

# The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 6, Issue 8

August 2023

## Golf in August

August starts with a week of intensive cultivation for the golf course as the growing season begins to wind down. 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.

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. The pro shop closes at 4:00pm. Pro shop staff will carry the pro shop cell phone (520-561-1196) until 5:30.

Staff is available until one hour before sunset.

First tee time: 8-1 to 8-31: 7:00am

Last tee time: 8-1 to 8-31: 5:30pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

8-1 to 8-31: 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.

### August Maintenance Schedule

July 31 to August 6 the course is closed for maintenance. During this time activities such as aerification, top-dressing, fertilization, and heavy watering are performed, as well as other tasks as time allows.

We will continue closing one hole per nine to cart traffic to help maintain the quality of the turf. We will also continue our program of resting the natural turf 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, and the heavy use of the driving range.

During the summertime the crew will be spending more time on the course mowing, as all the turf, including the rough, will be actively growing. Please be patient if you encounter them. Heavy mow days are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

**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.



## 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. Our golf clinics are great for learning a new skill or brushing up a skill that needs some work.

**The next clinic will cover pitching and will be held on Monday, August 21st at 9:00 am at the pitching green. Please see your Chelsea home page event calendar for the full clinic schedule.**

## 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!

### Eliminate Potential for Cup Damage

When using a "ball grabber" attached to the end of a putter to extract a ball from the cup, please remove the flagstick first to eliminate the potential for damage to the edge of the turf surrounding the cup. Thank you.

## Golfing News Cont.

### Cart Rules

The following rules shall apply to all types of golf carts, both rental and privately-owned:

- DRIVE ON CART PATH until even with ball, then enter turf at 90° when gates are not present.
- SCATTER ACROSS TURF until ball is on green.
- EXIT TURF at 90° to cart path.
- REMAIN ON CART PATH on all Par-3 holes.
- STAY 25 FEET from tees and greens.
- DO NOT DRIVE around sides or back of greens.
- DO NOT DRIVE in the desert.
- DO NOT ENTER private resident property to retrieve golf balls.

### Ball Marks

Our greens have been in service for almost 24 months now. Aaron and his crew are doing a great job keeping them smooth and fast. To do our part as golfers, we should make every effort to keep ball marks repaired! Ball marks that are repaired immediately heal faster and create less surface disruption resulting in a smooth green. Let's do our part to keep the greens looking good! Please remember to stay in the habit of finding and repairing ball marks on the greens to help keep them rolling smoothly.

### Pace of Play

Please follow these simple tips to improve pace of play without having to rush around the course:

1. Be prepared to play your shot while waiting for others to hit, so you can play immediately without delay. This includes shots played while on the putting green.
2. Clean and replace your club in the bag; and record your score, at the next tee, not at the green.
3. Hit a provisional ball when appropriate, and limit searches for lost balls to 3 minutes. Players in the group that can hit safely should do so; while those that can't, should help search.
4. Limit socializing to periods when you are prepared to hit and there is a wait to safely hit.

Have fun on the course, and keep your play efficient, so all can experience an enjoyable pace of play!

### Cart Damage to the Course

Without question, cart traffic is the number one cause of damage to the turf on the course. Please do your best to limit the time your cart is on the turf. One easy way to do that is by staying on the cart path until even with your drive. This simple tip can reduce wear and tear exponentially because entering the turf area early is the most common mistake made by golfers in terms of course damage.

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## Rules Question of the Month

### Course Staking Update

Bridges on holes #10 and #11 have had additional red stakes added, so the **cart paths** leading up to the bridges are no longer in the penalty area. The bridges themselves remain in the penalty area, and golf balls lying on them are not entitled to free

## Golf Maintenance News

### Summer's End Maintenance

The summer has flown by, and it's time to start thinking about the fall season and overseeding. The course will close down September 18th - 29th for our overseeding this year. We are going to take the same philosophy as last year: "Less is More" when it comes to total area overseeded. Below is an outline of the areas to be overseeded. Our limited overseeding program has proven very effective for improving our overall year round course conditions. The first summer I was here we replaced over 2 acres (88,000 sq ft) of sod. This year we replaced 3,500 sqft on the range tee and perhaps a couple hundred sq ft more over the next few weeks in some selected areas.

Below I have outlined our goals for the September 18th - 29th, 2023 overseed closure. As you can see, there's more than just "overseeding".

- Overseed - 1st and 2nd days of closure to perform actual seeding, it takes 4 days for germination, 4-5 days to establish rooting, then mow and fertilize = 10-12 days before ready for foot traffic.
- Overseed Driving Range tee
- Putting and Chipping green complexes
- All par 3 tees, 11 Rust, Plum, 13 Rust, Plum
- Selected area #9, 20 yard band around lake edge
- Boulevard on left side of 10

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## Golf Maintenance News Cont.

- Needle tine and heavy top-dress greens to smooth and reset surface. Heavy topdressing required to attain USGA targeted topdressing rate for the year. We will not mow the greens for 4-5 days after the topdressing. This is a critical practice.
- Apply course wide pre-emergent application
- Apply course wide fall fertilizer application
- Work to finalize summer projects that were not completed
- Bunker maintenance
- Edge bunkers
- Check sand depths
- Freshen up all bunkers with new sand
- Replace worn/broken bunker rakes
- Paint cart path markings
- Detail granite landscape beds
- Trim all trees in turf
- Edge cart paths
- Paint tee markers

Over the next month we will also begin to raise the Height of Cut (HOC) around the course to prepare for dormant conditions this winter. By raising our mowing heights we create a thicker/fuller canopy that will better hold up to play and traffic during our dormant months.

- Fairways and tees tops will go from .5" to .75"
- Roughs are currently 1.5", by the end of September we'll be at 2".

Lastly, I occasionally get asked what the white stakes are for around the course. Are they Ground Under Repair?

The purpose of the white stakes is for traffic control. By using the white stakes we keep carts and our own equipment out of the thinner areas to let those areas recover and grow back in. Do you remember all the bare areas that were along the cart paths a couple years ago? Now there only a handful because of the white stakes and our 2 weekly cart path only holes.

Thanks for reading - Aaron Thomas - Golf Course Superintendent.



## Tip from the Pro

### Tee it Forward for Enjoyable Golf!

The Tee It Forward program was introduced several years ago to aid golfers in finding the best course length to play that matched their distance potential. The yardstick applied was the same for tour players: a typical par four length would require a driver and 6-iron shot to reach the green complex. We use that formula here to recommend the tee selected by each player. On our scorecard, on the back cover, you will find a driver yardage alongside a men's and women's tee recommendation.

Next time you play, try out the recommendation. It may take playing that tee a few times to adjust to being in different places on the course, but soon you should find the game is scaled better to you, and most importantly, enjoyment in playing the game as it was MEANT to be played!

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](mailto:aaron.thomas@robson.com)

Phone: 520-600-8797

**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:** [susanamorrill52@yahoo.com](mailto:susanamorrill52@yahoo.com)

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

Contact Us!