

The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 3, Issue 3

March, 2020

Golf in March

March is in full swing, and the weather is finally turning the corner. Our longest and busiest days of golf are upon us. The frost "season" is just about over. Desert Fest is this weekend, followed by a demo day on Monday the 16th. Later in the week we have a special sale for St. Patrick's Day on the 18th! Please also take a look at the Pro Shop Schedule section in Chelsea as we have made some small changes to the rate period time tables. 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 3-1 to 3-14: 7:15

3-15 to 3-31: 7:00

Morning Shotgun: 8:00

Afternoon Shotgun: 1:00

Rate Periods:

3-1 to 3-31: Prime 7:15/7:00 - 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

In March, 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

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 pitching and will be held on Monday, March 23rd, at 2:00pm at the chipping green.**

Golfing News

Golf Equipment Demo Day

The reps from PING, Cobra, Callaway, Cleveland/Srixon, Wilson, and Taylor Made will be here on Monday, March 16th from 10am to 2pm to show demo clubs and offer club fitting. Stop by and get ready to improve your golf game via the latest in golf equipment!



Wilson®

PING®

Callaway

Golfing News Continued

Pro Shop St. Patrick's Day Sale

Coming up on Wednesday, March 18th we will have a St. Patrick's Day Sale from 3-5pm in the pro shop. Discounts on merchandise will be decided by you selecting a shamrock to reveal your discount! Apparel discounts will range from 15% to 50%* and equipment discounts will range from 5% to 20%* as well as a new a new feature: **Mike's Mad Money!** Mike will chip in an \$10 towards your purchase for every \$100 you spend! Beer, wine, soft drinks, and St. Patrick's Day-themed snacks will be served. Layaway will be available starting at 7:00am that day. We hope to see you there!

*All discounts are in addition to current resident and annual discounts.



Get Golf Ready Classes

Beginning next month Mike and Ken will hold *Get Golf Ready* classes. Each session will include 5 one hour classes at a cost of \$99 per person. Classes will be at 10:00am on Thursday mornings. The topics covered will be the full swing, putting, chipping and pitching, bunker play, and how to play a hole of golf. The classes will involve demonstration of the skills and hands-on instruction time to work on each skill as well as rules, etiquette and history relating to each topic.

Practice balls and clubs will be provided, and the golf facility dress code will apply. The class schedule will be as follows:

April 2nd-The full swing including grip, stance, aim, and swing motion.

April 9th - Putting

April 16th- Chipping and Pitching

April 23rd- Bunkers

April 30th- Playing a hole of golf.

Sign up in the pro shop, each session is limited to 12 participants so don't delay in getting your spot!



Updated Course Ratings and Slopes for all Tee Sets!

On March 1st the AGA released updated ratings and slopes for all the tees sets for men and women. The new numbers are shown below.

	MEN	WOMEN
BLACK	71.4/127	N/A
BLACK/PINE	70.5/124	N/A
PINE	69.7/121	75.4/139
PINE/RUST	67.6/115	73.4/129
RUST	65.7/108	70.8/120
RUST/PLUM	64.7/105	69.7/114
PLUM	63.1/100	68.5/109
PLUM/GOLD	61.2/96	65.8/103
GOLD	59.9/90	63.4/101



Golf Maintenance News

Golf Course Update- March

Although the maintenance crew has mostly been busy with general course care and basic maintenance inputs, we have been able to get to a few projects. Hopefully everyone has noticed the clearing of the arroyos on holes 10, 11 and 13. Not only does this present a cleaner look, but it also provides better playability as sightlines have been improved. Clearing was also done near the tees on 13 to "open up" a view or at least a better view of the first half of the fairway.

Other projects that we started on are edging and adding new stone to the landscape beds near tees and greens. This detail work isn't something that everyone notices, but it is something you would notice if it wasn't done. Desert clearing and cleaning has also been on going. A lot of dead or plants that are in certain stages of decline have been removed. These kinds of projects improve the property as a whole. Mowing grass and raking sand does not make things better. Details matter!

It's nice to see better weather this winter. Last year we were dealing with snow and today (March 6) we experienced temperatures above 60 at 5 AM! I have even seen 2 rattlesnakes already. Although it's way too early to begin cultural practices and mechanical processes on our ryegrass surfaces, we will need to start working on dormant turf specifically the painted holes when the weather warms up just a little more. I'm sure everyone has noticed how firm the painted holes are. We will need to open these soils up to allow for better water infiltration as we begin to try to break dormancy mechanisms. Starter fertilizers are also scheduled with a high Nitrogen content to stimulate growth.

As previously discussed, the practice putting green is showing signs of poor surface and sub-surface drainage and a certain level of damage has occurred. When surfaces don't drain well, a light and frequent method of watering is only the only way to keep the plants alive. This is not the preferred method. A deep and infrequent watering schedule is what the plants prefer. A light and frequent watering schedule results in poor rooting and increased disease pressure.

In May or possibly sooner, we will begin recovery efforts on the practice green. At this point, we do not know what the scope of the work will be. When the cool -season grasses begin to fade, we will know how to proceed.

See you on the course.

Chris Blake

SBR GCS



dreamstime.com

Golf Tip of the Month

Golf Cart Traffic Rules/Etiquette

Continuing again this month with the same theme of caring for the course and practice facilities, I thought it would be a good refresher for golfing veterans, and also an excellent primer for newer golfers, to discuss golf cart traffic rules for driving on the course.

I named this "golf cart traffic rules/etiquette" because a rule is not just something legalistic, but also an approach to doing something, and etiquette indicates courtesy to others. In our situation that means a way of driving golf carts on the course that protects the turf as much as possible, not only to enhance our enjoyment, but also that of others that use the course. Truth be told, golf cart traffic is the single largest contributor to wear and tear on turf. We often talk about the effects of overseeding, but less about the effects of cart traffic and the compaction it creates and how that contributes in a large way to the negative effects of overseeding. Of course for many, golf in a community such as SaddleBrooke Ranch Golf would not even be possible without the golf cart; so, we must do our best to enhance this access while protecting the turf. To do so this please follow and encourage your fellow golfers to follow these simple golf cart traffic rules:

- Drive on the cart path until even with the ball, then enter turf at a 90 degree angle.
- Scatter across the turf until the ball is on the green complex.
- Exit the turf at a 90 degree angle.
- Remain on the cart path on all par -3 holes.
- Stay 25 feet from tees and greens.
- Do not drive around the sides or backs of the greens.



Your support of the cart rules helps create better conditions for everyone!

Mike Jahaske, PGA

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

