

Current LPGA Players



Riko Higashio ('98)

Career Earnings:
\$171,125

Still in LPGA rookie status, Higashio attended UF for three years before leaving in August 1998 to pursue her professional goals. In 2003, she tied for 22nd at the LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament and earned exempt status for the 2004 season in a three-hole, eight-way playoff. At

UF, she was named SEC Freshman of the Year and was a two-time All-American in 1996 and 1998.



Paula Marti (2000)

Career Earnings:
\$269,926

Marti attended UF for one season and turned professional in September 2000. In 2001, she won twice on the Evian Ladies European Tour (LET). In 2002, she won the LET Order of Merit as the number one player on Tour, tied for second at the Weetabix Women's British Open, was

a member of the European Solheim Cup team and earned non-exempt status for the 2003 season on the LPGA Tour.



Deb Richard ('86)

Career Earnings:
\$2,759,551*

Richard was the first Florida golfer to break the \$1 million mark for career winnings on the LPGA Tour and moved above the \$2 million mark during 1997. Richard has claimed five victories on the Tour during her 17-year professional career, including her last win at the 1997 Friendly's

Classic. In 1991, she claimed two titles – the Women's Kemper Open and The Phar-Mor in Youngstown. Richard recorded her first LPGA win in 1987, claiming the \$45,000 purse at the Rochester International. In her first season with the LPGA, Richard finished runner-up to Jody Rosenthal for the J. Roget Rookie-of-the-Year Award. In 1998, Richard finished in the top-15 five times, including a tie for fourth place at the du Maurier Classic, one of the Tour's four majors.



Laurie Rinker-Graham ('83)

Career Earnings:
\$1,185,550*

A two-time All-American for Florida, Rinker has claimed two LPGA titles since joining the Tour in July 1982 (the 1984 Boston Five Classic and the LPGA Corning Classic in '86). 1987 was Rinker's best year on the

Tour, finishing 12th on the money list with \$158,916. Rinker's brother, Larry, is a member of the PGA, and together they won the 1985 JCPenney Classic. She joined the Tour after her junior season at UF and simultaneously earned her degree in finance with a 3.32 grade point average.



Nancy (Rubin) Sharff ('77)

Career Earnings:
\$213,285

Sharff played on the LPGA Tour from 1980-95 and enjoyed her best campaign in 1990, when she earned \$50,362 on the strength of three top-20 finishes. Her career-best finish was a third-place finish at the Inamori Classic in 1983. She played

in a single-season career-high 28 events in 1982, 1987, and 1990. Sharff attended Florida for one year after a stellar prep career, which included winning the 1976 Pennsylvania State Junior and the PGA National Junior championships. She also won the 1980 Doherty Challenge Cup a year after claiming runner-up honors at that event.



Naree Song ('03)

Career Earnings:
\$23,392

Song turned pro in 2004 when she competed in 16 events on the Duramed Futures Tour. She claimed five top-10 finishes, and notched her first career victory on May 29, 2004, when she won the The New Innsbrook C.C. FUTURES Golf Classic. In her two years and 25

events on the Futures Tour, Song earned \$30,293 en route to making 22 cuts. Song joined her twin sister, Aree Song, on the LPGA Tour in 2006 after qualifying for the Tour on her first attempt. Her highest finish to date on the LPGA tour is 35th in the Takefuji Classic. She has also competed in nine events on the 2006 Futures Tour, making all seven cuts and placing fourth in the Aurora Health Care Championship.



Donna (Horton) White ('76)

Career Earnings:
\$908,589

White, who retired from the Tour after the 1992 season, was a member of the LPGA for 15 years. During her two-year playing career at Florida, White was a two-time all-state selection and won four collegiate titles. White claimed three tour

victories: the 1980 Florida Lady Citrus and the Coca-Cola Classic and in 1983, the Sarasota Classic. She ranked among the LPGA's top-20 money winners five times during her professional career and is a member of the University of Florida Hall of Fame.



Former LPGA Players



Laura Brown ('91)

Career Earnings: \$15,674

While on the LPGA Tour in 1995, Brown recorded her career-best finish by tying for 10th at the Jamie Farr Toledo Classic, shooting her career-low score of 66 in the final round. At UF, Brown earned a spot on the 1991 All-America squad.



Jeanne-Marie Busuttil ('96)

Career Earnings: \$48,006*

Busuttil turned professional in August of 1998 after lettering at Florida from 1995-96. In 2001, she finished second at the LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament to earn exempt status for the 2002 season. Busuttil competed on the SBC Futures Tour, where she won one tournament and finished fifth on the money list; and was also a member of the Evian Ladies European Tour. In 2002, she had a season-best finish of a tie for 12th at the Jamie Farr Kroger Classic Presented by Alltel.



Lynn Connelly ('83)

Career Earnings: \$440,421

Connelly enjoyed her most successful season on the LPGA Tour in 1991. She was runner-up at the 1991 Inamori Classic and ranked among the LPGA's top-35 money winners. Before Connelly joined the LPGA in 1985, she was a member of the Japanese LPGA and played on both the Futures Tour and Women's Professional Golf Tour. In 1984, she won the Thailand Open and was the leading money winner on the Tampa Bay mini-tour. As a collegiate, Connelly won the Southeastern Conference title during her sophomore season as a Lady Gator collegian.



Karen Davies ('89)

Career Earnings: \$248,453*

The Gators' all-time record-holder for individual titles with nine, Davies helped lead Florida to back-to-back NCAA titles in 1985 and 1986 and was named Southeastern Conference Player of the Year in 1987. Davies joined the LPGA Tour in 1990 and posted her top

individual finish of sixth three times – in 1991, at the Ping-Cellular One LPGA Championship; 1992 at the Itoki Hawaiian Ladies Open; and 1996 at the Sara Lee Classic.



Beverley Davis ('79)

Career Earnings: \$103,753

Davis competed in the LPGA Tour for six years (1980-86). During that stint, she recorded a career-best finish in a tie for fifth at the Mary Kay Classic in 1982 and also took 10th in the '82 U.S. Women's Open. She was runner-up in the LPGA Qualifying School in 1980 and 1986. During her professional career, Davis shot a personal low of 66. At Florida (1976-1979), Davis was a two-time All-American and a four-year letterwinner. Her wins in a UF uniform include three individual meet titles and eight team titles. In 1975, she ranked sixth of the top-10 female amateur golfers in America.



Page Dunlap ('87)

Career Earnings: \$211,064

Dunlap earned her career-best finish of fourth at the State Farm Rail Classic in 1993. She was a member of both of Florida's national championship squads in 1985 and 1986. During her UF career, Dunlap claimed three tournament titles, including the 1986 NCAA individual crown. She was the 1986 Broderick Award recipient for golf – an award that is given annually to the nation's top female collegiate student-athlete in each sport.



Lori Garbacz ('78)

Career Earnings: \$911,341

A 1978 Gator All-American, Garbacz led Florida to a runner-up finish at the 1978 AIAW Championships. She joined the Tour in 1979 and finished runner-up to Beth Daniel for Rookie-of-the-Year honors. Garbacz claimed her first LPGA Tour win in 1989 at the Circle K Tucson Open.



Lisa (Hackney) Hall ('90)

Career Earnings: \$838,960*
Hall, the 1990

Southeastern Conference Player of the Year, spent several years on the European Tour before becoming a member of LPGA Tour in 1997. She made the most of the opportunities available on the Tour in her first year, winning the LPGA Rookie of the Year award in '97. In her initial LPGA campaign, Hall was runner-up at the Safeway LPGA Golf Championship and tied for fifth in the U.S. Women's Open and the Nabisco Dinah Shore. In 1998, Hall finished as the runner-up at two events – the McDonald's LPGA Championship and the Jamie Farr Kroger Classic. Hall placed in the top-10 at five other tournaments, including a tie for fourth place at the Oldsmobile Classic. Prior to joining the LPGA, Hall won the 1995 Indonesian Open and the 1996 Welsh Open and was a member of the 1996 European Solheim Cup team. She was also the top money winner on the 1995 Asian Tour of Merit.

Michelle Vinieratos ('91)

Career Earnings: \$13,003*



Vinieratos turned professional in 1991 and won two tournaments on the Futures Tour. She joined the LPGA Tour in 1997 and played a limited schedule on the Tour. From 1997-2001, she competed on the SBC

Futures Tour, where she won the 1998 Capitol Region Futures Classic and posted three additional top-10 finishes. In 2002, she returned to the LPGA Tour and recorded a career-low round of 67.

UF Alumni working for the LPGA

Sandi (Owens) Higgs ('82)

Editorial Creative Manager of New Media



Higgs joined the LPGA staff in the fall of 1986 as a Media Services Coordinator, where she handled media requests for print and television while traveling to LPGA tournaments as the on-site media relations

representative. Currently, Higgs oversees the official Web site of the LPGA, www.LPGA.com, as the Manager of New Media. She manages the content and editorial information for the Web site as well as creates ideas for new content. Higgs was a member of the UF squad from 1979-82, earning a varsity letter each year.

Media
This is
Season
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Season
Review

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