

The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 5, Issue 9

September 2022

Golf in September

September has arrived. The 19th through the 30th we will be closed to prep the course for a winter of dormant turf. We are very excited about the health and density of the turf and expect great playing conditions this winter! 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.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

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 5:30.

Staff is available until one hour before sunset.

First tee time 9-1 to 9-30: 7:00am

Last tee time 9-1 to 9-30: 5:00pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

9-1 to 9-30: 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.

September Maintenance Schedule

The entire facility will be closed from September 19 to September 30 to prep for the winter. Since we will not be overseeding the fairways, carts may access the fairways when we open October 1. After a good rest and extra care from Aaron and his crew, the driving range tee is restored and ready for a busy winter. Speaking of the range tee, we will 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.

The Bermuda turf is slowing down and will go fully into dormancy following our first frost. Please support our maintenance staff by filling divots with sand and repairing ball marks on the green. Cart traffic is highly damaging to the turf, so please limit time on the turf as much as possible.

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 and are great for learning a new skill or brushing up a skill that needs some work.

The next clinic will be in October due to the course maintenance closure. In October we will cover pitching on Monday, the 24th, at 2:00 pm at the practice chipping green.

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!

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 a little over one year 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.

Golf Maintenance News

It's Already September!

It's hard to believe that I have been here for 16 months now, how the time has flown! I couldn't be happier with the improvements to the course conditions over this time. Working to make improvements on a golf course is never an overnight thing, *it takes months and even years of proactive agronomic practices to make long term changes*, especially on a course that's 16 years old. To make a real difference, *many of these practices are not just something you perform once and you're good, it's a long term plan that has to happen multiple times a year, every year*, in order to maintain high quality turf and conditions.

In order to perform these practices we need to have time without play so that we can get the job done proficiently without having to be rushed by play or worry if we're interfering with someone's round of golf. That's why we need the scheduled maintenance closures.

With that being said I know the question is being asked "why do we still need to close the course for overseeding even though we are performing limited overseeding on the course this year?" The actual overseeding process itself only takes a few days and then it's grow-in time. During the grow-in of the Ryegrass, is when we work around the entire course performing a ton of other things to get us ready for season.

Below I have outlined our goals for the September 19th - 30th 2022 overseed closure; and as you can see, there's much more than just "overseeding".

Overseeding Timeline: 1-2 days to perform seeding, 4 days for germination, 4-5 days to establish rooting, then mow and fertilize = 10-12 days before ready for foot traffic.

Overseeded Areas

- Driving Range tee
- Chipping green complex
- 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

Other Operations to Perform

- Needle Tine and heavy topdress greens to smooth and reset surface. Heavy topdressing required to attain targeted topdress rate for the year. We will not mow the green for 4-5 days after the topdressing. This is a critical practice.



Golf Maintenance News

- Apply course wide pre-emergent application
- Apply course wide fall fertilizer application
- Work to finalize summer projects that were not completed
- Final sodding of needed areas
- Bunker maintenance
 1. Edge bunkers
 2. Check sand depths
 3. Freshen up all bunkers with new sand
 4. Replace worn/ broken bunker rakes
- Paint cart path markings
- Detail granite landscape beds
- Trim all trees in turf
- Edge cart paths
- Paint tee markers

Cart Traffic = Compaction = Turf's #1 enemy

A comment I occasionally hear is why do we need to have "Cart Path Only" holes when the course looks so good? That's exactly why we need to have them, to allow the designated holes time to recover from the cart traffic. One of my main focuses when I arrived was to re-grass and regrow the traffic areas in. *By allowing the traffic areas on each hole to recover for a week or two we have been able to maintain good overall turf density. This is ultra-critical for our non-overseeded roughs during the winter months.*

The other question I get is why don't we use "gates" for traffic control? I personally don't like using gates because it concentrates all the traffic into one area, this leads to SEVERE COMPACTION and eventually that is what you have all along your cart path. It's my experience that dispersed traffic leads to less severe compaction and overall better turf quality.

Thanks for reading,

Aaron Thomas, SBR Golf Course Superintendent



Tip from the Pro

Golf Etiquette

Golf etiquette is a term most golfers are familiar with but may have trouble defining. Some may say it is about caring for the course, while others will say it is about behavior while on the facility. In truth, golf etiquette involves both. Golf etiquette is showing respect and consideration for the course and those that use the course, including those that work on it. These ideals are not just for the golf facility, but are put to use every day in all aspects of life. Most of us were taught these modes of behavior from an early age, and this behavior was meant to be used for a lifetime.

In golf speak, golf etiquette then means filling divots, repairing ball marks, raking bunkers, restricting cart traffic time on the turf, and most important, being patient and courteous to others on the course

Our golf course is becoming more busy with each passing year. Please practice etiquette when on the golf facility by caring for the course, and by being courteous to those you come in contact with while there. Practicing golf etiquette makes the experience of golfing more enjoyable and helps not only foster better course conditioning, but also creates a fun, welcoming environment at our facility.

Have fun out there!

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

SBRWGA: www.sbrwga.com

SBR Ranchette Putters: jackdon8@yahoo.com

Greens Committee: SBRGreens@gmail.com

Contact Us!