific, but soil temperatures play an important role in overall plant function and micro biology. Plants are being pushed with the best available products. Soil and foliar nutrients are applied weekly based on soil reports and water test data. Water quality is important. The availability of nutrients is affected by the contributors of the nutrients in the water. As we move forward with turf health, a big part of what I will be doing with the health will focus on water constituents. What's in the water? Start there if you want to grow healthy plants.

#### **Other Course Details:**

The maintenance team continues to do a nice job on detail work. Bunker maintenance, divot work, driving range tee maintenance, desert work is all part of the daily plan.

#### **Entry and exit gates:**

Entry and exit gates have been employed as a trial as suggested by the greens committee. I was reluctant to go forward with this knowing that very few would adhere to the concept. As we have looked at the idea over a couple weeks now, very few if any are following the rule of what the gates are designed to do. The goal is to direct traffic into 2 areas. One entry point and one exit point and the "scatter rule while reaching the fairway with your golf car. Please ask the golf shop staff if you are unclear of what the purpose of the gates is.

Chris Blake

SBR GCS



## Tip from the Pro

### Tips for Faster Play

Pace of play is generally not an issue right now with the majority of golfers riding by themselves to maintain social distancing. As a matter of fact, rangers are spending more time monitoring cart traffic than pace of play these days. One habit that is becoming more common is carts being parked at the entrance to the green instead of up and around to the side of the green on the cart path. If a player is disabled and saving steps, this can be the most efficient and time-saving method to use. However, for able-bodied golfers, especially a whole foursome, walking BACK towards the fairway to get to your cart is a very inefficient way to travel the course. It is especially noticeable to the group following if they are waiting in the fairway to hit and need to wait until the group ahead has left to area and can hit safely.

We ask that, unless you are disabled, to please take your cart on the cart path all the way to the back of the green complex so that after putting out you will be walking AWAY from the fairway and allowing the group behind to hit their shots while you are at a safe distance.

Thank you, have fun out there!

Mike Jahaske PGA

Director of Golf

SaddleBrooke Ranch Golf Club



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## Contact Information

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

**Golf Maintenance:** **Email:** [sbrgolfmaintenance@gmail.com](mailto:sbrgolfmaintenance@gmail.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:** [lsentivanac@gmail.com](mailto:lsentivanac@gmail.com)

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

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**Contact Us!**