

# The Ranch Forecaddie

Volume 7, Issue 6

June 2024

## Golf in June

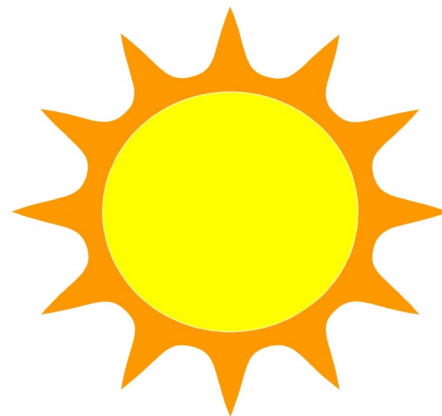
With June arriving, so arrives hot dry weather. The weather helps to stimulate the Bermuda to grow, and Aaron utilizes these conditions to improve the turf quality during closure weeks and closed Wednesdays with heavy cultivation techniques. If we get another good monsoon, conditions will surely be amazing 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.

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. 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: 6-1 to 6-30: 7:00am

Last tee time: 6-1 to 6-30: 5:30pm

Shotguns: 8:00/1:00

Rate Periods:

6-1 to 6-30: 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.

### June Maintenance Schedule

In June, we will have the first of three closure weeks beginning June 3-June 9. Please see Aaron's article for a full explanation of the process. We will be closed Wednesdays from June through September to perform the majority of routine aerification, topdressing, and fertilization.

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 tee on the **driving range** 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 June and will cover the chipping. It will be held on Monday, June 17th at 9:00am at the practice chipping green. Please see your Chelsea home page event calendar for the full clinic schedule.**

## Golfing News

### Golf Course Access

Dear Residents, 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°.
- SCATTER ACROSS TURF until ball is on the green complex.
- 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 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 smoother 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.

### 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. Please make an effort to follow this approach as the wear and tear just after the Plum indicates that a good amount of golfers are NOT doing this!

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## Golf News Cont.

### Bunker Rake Placement



Please replace rakes in the bunkers at the lower end with the handle at a 90-degree angle to the edge and the end of the handle just inside the bunker. This orientation provides the least interference for golf balls and also keeps the rake easy to reach.

Thank you!

## Golf Maintenance News

### First Summer Maintenance Closure

Our first summer closure is June 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>. This week long closure without play is critical for us perform as much of our required agronomic practices as possible without interruption. During the week our team works 10-11 hours days and comes in on the weekend if needed to finish any needed cleanup. **During this time we are focusing on performing as much surface disruption for thatch removal as possible - the course will not be in perfect condition when we open. It will take about two weeks to recover, so don't expect the same condition when we open as when we closed the course!**

Our goals for the week are outlined below in sequence of operation.

Greens - aerification and verticutting, heavy topdress.

Fairways - linear decompaction, aggressive de-thatching and sand topdressing.

Roughs - Solid tine and core aeration across all roughs and aggressive dethatching 20 feet around the greens.

Collars - if time allows - core aeration

*Continued on the next page.*

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## Golf Maintenance News

### Greens - this process will take 4 days:

Verti-cut 2x, clean and mow.  
Deep solid tine aeration - 7"-8" deep with  $\frac{1}{4}$ " solid tines.  
Core aeration.  
Remove Cores.  
Topdress.  
Drag to fill in holes and level green surface.  
Role green 2-3x prior to opening.  
Fertilize.

### Fairways - this entire process will take us 7-10 days:

Linear decompaction - Shock wave - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcVAnBefJKY>  
Aggressive de-thatching using large "spring rake."  
Remove thatch debris with vacuums.  
Mow to remove exposed vertical runner to encourage upright growth of Bermuda.  
Topdress to dilute thatch layer and smooth and firm fairway surface.

### Roughs - this process will take us 10-14 days:

Large shatter solid tine slicer - Aerway - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hve2Pwm9b4Q>  
Traditional core aeration - if time allows, otherwise this will be performed during our scheduled Wednesday closures.  
Mow to breakdown cores/plugs.  
Clean as needed.

### Collars - if time allows, otherwise this will be performed during our scheduled Wednesday closures:

Hollow tine aeration.  
Remove cores/plugs.

**Tees** - this summer during our Wednesday closures we will be performing an aggressive de-thatching to match that of the fairways. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmJVlcGIvmk>

Thanks,

Aaron Thomas

Golf Course Superintendent



## Tip from the Pro

### Responsible Golf Cart Use

Over the past several years we have been engaged in a deep restoration of the turf on the golf course. Acres of sod were utilized to repair the fairways damaged by overseeding and cart traffic. The greens were rebuilt, re-sloped, and re-topped with the latest dwarf Bermuda grass. Now all these busy years later, as we put the finishing touches on restoring the last few areas of turf, **cart traffic is our number one detriment to the condition of our course.** To help keep the course in the best possible condition, please follow these points regarding golf cart use:

1. Keep the cart on the path as much as possible, don't take short cuts over turf or desert areas.
2. Stay 25 feet from tees, greens, and bunkers. Never drive around the sides or backs of the greens.
3. Keep all four wheels on the path when parking, don't "pull to the side" with two wheels on the turf.
3. Pass parked carts on the desert side of the cart path.
4. Do not park on tee boxes or garden areas looking for extra shade.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue of managing cart damage to the course!

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

**SBRWGA:** [www.sbrwga.com](http://www.sbrwga.com)

**SBR Lady Niners:** [www.sbrladyniners.home.blog](http://www.sbrladyniners.home.blog)

**SBR Ranchette Putters:** [heasleypick@gmail.com](mailto:heasleypick@gmail.com)

**Greens Committee:** [SBRGreens@gmail.com](mailto:SBRGreens@gmail.com)

Contact Us!