

# The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 3, Issue 8

August, 2020

## Golf in August

August brings a close to construction projects on the course and begins the focus on finishing the Bermuda growing season as strongly as possible before fall overseeding. We will continue throughout the rest of the summer with a nine hole maintenance closure on each Wednesday to allow the crew to work more in depth on one nine at a time each week. 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 3:00pm 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 8-1 to 8-31: 7:00

Morning Shotgun: 8:00

Afternoon Shotgun: 1:00

Rate Periods:

8-1 to 8-31: Prime 7:00 - 10:52

Midday: 11:00 - 12:52

Twilight: 1:00 - 2:22

Super Twilight: 2:30 - 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.

### August Maintenance Schedule

In August, Bermuda turf is still in heavy growth mode, and the maintenance crew will focus on assisting the turf to the best density possible before overseeding. Work on the perimeter of the course will resume if/when normal staffing levels are achieved. The current staffing shortage has forced the crew to focus primarily on basic daily maintenance and necessary summer heavy maintenance.

This month and continuing through to overseeding we will close one nine every Wednesday for concentrated work without the interruption of golfing traffic and the potential for more projects to be completed. Golfers playing 18 holes will play the open nine twice. Back Nine morning nine hole times will not be available on Wednesday and Friday.




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## 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 August will cover the pitching and will be held on Monday the 24th, at 9:00am, at the practice pitching green.**

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## Golfing News

### Golf Course Updates

- Aerifying using the Dri-Ject contractor during the closed week was limited to the greens, green surrounds, and green aprons due to a shortage of golf course maintenance staff. A good portion of the staff is required to assist in keeping the sand hoppers of the Dri-Ject machines full. Due to COVID, we were short about 50% of the staff, which limited the scope of operations. We plan to repeat the Dri-Ject process for fairways twice again next summer.
  - After sodding the landing area on #7, it was determined after aerifying the rest of the fairway that to get #7 fairway as complete as possible this summer we would need to also replace the turf from the landing area to the green, including repairs to the collar. This work was completed the week of July 20th with the exception of a small area due to a shortage of sod due to COVID. The larger area of sod placed will require closing #7 completely to allow the sod to root. We expect #7 can open Monday, August 3rd. At that time, the hole will need to be cart path only for another week or two.
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## Golfing News Continued

- #10 will remain as a par three as the first two sections of rough and fairway continue on with turf repair.
- The practice putting green is coming along quite well and will be ready to open on Monday, August 3rd. Because the substrate of the green was disturbed to a depth of several inches to remove the issues causing poor drainage, it will remain softer and slower than the greens on the course for a few more weeks yet.
- We will continue to close one hole per nine to cart traffic to help give the fairways a rest as the individual rider cart traffic is taking a heavy toll in terms of stress on the turf.

We appreciate your patience and support as we work to take advantage of the summer growing season to improve the turf quality for year-round enjoyment.

### Cart Traffic Rules

During this time when COVID-19 guidelines require the use of individual carts, and the potential for significant damage to the turf is possible, it is of extreme importance that all golfers do their best to limit the amount of time their cart is on the turf. We are seeing a lot of both residents and the public driving around the sides and back of the greens. This practice destroys the chipping and pitching surfaces around the greens. Please observe the **Cart Traffic Rules** listed below to help preserve the turf and also prevent wear and tear on your cart.

**DRIVE ON THE CART PATH UNTIL EVEN TO THE BALL, THEN ENTER TURF AT A 90° ANGLE.**

**SCATTER ACROSS THE TURF UNTIL THE BALL IS ON THE GREEN COMPLEX.**

**DO NOT DRIVE IN THE DESERT.**

**EXIT THE TURF AT A 90° TO THE CART PATH.**

**DO NOT DRIVE AROUND THE SIDES OR BACK OF THE GREENS.**

**STAY 25' FROM THE TEES AND THE ENTRANCE TO THE GREENS.**

**DO NOT DRIVE ON PAR 3 HOLES.**

### Golf Course Access

Dear residents, as many 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!

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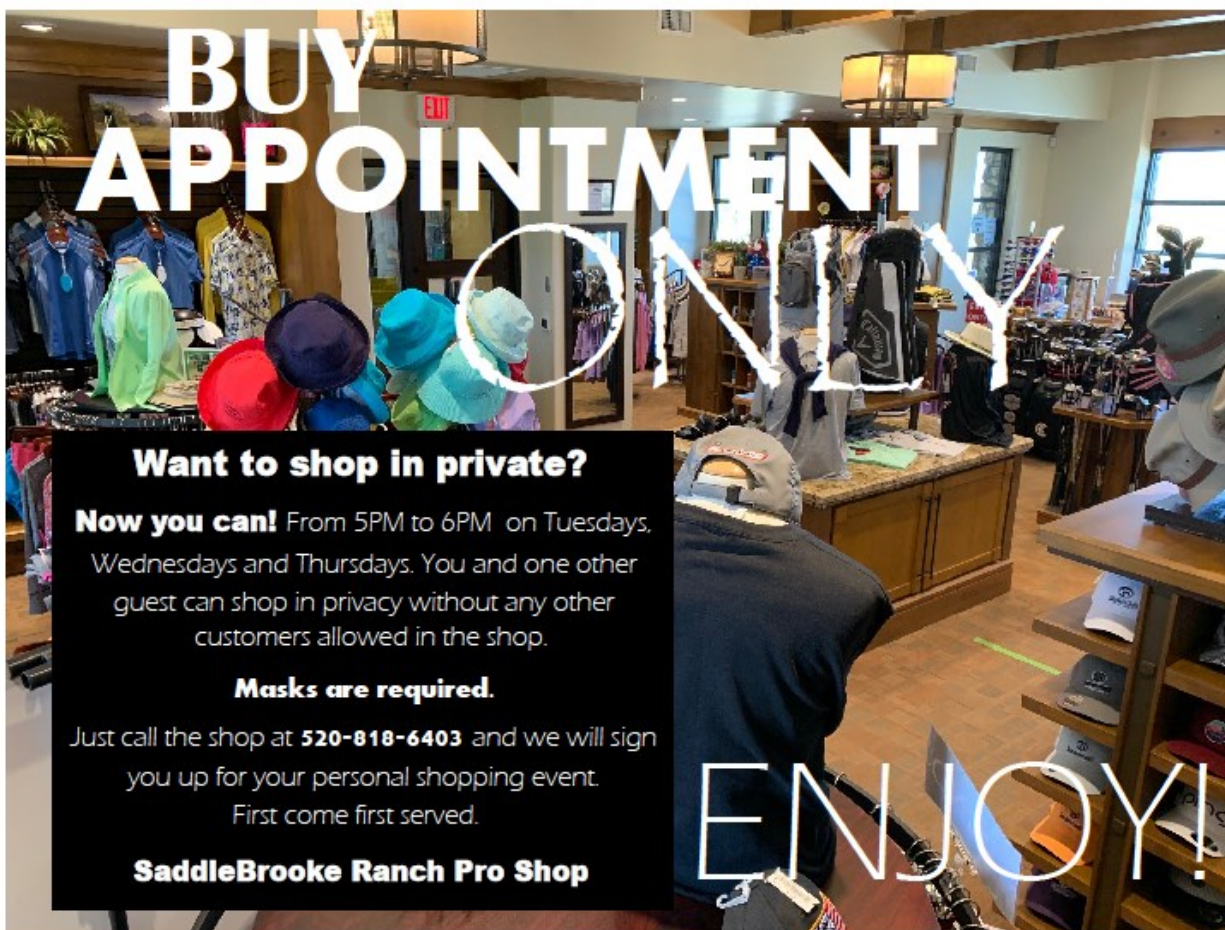
## Golfing News Continued

### New Pro Shop Feature—"Buy Appointment Only"

With all the precautions in place due to COVID-19, including social distancing, masks, et cetera, the pro shop would like to introduce an option for a safer, more comfortable shopping experience. It is called "Buy Appointment Only" and is an opportunity for a unique shopping experience in the Pro Shop for the near future until things get back to normal.

Basically, we will be offering shoppers the opportunity to have the pro shop all to themselves as an individual, couple, or with a close friend for an hour between 5 PM and 6 PM. Brian will be the only staff member in the shop during your private shopping time. You will sign up on a sheet just like you would for a clinic, but it will be limited to two people during this private shopping hour. Please pass this opportunity on to your friends and neighbors. If there is enough interest, we will continue this to and after overseeding. Masks will be required for all the participants.

This will be a safe and relaxing way to shop without any interruptions and at your own pace. Brian will also have catalogs available for colors, sizing etc., should we not have an item in stock. Brian is looking forward to working directly with the shoppers as he can give you his full attention without the constant interruptions usually encountered during normal business hours.



**BUY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

**Want to shop in private?**  
**Now you can!** From 5PM to 6PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. You and one other guest can shop in privacy without any other customers allowed in the shop.

**Masks are required.**

Just call the shop at **520-818-6403** and we will sign you up for your personal shopping event.  
First come first served.

**SaddleBrooke Ranch Pro Shop**

**ENJOY!**



## Golf Maintenance News

### Course Update August

As we move into the month of August, it's hard to believe that we will be thinking about fall prep and other considerations heading towards winter. The efforts start earlier than some expect and are critical processes to protect our warm season turf. Dormancy mechanisms are triggered by shorter day lengths not just temperature. This year the days began getting shorter on June 22.

I'm sure everyone has noticed that we have recently completed major renovations on holes 7 and 10. 7 has been sodded from the landing area all the way in including the collar. The drain off the back left of the green was also reconfigured. Almost 60,000 feet of area was rototilled and regraded. In these areas we found a dense mat of solid thatch mat with an extremely high organic percentage. These areas were sprigged on 7 -24 and are already rooting.

Transition is much better than expected. In my estimation the soils have produced stronger plants. Holes like 4, 9, and 17 have been a pleasant surprise as we move forward with our fairway recovery program. The plan for holes 15 and 18 will be discussed this winter and I will recommend that both of these surfaces be resurfaced.

Sand topdressing the fairway is on-going during our Wednesday closings. This week holes 3, 6 and 8 were completed at a rate of 15 tons to the acre. Again, with the dryject process as the baseline, the sand we put on the top will begin to dilute thatch layer and improve canopy structure. Better smoothness can also be expected. It also helps with cart traffic as the surface will begin to have better recuperative capacity.

We are working hard to get the new practice green to perform like the greens on the course do. It will open Monday. You will notice that it's not as firm as the greens on the course. Also, the speed will be slower. Over time, it will begin to react the way the greens on the course do. The most important take away here is that it's healthy and internal drainage issues have been solved.

Property line clearing has started on the back 9 now that are close to full staff. Our goal will be create an 8 to 10 foot buffer of closely mowed area. As usual, all undesirable plants will be removed. Although our Thistle pressure has been reduced, it will be an ongoing process to control it. 100 percent control should not be expected as weed seeds can be carried for miles by wind.

That's all from the Agronomy team for this month. Thanks to all for staying patient as we work on our short and long terms goals. See you on the course.

Chris Blake  
Class A GCS  
SBR



## Tip from the Pro

### Power Development in the Golf Swing

Golf is a game of both power and accuracy. Overall, accuracy is the more important of the two as we play the game working to a large target (for most holes, the fairway) then to a medium target (the green), and finally a small target (the cup). Of course, you still have to get there, and power that creates distance cannot be discarded. So, what are the elements that create power in the golf swing? Power is created by applied leverage. Leverage is created by the width of the shoulders, length of the arms, degree of angular flexion of the wrist (wrist cock), and degree of shoulder turn. The width of the shoulders and the length of the arms we are born with, but the degree we move our torso and amount we flex or "cock" the wrists is up to us. Moving the torso with the hips and legs allows for a full shoulder turn and an extended arm. Low grip tension allows the wrists to cock as far as possible. Moving the body with a smooth tempo creates all the power available in any given frame AND, if applied smoothly, will also produce consistent accuracy as a bonus. In a nutshell, the pivot of the body, along with the cock of the wrists applied with tempo, produces powerful accurate shots.



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:** 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](http://www.sbrmga.org)

**SBRWGA:** [www.sbrwga.com](http://www.sbrwga.com)

**SBR Ranchette Putters:** [ljsentivanac@gmail.com](mailto:ljsentivanac@gmail.com)

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

