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# Collecting Country And Golf Clubs

by

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Talk about variety! That's what collecting Country Clubs and Golf Courses is about! 10s, 20's, 30's, 40's, boxes, Jewels, Jewelites...you name it; we've got it.

Some CC's have been very prolific over the years, some having as many as 15 different covers (Ridgemont CC in Rochester, NY, for ex.). The covers follow the growth of these clubs and often reflect the club's personality. Many of these covers were for the convenience of the members and guests, as advertising was not a need for the club. In fact, some of the more, exclusive, private clubs have had few, if any, covers, and what they have had has been very simple: Shinnecock Hills of Southampton, NY, and The Country Club of Brookline, MA, for example.

With the growth of golf came more public clubs and courses with a need to advertise, and so covers in this category became easier to find. With the advent of the large golf/hotel resorts, covers came upon us like locusts!

How do I arrange my collection? I start with location, by state. The USGA Year Book helps me place covers that have no location. Those covers that are mounted are also in alphabetically by club name. There's also a section for Canadian clubs, as well as a small section of Foreign clubs. In addition to the state system, I have the following variations:

1. Golf Digest Magazine lists of America's 100 greatest golf courses each year. I have 95 so far, but I'm still looking for Arcadian Shores of Myrtle Beach; Bellerive CC of Creve Coeur, MO; Kemper Lakes of Hawthorne Woods, IL; Mayacoo Lakes of West Palm Beach; and Old Warson CC of Ladue, MO.

2. The five best courses in each state are also listed. This is a challenge, especially when you get to the less populated areas such as The York Club and Tennis Club of York, Maine. They don't have any cover and don't anticipate putting one out!

3. Not directly, but some of the clubs that host the US Golf Association championships have covers to commemorate them (i.e., Cherry Hills CC of Denver's cover for the 1978 US Open). The British Open has a series of covers featuring their annual championships. I have 1980, 1981, 1982, and 1985.

4. The PGA, TPA, and LPGA also are a source of covers by the host clubs. Then, there are a series of Sports Jewelites starting in 1982, listing PGA/TPA tournaments, and I've got nice autographed cover from the '67 Supertest Ladies Open, London, Ontario, of Kathy Whitworth, defending champ.

5. Manumarks! Front-strikers from just about all the companies, as well as newer MM's and boxes

6. Conjunctions: My favorite is a 20 from Long Beach CC with "Victory in '43" on the saddle!

7. RMS Opens: (1985, 1986, 1987)

8. Golf related: A golf ball on a bell from Canada Trust, etc.