

The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 3, Issue 4

April, 2020

Golf in April

April 2020 comes as a month that is unique to most people's personal histories. Many aspects of normal life are on hold or being handled differently. Fortunately the course has been able to remain open after making many adjustments to foster and maintain an ability for golfers to practice social distancing. Later in this publication you will find an update with all the current practices used to follow the latest guidelines for COVID-19. 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



Pro Shop Schedule

Pro Shop Hours - Open 30 minutes before the first tee time and 1 hour before shotguns. Soft close at 3:30pm 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 4-1 to 4-30: 7:00

Morning Shotgun: 8:00

Afternoon Shotgun: 1:00

Rate Periods:

4-1 to 4-30: 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.

April Maintenance Schedule

In April, no special maintenance is scheduled; but, it is a time when the crew will have more time to trim desert areas and maintain the border strip along resident property where it joins to the golf course due to less turf to mow. This extra time can quickly be eroded as we have a very busy course which limits how much the crew can get done while golfers are present. Also, many special events require more set up time and can also use more space on the course.



The **2020 golf maintenance calendar is now published and available to view on Chelsea**. Several adjustments have been made to the overseeding dates, aerifying process, and summer Wednesday maintenance

Free Monthly Golf Clinic

The clinic for April has been cancelled due to COVID-19 precautions.

Golfing News

Golf Course and Pro Shop COVID-19 Ongoing Precautionary Actions Update March 31st^h 2020

The golf operation at SaddleBrooke Ranch is closely monitoring the evolving recommendations regarding the COVID-19 virus. We are reviewing and updating our procedures daily and are currently performing the measures listed below to help reduce potential exposure:

1. Tee time spacing has been moved to 10 minutes between groups. **It is imperative that golfers do NOT start early to maintain the safe spacing distance designed into the 10 minutes times!!**
2. CDC guidelines ask that you maintain a **6 foot distance** from others **AT ALL TIMES** for your safety and the safety of others!
3. The pro shop is now using outside check in only. Please proceed to the back window on the sidewalk side of the pro shop to check in. We **cannot accept cash** payments or offer receipts for transactions, but can take resident signing privilege AND credit cards. We can also still sell range tokens.
4. All access to drinking water and ice **ON THE COURSE** has been removed. The ice/water machine at the pro shop is still available. All drinking water cups have been removed from all areas at the shop and golf course.

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Golfing News Continued

5. The ice and water machine at the pro shop is being disinfected several times per day.
6. All golf ball washers have been removed from the course.
7. The cups on the greens have been turned upside down allowing the ball to be holed without requiring contact to retrieve the ball. **If the ball goes into the cup but comes back out THE BALL IS CONSIDERED HOLED!**
8. The flags on the practice putting green have been removed.
9. The bunker rakes have been removed from the course. Be courteous to others and smooth the sand as much as possible with your foot and the club. **If your ball comes to rest in a divot or footprint in the bunker, you may take free relief IN THE BUNKER at the nearest point that is not closer to the hole and drop the ball within one club length.**
10. **DO NOT** remove or touch the flag sticks on the greens.
11. Shotguns have been discontinued; the clubs will play as tee times. **NO PRIZE MONEY will be collected.**
12. The pro shop and golf course restrooms/portable toilets are being disinfected several times per day.
13. Residents and the public may ride alone and still have access to driving on the turf to maintain social distance. Please stay 6 feet from others!
14. No merchandise of any kind is being sold in the pro shop. **Range tokens/cards are still available.**
15. The staff is wearing gloves while performing work where they come in direct contact with golfers.
16. Touch surfaces on rental carts are disinfected daily.
17. Range balls are washed with soap daily and range tokens and range baskets are being sanitized daily.
18. Rental cart keys and touch surfaces are disinfected before each use.
19. Scorecards will be available at the #2 tee area only. Please take ONE only!
20. All pro shop events, clinics, and instruction are cancelled through April 30th.

All actions mentioned above will be carried out until further notice.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we work through this time. We will update you with any new information as it becomes available.

Mike Jahaske PGA

Director of Golf

SaddleBrooke Ranch Golf Club

Golf Maintenance News

Spring Golf Course Update

As the weather begins to warm up, the golf course turf is beginning to change. We were seeing significant green up until last Friday happened when the temperatures plummeted to a near record 28 degrees and brought heavy frost with it which set the turf back into dormancy. This will be short lived as the weather looks like it has made the turn. I have been monitoring the health of the underlying Bermuda grass and things look good. I'm seeing healthy plant parts and even some greening of existing plant material. All indicators to this point appear to be positive.

I and the staff are looking forward to projects this summer. Fairways on holes 15 and 18 will be completely re sodded. I will coordinate this work with Mike J and hopefully it can be timed with the course being closed for aeration of ALL surfaces. This is subject to availability of the grass and requires input from outside contractors. If we can coordinate the work while closed, it will minimize the impact to anyone that plays the course. Carts will be restricted to path only until the sod is mature and well rooted.

Other projects high on the list are improved drainage and new Gold tee construction. We all have noticed the areas that stay wet after storm events and even during normal watering schedules. We will strip the turf to an area of 12 to 15 feet around catch basins and install new drain tile to the outfall basin to facilitate better water movement.

Hopefully everyone has noticed the landscape project we have done on holes 1, 3, 9 and 11. The rock beds are being edged and new decorative rock is being installed. This creates a much cleaner look to the property. This will continue as crew is available on non-mowing days.

With the current situation with COVID my staff has been reduced by 40%. If you see anything that looks out of place this is why. We will do everything we can do keep the maintenance up to our standards during a difficult time while the labor force is limited.

Thanks for being patient as we work through our plan. See you on the course!

Chris Blake
SBR GCS



dreamstime.com

"Ask the Pro"

New "Ask the Pro" Column

Since social distancing has become the norm for everyday life, my typical interaction with our club golfers has become mostly electronic with a few waves through the glass at our check-in window. I have had to cancel or postpone any booked instruction, the monthly clinics, the *Get Golf Ready* classes, and the demo day. I even had to stop visiting and sharing quick swing tips with the club players during warm ups. In lieu of a "tip from the pro" column, I thought it would be fun to ask you to email me swing questions. I will pick one or two of the questions that many players commonly ask to share with the community in this column. I have been teaching golf for nearly 30 years and have worked with male and female golfers aged 5 to 92 with all types of swings and physical challenges or physical gifts; so, there is little I haven't seen before (believe it or not!). Feel free to send me a photo or even a short video to illustrate your question. I look forward to hearing from you. It should be fun to keep the "teaching brain" in practice for when we are on the good side of COVID-19.

Please send your questions to: mike.jahaske@robson.com

See you out there in cyber space!

Mike Jahaske PGA

Director of Golf

SaddleBrooke Ranch Golf Club



Contact Information

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

Golf Maintenance: 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.org

SBRWGA: www.sbrwga.com

SBR Ranchette Putters: <https://ranchetteputters.wordpress.com>

Greens Committee: sbrgreencommittee@gmail.com

Contact Us!