

# The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 3, Issue 11

November, 2020

## Golf in November

November should finally bring the cooler temps everyone is longing for. While hard to predict, especially during this hotter year, frost could begin as early as the 15th, so we will begin posting frost information on Chelsea and the phone system on 11-15. Please check each morning after 7am for information regarding a possible delay to your starting time.

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 5:00pm 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 11-1 to 11-14: 7:30

11-15 to 11-30: 7:45

Morning Shotgun: 8:00

Afternoon Shotgun: 1:00

Rate Periods:

11-1 to 11-30: Prime 7:30/7:45 - 11:22

Midday: 11:30 - 1:22

Twilight: 1:30 - 2:52

Super Twilight: 3:00 - 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.

### November Maintenance Schedule

The **driving range tee** is planned to move onto the natural turf on Monday, November 2nd. During the winter months we will utilize the artificial tee for about 7-14 days each month to allow the natural turf to recover as much as possible from the expected heavy traffic.



**Cart traffic** will be restricted to the path through Monday November 9th to allow the overseeded areas time to mature so they can bear the brunt of cart traffic during busy season. Carts will be allowed onto the turf beginning Tuesday November 10th.

**Back Nine morning nine hole times** will not be available on 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 and are great for learning a new skill or brushing up a skill that needs some work. **The clinic for November will cover putting and will be held on Monday, November 23rd, at 2:00pm, at the practice putting green.**

## Golfing News

### 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.

**This is especially important during early morning while workers are busy with prepping the course and not expecting to be in contact with residents.**

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

## Golfing News cont.



### Club Vendor Fitting Day

Monday, November 2nd, club vendors Cobra and Callaway will be here on the driving range doing club fitting. Club fitting differs from regular demo days in a couple of distinct ways and for a distinct reason. The ways it differs is that you **MUST** have an appointment to attend, and you are limited to the vendor you have an appointment with. It is not an obligation to purchase, but its best to know you are interested in one particular vendor. The reason they are doing fittings and not demos is to control the environment for the safest possible experience during this time when COVID-19 is still prevalent.

Sign up sheets will be available in the pro shop beginning Monday, October 26th. Appointments are every 30 minutes. If are looking at one category of club, you will need one 30 minute appointment. If you are looking at more than one category, we will book you for two 30-minute sessions. The vendors will be on the range from 10am to 2pm. If a fitting finishes early or someone cancels, you may want to stop by in case there is an opening to fill in.

We hope to see you there!

### Halloween Sale in progress!

Our pro shop sales remain as week-long events to avoid crowding in the pro shop. The Halloween Sale runs from Wednesday, October 28th through Tuesday, November 3rd. Equipment will be 15% to 50% off and Apparel will be 30% to 80% off.

### Credit Books Expiring

This is an early reminder that credit book balances need to be used by 12-31-2020. Any winnings after 12-1 will be put into your 2021 credit book. To help you spend your balance and get some great values, we have a Halloween Sale 10-28 to 11-3, a Club Fitting day on 11-2 and will also have a Holiday Sale running December 7th through December 13th!

## Golfing News cont.

### Golf Course Updates

- **The Driving Range tee** will continue on the artificial tee for two more weeks and is planned to move to the natural turf on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Due to the large increase in use since COVID -19, we will most likely need to use the artificial tee for one week per month throughout the year to allow the natural turf to recover.
  - **Gold Tees** are now built and sodded on #1, #2, #3, #4, #11, #13, #15, and #17. Tees on #5, #6, #8, #14, and #16 were either shared with the Plum tee or already existing. Gold tees on #7, #9, #10, and #18 still need to be built. All tees built this summer are now ready for use .
  - **COVID-19** guidelines were reviewed in the last Greens Committee meeting on October 7<sup>th</sup> and have been updated for opening day October 20<sup>th</sup>. The changes are listed below.
    - One golfer per cart is NO LONGER MANDATORY, but will remain OPTIONAL. Rental carts will no longer be complimentary and golfers will be charged for use of rental carts.
    - Rakes will be restored to the bunkers.
    - Sand bottles will be replaced on rental carts, and on-course sand containers will be filled and available.
    - Water cups will be available at the pro shop by the ice and water machine and in the restrooms at #15 tee.
    - Flagsticks will REMAIN IN PLACE.
    - Shotguns WILL NOT BE RESTORED at this time.
  - While some of the procedures have been relaxed, **it has been observed that golfers are becoming lax in observing the utilization of masks and/or social distancing. We are fortunate that SBR has not experienced any severe issues with COVID; but, please stay vigilant as we are not free of this issue yet!**
  - **Dormant Fairways:** This summer much progress was made restoring the fairways of the course allowing us to go from five fairways dormant to eight fairways dormant this winter. Fairways on holes #1, #3, #7, #8, #10, #11, #13, and #17 will be dormant.
  - **The Chelsea System's Pointing Policies** were evaluated and updated with the help of input from the Greens Committee. The updates and an announcement on the specific changes are published and launched and can be seen on the Chelsea Home Page. The updates have added flexibility for the residents while maintaining the same level of fair access to all those that use the automated tee time system.
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## Golf Maintenance News

### Course Update Fall 2020

As we move forward towards the winter months, the primary focus will be to push the cool season turf into full maturity. The tillering process was unusually slow this year, especially considering the nice weather we had. Perennial Ryegrass is a bunch type turf meaning one leaf, after seedling emergence, becomes 2 then 3 and so on. Usually after 30 days the plant has reached full maturity.

The selection of a creeping bent grass overseed for the greens is a much different process than anyone has seen in years past. Basically it takes longer to develop which is why you will see that the greens are thin in certain areas. They were re-seeded this past week, and in the coming weeks a more consistent surface can be expected.

The crew has completed property line clean up on hole 10. They will move forward on the back 9 focusing primarily on the 10 feet near walls or fences. Invasive or undesirable plants will be removed on a case by case basis. Dead or dying prickly pear cactus will also be removed.

New for this year is a different kind of paint for the dormant fairways. It's a better quality pigment that will provide a more natural color and will also last longer. We will always look for opportunities to paint while the turf is dry to prevent staining of golf balls. This may require a back 9 start from time to time. Additionally, the goal is to keep the dormant fairways softer as we move into cold weather. Very light watering with a wetting agent application should keep the fairways softer and more playable if they aren't frozen.

Also new for this year, we have one dedicated crew member for the practice areas. The goal here is to provide better conditions by maintaining these areas more frequently and so far it's working out nicely.

Lastly, grass pile cleanup has started. It will probably take 2 weeks to remove all the piles.

See you on the course!

Chris Blake, GCS SBR



## Tip from the Pro

### Club Fitting

The equipment vendors have switched to solely doing club fitting days instead of demo days to allow for social distancing and more safety with COVID still an issue. While it highlights fitting, fitting is something we have always recommended when purchasing new clubs, whether it be "just" a driver, or a set of irons, or the even whole bag!

Fitting is important because even two people that look similar in height and build can have very different needs when it comes to club specifications. I will list the basic areas looked at and how they apply to not only buying the latest technology, but also being able to take advantage of it because the club fits!

- **Grip Size and Composition**—Everyone's hands are different and can have different diameters and length of fingers, as well as the size of the palm, and even tougher or more tender skin. Sizing the grip to an individual's hand is vitally important. Grip composition allows for the best comfort when making hundreds of swings!
- **Iron Lie Angle**- If the lie angle of an iron doesn't fit the player, even a perfect swing will not produce a ball that flies in the intended direction.
- **Loft**- Loft is what produces the spin of the ball that creates trajectory. Selecting the best loft can even affect the set make up and allows clubs to be hittable and provide the best performance in terms of distance and control.
- **Shaft Flex**- The flex of the shaft is the heart of the club and must match the tempo of the player. A mismatched shaft flex can make a brand new club unhittable!

Always take the time to get clubs fit to you so you can play your best! If you have questions, please let myself or Ken know. We will be happy to guide your through the process.

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.com](http://www.sbrmga.com)

**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)

Contact Us!