

GREENJACKET

PROTECT · GROW · ACCELERATE

FIELD REPORT NO. 07

The Ozaukee Country Club Story

Always Greener

*A decade of GreenJacket covers — and greens
that come back greener every spring.*

Ozaukee Country Club

MEQUON, WISCONSIN

Brett Hosler, CGCS · Golf Course Superintendent

What Winter Quietly Takes



Late winter at Ozaukee — the covered surface holds its density and color while the turf around it sits dormant and tan. It's the contrast Brett counts on every spring.

Winter rarely arrives as a single headline event. More often it's attrition — moisture pulled from exposed crowns week after week, and a spring that shows up late. For a course whose large, undulating greens have been making news since Langford & Moreau laid them out in 1922, that slow erosion is the real adversary.

DESICCATION

Winter wind and sun strip moisture from unprotected crowns.

CROWN HYDRATION

A quick rain that freezes can threaten crowns and leave surface ice.

FREEZE-THAW

Repeated thaw-and-refreeze swings stress unbuffered turf.

SLOW GREEN-UP

A late spring recovery costs playable days members expect.

The Line Tells the Story



Spring, just after the covers came off. The protected surface has greened up and firmed while the surrounding turf is still waking — the cover's footprint drawn in living color.

GreenJacket clear permeable covers have run on these greens and tees for more than a decade. The result Brett describes is consistent enough to be routine to him now — and striking to everyone else: *always greener*, and, beyond color, measurably denser in both canopy and rooting.

Timed, Not Just Installed

For over ten years the rhythm has held: covers onto the greens and tees before winter sets its teeth, off again as spring arrives. What separates Brett's outcome from an average one isn't the material alone — it's the discipline around it. Install and removal windows are chosen, watched, and hit.



A tee box on one of Ozaukee's holes, covers just pulled — the protected surface greens up weeks ahead of the dormant slope behind it, faint seams still tracing where the panels lay.

01

COVER

Greens & tees covered ahead of hard winter.

02

OVERWINTER

Permeable weave breathes while shielding the crown.

03

UNCOVER

Covers pulled on a chosen spring window.

04

GREEN-UP

The protected surface leads the recovery.

A Decade of Notes

9 / 10

Brett's overall performance rating.

- 1 Consistent protection** — winter after winter, the covers guard against desiccation and hand back a greener surface every spring.
- 2 Grow, not just protect** — beyond color, Brett sees measurably denser canopy and stronger rooting coming out of the cold.
- 3 Timing is the whole game** — respect the install and removal windows and the system simply works; rarely, a fast rain that then freezes can trap surface water through the permeable weave, so the window matters.
- 4 Adjust the program** — because canopy temps run slightly warmer under permeable covers, snow-mold and GDD-timed applications — and especially growth-regulator timing for Poa seedhead — earn extra thought.
- 5 The verdict** — recommended without hesitation; in Brett's words, a “no-brainer” for their situation.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS — WHAT BRETT SAW

"Always greener. However, apart from color, we've noticed increased density in both canopy and rooting."

The Window Is Everything

Under all of Brett's notes sits a single lesson: timing. And timing rewards planning. Covers ordered, sized, and staged ahead of the season let a crew hit the install and removal windows precisely — instead of scrambling against a Wisconsin winter that keeps its own schedule.

Planning early doesn't only save money. It buys the operational margin that separates a good result from *Brett's result* — the difference between reacting to winter and being ready before it starts.

Order ahead. Size right. Stage early. Then let the window — not the weather — set the pace.

“

Using permeable covers in
our area, for our situation,
is a no-brainer for me.

Brett Hosler, CGCS

Superintendent · Ozaukee Country Club · Mequon, Wisconsin



*Every course faces winter.
The best ones plan for it.*

PROTECT · GROW · ACCELERATE

Every Course · Every Winter · Every Story Is Different.

We'd love to share yours.

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