

# The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 5, Issue 3

March, 2022

## Golf in March

March has begun, and with it, the busiest golfing period of the year. The dormant turf will soon begin to green up, and we will begin the growing season. This will be an exciting summer as the greens mature and soften, and the fairways thicken and weak spots fill in. This will be our first summer coming up wherein the course was fully dormant during the winter, and the potential for summer conditions our best yet! 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.

Spring is here!

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. The pro shop closes at 3:30pm. Pro shop staff will carry the pro shop cell phone (520-561-1196) until 6:00.

Staff is available until one hour before sunset.

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

First tee time 3-15 to 3-31: 7:00am

Last tee time 3-1 to 3-31: 5:00pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

3-1 to 3-14: Prime 7:15 - 11:52

Midday 12:00 - 1:52

Twilight 2:00 - 3:22

Super Twilight 3:30 - Sunset

3-15 to 3-31: 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.

### March Maintenance Schedule

The **driving range tee** is planned to be on the artificial turf for one week beginning Monday, March 21st. The natural turf will be rested 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.



Every 3-4 weeks, November through March, we will delay tee times one hour on a Monday and Wednesday to allow the staff to paint the greens and fairways.

**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.

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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 March will cover chipping and will be held on Monday, March 28th, at 2:00pm at the practice chipping green.

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## 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!

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## Golfing News Cont.

### Cart Rule Decision

Cart sharing will remain optional through March; however, **on April 1st, we will return to mandatory shared carts.** If a resident feels they cannot ride with another golfer, a third cart may be used, **BUT IT MUST REMAIN ON THE PATH.** Single rider carts are excluded from this rule.

### Check In for Golf

On April 1st, the side window will close, and all check in for golf will return to **inside the pro shop.**

### St. Patrick's Week Sale

The Pro Shop's St. Patrick's *Week* sale is Tuesday, March 15th to Monday, March 21st. **Discounts of 15% to 80%!**

### Tee Sheet Changes Initiated in January

We have noticed some confusion regarding the public booking changes so are posting them again. The information below in RED has been the most commonly misunderstood.

On Monday, January 3rd, significant changes began regarding tee sheet set up for public access. Due to the increasing volume of resident play, public access will be **greatly** reduced, allowing more space for resident booking. The changes are as follows:

1. All **pre-blocked** public access booking slots will be eliminated. Public access will begin **after placement of residents onto the tee sheet. Any tee times left open after placement may be utilized for public play.**
2. **Public access booking** (including barter times) **will begin at 4 days ahead** of play **instead of 5 days** ahead of play. Since residents are placed 6 days ahead of play, this will allow residents to adjust their booking or to add a booking for 24 hours before the public has access to the tee sheet. As initiated since the fall of 2020, **no outings will booked before 12:00.**

### Practice Putting Green Bumpers

As the cold weather set in and our Bermuda turf went fully dormant, it was important to reduce the number of cups on the practice putting green. This practice reduced the amount of old cups plugs evident on the dormant surface. The putting green has 9 cups **as well as nine bumpers 7 days a week due to the high volume use of the practice putting green.** In late March or early April, when the weather begins to warm and the turf comes out of dormancy, we will be able to restore the green to 18 cups.

### Practice Putting Green Use During Putters

On Wednesday mornings, during the hour the Putters are using the practice putting green, all golfers may use the practice chipping green for putting warm up. The chipping green and practice bunker will be closed to chipping and pitching during this time.

### Rules Seminar

Our second rules seminar of the year will feature an **overview of our local rules.** The seminar is Wednesday, March 16th from 10am to 12pm in the ballroom. We'd love to see you there!

## Golf Maintenance News

### The Approach of Spring and What It Means to the Golf Course

With increasing temperatures, the warm season grasses on the course are beginning to come out of winter dormancy. This is occurring not only with the Bermuda grass, but also with the native plants in the surrounding desert as well.

#### Approach to the Bermuda grass on the course

We finished mowing the roughs last fall at a height of 2 inches. In a few weeks, we'll start mowing the roughs again, and over the next 4-6 weeks, take those heights down. The purpose of this is to remove the dead leaf material and expose the emerging Bermuda grass shoots to the sunlight, which will help them come out of dormancy and begin growing sooner. This will also level the roughs, creating a more consistent surface. We will be performing the same practice on the fairways, although they are green, there is still a lot of dead material in the canopy that has to be removed.

#### Approach to the Native Areas in the Rough

In the native areas, the grasses, wildflowers and perennial bushes are starting to grow and flower. My management approach to the native plants is different from the past couple years.

This year, we will not be mowing all the native areas down to nothing. We will be selectively mowing all the areas between the golf course and homes. In general, we'll be mowing the grasses down to 10-12 inches. The purpose of this is to remove the brown dormant parts of the grass plants, and expose the newly emerging shoots. At the same time, we will be mowing some of our flowers and perennial bushes to help promote new growth. While doing this, we'll also be mowing around certain patches of plants that are taller to let them continue to grow up. This will give the course, and the landscape, more texture by creating different elevations of plants. Over the entire course, this will be done now and again at the end of the summer monsoon.

There may be certain areas around the course that will be mowed a few extra times to help with pace of play, but we will not be mowing the course multiple times over the summer. As a reminder, you are not allowed to do anything to the area behind your home that is on the golf course side of your property.

Lastly, please help us keep the course looking its best by picking up your broken tees when on the tee boxes, and please don't throw your cigarettes and cigar butts on the grounds.

Thanks!

Aaron Thomas, SBR Golf Course Superintendent



## Tip from the Pro

### Pace of Play

On April 1st as the golf course returns to two riders per cart, it is important for all golfers to reacquaint themselves with the practices of efficient pace of play that have gone dormant during the single rider cart period. 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!

Thank you!

Mike Jahaske, SBR Director of Golf



## Contact Information

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

**Golf Maintenance:** **Email:** 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:** jackdon8@yahoo.com

**Greens Committee:** SBRGreens@gmail.com

Contact Us!