

The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 6, Issue 11

November 2023

Golf in November

November is here, and the holiday season will soon be here! As the weather continues to cool, we also will begin to potentially experience frost delays. From November 15th on it is a good practice to check Chelsea each morning for any delays due to frost. Frost delay information is posted by 7:00 each morning both on your Chelsea home page and on the pro shop phone system. The forecast for this winter is mild and wet, so hopefully we won't have many frost delays, but will get some badly needed rain! 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



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 5:00.

Staff is available until one hour before sunset.

First tee time: 11-1 to 11-14: 7:30am

11-15 to 11-15: 7:45

Last tee time: 11-1 to 11-30: 4:00pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

11-1 to 11-30: Prime 7:30/7:45 - 11:52

Midday 11:30 - 1:22

Twilight 1:30 - 3:00

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 Bermuda base is now dormant and mostly a golden brown color. In order to keep heat in the turf, to help it to stay pliable to resist damage from cart traffic, and to make it a beautiful green, we will be painting the fairways, green, and tees every three weeks. During a paint week, a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday will have tee times starting one hour later.

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.

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 be in November and cover the full swing. It will be held on Monday, November 20th at 2:00pm at the driving range. 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. With the green dormant during this time of year it is important to carefully extract the ball from the cup even when using your hand. Stretch out your hand and extend two fingers into the cup to retrieve your golf ball. Thank you, your efforts will help to keep the edges of the hole crisp and more playable!

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 3 years 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.

Rules Question of the Month

Ball Lying on a Bridge Across Wash

Q: Are the bridges that cross washes on holes #7,10,11, and 13 in the penalty area?

A: Yes, the bridges are within the penalty areas and therefore free relief for a ball lying on them does NOT apply. You are allowed to play the ball from the bridge, or you can use one of the Penalty Relief Options found in Rule 17.1d.

Golf Maintenance News

Greens and Cart Traffic in Dormant Season

This month I want to touch base on two of our most important topics - Greens and Cart Traffic

Greens - Ball mark repairs

The greens are now 2.5 years old and have developed the ideal amount of organic material (Mat layer) to be receptive of incoming shots. Our goal is to now maintain the proper amount of organic material through our cultural practices performed throughout the year which is a topic for another discussion. I want to focus on ball marks for now. Although my team does repair ball marks daily, it's up to all of you to **properly** fix the ball marks you create during your round; and if there's time, fix any others you see.

When fixing ball marks there's a right and a wrong way to do so. Take a look at the video links below for proper ball mark repair technique.

<https://www.usga.org/articles/2018/07/repairing-ball-marks--5-things-every-golfer-should-know-.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=myOTf1wuZoA>

Along with the information above it is critical not to repair ball marks that have already been fixed properly. If there is no "crater" from the ball impact, only the brown scar, do not try to fix the brown spot again. You would be only reinjuring the already repaired area by tearing the grass and root system all over again which slows recovery of the ball mark.

Continued on next page



Golf Maintenance News Cont.

Cups and ball Removal

There's been discussion regarding the edges of the cups being frayed and worn out. With the questions of- how often we are changing cups and if our equipment is properly sharpened. We cut cups - Monday, Wednesday, Fridays, Sundays and daily for special events. The putting green is changed two times a week. Our cup cutters are maintained and sharpened when needed, and we replace the blades several times a year.

The edges are becoming worn and frayed because not all players take the time to properly remove the ball from the cup. Take your time to pull the pin and remove the ball; or if you leave the pin in, please be aware of the edge when you remove the ball with your hand.

Please don't use your putter or try to pry your ball out using the pin itself. I know there are "tools" that go on the end of your putter handle. If you use one of those tools, again, please be careful when you remove your ball.

<https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/course-care/regional-updates/southeast-region/2019/be-careful-after-making-that-putt.html>

Cart traffic - I will continue to touch on this every month until next spring! Again cart traffic is our biggest enemy in the roughs as we enter dormancy. As the temperatures and day light hours begin to wane, and the Bermuda loses its ability to recover from traffic, it will begin to thin if YOU are not conscious of where you're driving.

Please

Follow the 90 degree rule - drive the cart path until you're 90 degrees to your ball's location, then enter the turf.

Disperse traffic - don't drive over the same exact area as everyone else, look for wear patterns, enter and exit in the healthiest turf areas.

Be aware of low areas when it rains and the course is wet — it's always best to drive on the higher ground when the course is wet.

Pay attention the "Cart Directional Arrows" as you near the greens approach. We use the arrows to control traffic patterns as you exit the turf heading to the cart path. This is why they are not a consistent distance from the green for every hole, we vary the distance to even out the wear.

Take notice of our white - 8" stakes along cart path edges and other areas. These are to designate thin/weaker areas of turf that need relief from traffic.

Aaron Thomas



Tip from the Pro

The Holidays and Year End are Near!

The year 2023 has sped by, and we are just 8 weeks from a new year. With the holidays and year end fast approaching, it is time to remind everyone that all credit book monies will be expiring on December 31st.

In order to make spending those monies easier, we have stocked the shop with fresh goods, scheduled a demo day, and planned a holiday sale. We can also special order items for you through December 15th. Below I have listed the parameters and dates for easy access.

- **Pro Shop Holiday Sale** - December 8 through December 14. Layaway begins on December 7. In-stock apparel 30% off. In-stock equipment 15% off. Special sale items up to 80% off.
- **Demo Day** -December 11 from 10am to 2pm. Callaway, Cobra, Cleveland, and Ping will be in attendance. Sign up in the pro shop for your fitting/demo appointment.
- **December 15**—Last day for special orders. Credit book monies will be held for any items ordered on or before December 15 that don't arrive by December 31.
- **December 31**—All credit book monies expire.

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

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

SBRWGA: www.sbrwga.com

SBR Lady Niners: www.sbrladyniners.home.blog

SBR Ranchette Putter: susanamorrill52@yahoo.com

Greens Committee: SBRGreens@gmail.com

Contact Us!