

The Ranch Forecaddie

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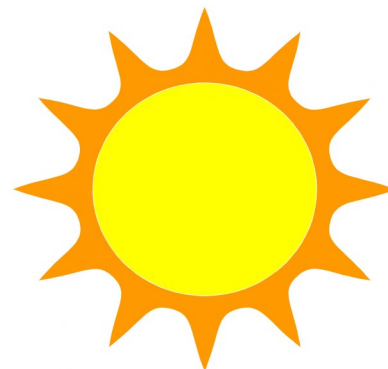
Golf in July

As of July 1st, the updated **Access Flag Program** has been released. The *effective date of full implementation is set for August 1st*, to allow time for those who need to update information, or for those entering the program, to get their documentation to the Pro Shop. Going forward, medical documentation as described in the program will be required, as well as dates of use. This is an important program in that it seeks to provide access to the course for those who need it to continue enjoying the game, while protecting the course from the damage of excessive cart traffic. See pages 2-5 for program details. This information will also be available to read and print on your Chelsea home page.

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



Pro Shop Schedule

Pro Shop Hours - Open 30 minutes before the first tee time and 1 hour before shotguns. The pro shop closes at 5:30pm. 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: 7-1 to 7-31: 7:00am

Last tee time: 7-1 to 7-31: 5:30pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

7-1 to 7-31: Prime 7:00 - 11:52

Midday 12:00 - 1:52

Twilight 2:00 - 3:52

Super Twilight 4:00 - 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.

July Maintenance Schedule

At the end of July/beginning of August, we will have the second of three closure weeks on July 29-August 4. Currently, the driving range tee has been moved to the mats for a minimum of 2-3 weeks to allow the turf to recover from winter overseeding and heavy use. Overseeding causes extensive damage to the base Bermuda turf and the range area; and while it is a necessity to overseed the range tee, it is a good reminder of why we have converted to a dormant golf course in the winter. We will be closed Wednesdays from June through September to perform summertime course repair/improvement projects.



We will continue closing one hole per nine to cart traffic to help maintain the quality of the turf.

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 July and will cover pitching. It will be held on Monday, July 22nd at 9:00am at the practice pitching green. Please see your Chelsea home page event calendar for the full clinic schedule.

Golfing News

SBR Cart Rules Effective August 1, 2024

Purpose

In order to significantly reduce and/or limit excessive wear and tear to the turf areas on the golf course due to cart traffic, the following policy will be applied.

Definitions

Traditional Golf Cart (TGC) - Designed for use on the golf course with a capacity of two riders.

Single Rider Cart (SRC) - A TGC with only one rider.

Personal Golf Vehicle (PGV) - Golf carts or scooters designed for one rider.

Access Flags - Type 1 is a BLUE flag assigned from the Pro Shop only, and only when deemed necessary by a medical professional or the golfer has a disability which is readily apparent, that allow a golfer access to fairways closed for rest, par three fairways, and to drive to within 25 feet of the front of the green. Type 2 is a RED flag. The RED flag has the same uses as the BLUE flag with the addition of allowing the golfer to ride alone for medical reasons (SRC).

Golfing News Cont.

Cart Usage

All golf tee times must pair up to two players per cart. Following this rule, foursomes and threesomes shall have two carts, twosomes and singles shall have one cart.

Exceptions

If a player is joining a foursome late, the extra cart **MUST** be kept on the cart path. When completing the front nine, the extra cart **MUST** be dropped off and the fourth player shall then ride on the second cart.

If a player is leaving a foursome or twosome early, they should pair up with the other players and be dropped off at the turn.

Any additional carts must remain on the cart path for the entire play of that hole (no alternating back and forth with the two other carts that are allowed on the turf for that hole). This applies when a golfer is catching up to their group. It is expected that the extra cart will be dropped off at the turn. Golfers playing nine holes with an eighteen hole group need to pair up and be dropped off at the turn. It is not acceptable to have a third cart in this example.

Each tee time will be limited to one (1) SRC with a RED access flag, with the intent of having no more than a maximum of three TGC carts per group driving on the turf.

This policy is not applicable to Personal Golf Vehicles (PGVs, i.e. carts designed for one rider...e.g. scooters).

Carts with just spectators **MUST** always remain on the cart path (no exceptions).

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°.

SCATTER ACROSS TURF until ball is on green.

EXIT TURF at 90° to cart path.

REMAIN ON CART PATH on all Par-3 holes.

FOLLOW ALL CART DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE.

DO NOT DRIVE around sides or back of greens.

DO NOT DRIVE in the desert or PARK in garden areas.

DO NOT ENTER private resident property to retrieve golf balls.

Golf News Cont.

Access Flag Program 2024

The Access Flag Program is designed to provide additional access to the golf course via golf cart for those with a medically documented issue wherein the additional access affords them the ability to continue to play golf.

Access Flag Types

Blue - medical doctor affirmed need for access to cart restricted areas of the course in order to be able to play golf. This access is to include driving to the ball on fairways closed for resting turf, driving to within 25 feet of the front of the greens and inside the cart traffic limit (not the sides or back of the greens), and driving on the fairways of par three holes. This access **requires pairing up with other golfers** unless utilizing a single rider vehicle.

Red - medical doctor affirmed need to ride as a single in a two-person cart. Golfers who use a single rider vehicle do not need a doctor's affirmation or flag.

Document/s Required

State DMV Handicap Placard and/or a letter from a medical doctor affirming the need for an access flag and the date range for use. The date range may be permanent. Single rider access requests require a doctor's letter affirming the need to ride as a single.

Use

Golfers pick up their flag during check-in before the round and turn their flag in following the round.

Cart Rules are as follows:

DRIVE ON PATH until even with the ball, then enter turf at 90°.

SCATTER ACROSS TURF until the ball is on the green complex.

EXIT TURF at 90° to the path.

STAY 25 FEET from tees and greens, DO NOT drive around the sides or back of greens.

Limitations

The Access Flag program DOES NOT apply when one or more holes, or the entire course, is closed to cart traffic due to conditions created by weather or following certain maintenance processes. During those times, ALL carts must remain on the cart path regardless if the operator possesses a DMV placard/doctor's letter.

Golf News Cont.

REQUEST FOR ACCESS FLAG

Date: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Type of Access Flag Requested (See Page 1 of this request form)

Blue _____

Red _____

Duration of Use

Start Date _____

End Date _____

Documentation Provided

State DMV Placard _____ (Staff will make a copy of the placard)

Letter from Doctor _____ (Staff will attach to this form)

I have read and understand the parameters of use for the access flag.

Print Name: _____

Signed: _____

Golf Maintenance News

Summer Maintenance Projects

It's officially summer and time for our maintenance projects around the course. We have our second week-long closure July 29th - August 4th and our weekly scheduled Wednesday closures now through September. These Wednesday events are critical for us to accomplish what we need to without having to stop for play and us not bothering golfers. Here's a list of our goals for this summer. We'll do our best to complete as much as possible to improve conditions and prepare for the fall/winter season.

Drainage

We will be installing drain lines in the areas below to help remove surface water and firm up areas. These projects are very labor intensive with each one taking 40-70 man hours to complete.

- #1 right side of apron/approach
- #4 behind green
- #7 behind gold tee
- #8 right side of fairway in rough
- #10 left of green
- #15 left side fairway in rough
- #17 approach/fairway right side in rough, basin in front of range tee, left side.

Dethatching

- Aggressive dethatching of tee tops using the Mataway walk behind dethatcher. This removes thatch and in turn, firms the teeing service, improves water infiltration and the efficiency of fertilizers, herbicides and insecticides.

Sodding

- Sod all weak/bare areas in fairways and approaches.
- Grow in to gain adequate density for winter season.

Drainage

- Bunker drainage on selected bunkers that have been holding water.
- Remove 2'x2' square of bunker liner to improve drainage, add clean gravel and add sand to proper depth.
- Remove "dams" from green and collar interface. These dams form over time from years of topdressing and turf growth. These small "grass dams" can slow and prevent water outflow from the green. Over time this can thin the greens surface in that area and eventually cause black layer leading to poor drainage in these locations. We'll do this on greens #6 and #16.
- Install slot drains to remove standing water along cart paths edges on #7.



Golf Maintenance News Cont.

Other Projects

- Amend soil in bare compacted areas on bridges on hole #10 and walk on #5. Use Crumb Rubber, sand, compost and re- sod.
- Construct nursery green on north end of range floor. This would give us extra green sod if we need to make repairs to the golf course and not have to take sod from the chipping green.
- Grow in weak areas of range floor.

Summer Transition

Why is the range tee closed and the tees we overseeded on the course in rough shape? We overseeded them, that's why. It's called summer transition, and this is what happens as the winter Ryegrass dies out either from chemical and mechanical transition or the monsoon heat and humidity come in and kill the Ryegrass. We live at difficult elevation to have a seamless transition as our overall temperatures are lower than the courses south of us closer to the city, and much lower than anywhere up in Phoenix. With cool nighttime lows in April, May and even the first part of June, the winter Ryegrass is extremely happy. The opposite is that the Bermudagrass does start to green up but doesn't actively start growing until we consistently have night time temperatures above 60 degrees; and even then, the key to Bermuda growth is high humidity and dew points above 45. For those of you that have lived here for several years when the property overseeded fairways, tees and greens, I'm sure you can remember the poor conditions during the summer months that was summer transition and the result of overseeding.

When people ask me why we don't overseed I try to explain to them the difficulty and uniqueness of our location. Staying on track with our limited overseeding plan allows us to have very good conditions for the majority of the year versus a few months with overseeded fairways and poor summer conditions for 4 months across the majority of the golf course. Below are a couple articles regarding non-overseeding vs overseeding.

<https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/articles/2018/01/going-green--golf-courses-benefit-by-painting-fairways-instead-o.html>

<https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/course-care/green-section-record/60/20/top-five-reasons-to-overseed-or-not-overseed-fairways.html>

Thanks,

Aaron Thomas

Golf Course Superintendent



Tip from the Pro

Summertime Course maintenance

During the core summer months from June to August, the Bermuda base turf on the golf course has awakened from dormancy and is in full growth mode. This period is the only time heavy cultivation, which is essential to having healthy strong turf, can be safely accomplished wherein the turf will heal and benefit from the activities.

Unfortunately, the playing conditions will be briefly affected following the cultivation. As a fellow golfer, I understand wanting to have the course in peak condition to be able to enjoy these expert surfaces Aaron has provided. What I ask everyone to be aware of is the value of the cultivation. Most importantly, looking at our overseeded range tee and chipping area, we have left the ravages of overseeding the bulk of the course in the past. When seeing it from that vantage point, the short disruption in near perfect conditions seems like a very small inconvenience indeed!

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: **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 Putters: heasleypickyg@gmail.com

Greens Committee: SBRGreens@gmail.com

Contact Us!