



JACKLIN[®] S E E D

by **Simplot**

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Scottish Links at the U.S. Open



Scottish Links covers the hillside below the clubhouse at Erin Hills. (Photo courtesy of Mark Grundman)

Leading up to the U.S. Open at Erin Hills in June, much of the talk focused on the tall, flowing, red and gold colored fescue roughs. The roughs, planted to Jacklin's **Scottish Links**[™] fine fescue mix, made news before the tournament began when golfer Kevin Na posted a [video](#) demonstrating the difficulty of shooting a ball out of the tall rough. According to a June 18, 2017 article on GolfDigest.com, there was a lot of collective concern among players about the deep roughs at Erin Hills, and the USGA even cut some of the roughs back prior to the event.

With all the discussion about the **Scottish Links**[™] fine fescue roughs, is it possible to determine the effect the dense roughs had on play? The GolfDigest.com article mentions a USGA statistic used to determine the impact that balls hit into the roughs has on play, called "cost of rough." *(continued, p. 2)*

Waukegan Sports Field Beats

Poa annua with Gly-Rye[®]

There's a new weapon in the battle against *Poa annua* on sports fields and fairways — Jacklin's Gly-Rye[®] non-GMO glyphosate tolerant perennial rye. Working with turf managers of sports fields and golf courses in Illinois and Wisconsin, Mark Grundman (Jacklin employee and area representative), has successfully designed and implemented a *Poa annua* management program that has shown excellent results.

Poa annua has been plaguing highly managed turf in the U.S. since the early 1900's, if not earlier. In fact, the March 1921 issue of the USGA *Bulletin of the Green Section* addressed the seemingly unstoppable grass by giving in and stating, "On the whole, the grass is to be considered desirable rather than a weed. Certainly it would be very expensive to keep it out of greens altogether, and its demerits if any are not sufficient to justify the attempt."

Of course, in those days they didn't have the benefits of highly improved varieties of perennial ryegrasses such as Gly-Rye[®] perennial ryegrass, along with other modern management tools. Using a combination of better cultural practices, focused chemical applications, and the right turfgrass variety, there is now sufficient reason to justify attempts to keep *Poa* out.

The Waukegan Park District in Illinois used the Jacklin Gly'Rye[®] program to convert a soccer field that was highly infested with *Poa* to a mix of Gly-Rye[®] *(continued, p.2)*



Cost of Rough, continued

The article goes on to state that the cost of rough at a typical U.S. Open is between 0.45 and 0.55 stroke, but the cost of rough at Erin Hills for the U.S. Open was 0.60. This is 50% higher than the previous year at Oakmont. Despite the high cost of rough, the number of under-par scores was a near record high for a U.S. Open. The lesson of Erin Hills? Don't miss the fairway!

Stachura, Mike. "Rough Estimate: The real effects of Erin Hills' tall grass." *Golf Digest*, 18 June 2017, www.golfdigest.com/story/rough-estimate-the-real-effects-of-erin-hills-tall-grass. Accessed 26 Sept. 2017.



Jacklin's Scottish Links™ fine fescue in the rough at Erin Hills, host of the 2017 U.S. Open. (Photo courtesy of Mark Grundman)

Scottish Links™ fine fescue mix is a Jacklin Seed proprietary mix including hard fescue, sheep fescue, creeping red fescue, and Chewings fescue. Fine fescues are known for their low maintenance, yet aesthetically pleasing look. The Scottish Links mix adapts well to the harsh conditions of bunker faces and roughs, but is also a good choice in low maintenance parks, roadsides, or home lawns. It can be maintained at heights from 1.5 in. (4 cm), to unmown. 🌱



Gly-Rye, continued

and Jacklin Kentucky bluegrass.

The crew at Waukegan tested the Gly-Rye® program in a *Poa* infested part of one field and after a year the results are excellent. (See photo below, the area seeded to Gly-Rye® and Kentucky bluegrass is a dark square in the light colored *Poa* base.)

They chose to convert the entire field and started late summer 2017 with slicing, scalping, and deep-tine aerating into the *Poa annua* field to prep it for the Gly-Rye®, seeded at 3.2 lbs/1000 ft² (16 g/m²). The Waukegan crew applied a 16-28-12 starter fertilizer at .59 lbs N/1000 ft² (3g N/m²) two days after seeding.

One week after the initial seeding, Waukegan Park District seeded a second time, using another 3 lbs/1000 of Gly-Rye®, and 3 lbs/1000 (15 g/m²) of Kentucky bluegrass. Immediately after seeding they applied the first application of glyphosate at a 14 oz/A (1 L/ha) spray rate. The field management crew applied another round of starter fertilizer 16 days after the initial seeding, and the field was ready for its first mowing on day 35.

Jacklin's Gly-Rye® perennial ryegrass is a versatile choice for sports fields or golf fairways, whether overseeding or for permanent turf. Gly-Rye® has a deep green color, fine texture and great density, with the added benefit of glyphosate tolerance to help manage *Poa annua*. 🌱



Please check Jacklin's maintenance guidelines to use glyphosate products successfully on Gly-Rye.

Test plot using Jacklin's Gly-Rye® conversion program in a *Poa annua* contaminated sports complex field in Waukegan, Illinois.

Seeded summer 2016, picture taken May 2017.



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