



Opal Hill

(1892-1981)

Advised by her doctors to get more fresh air and exercise to combat a chronic kidney infection, **Opal Hill** took up the game of golf relatively late in her life (age 31). Under the watchful eye of Meadow Lake professional Al Lesperance, Mrs. Hill practiced her new-found love for hours a day. She went on to win four Trans-Mississippi titles, three Women's Western Amateurs, the North-South Championship, three Missouri Women's Amateurs, two Women's Western Opens, thirteen various KC Women's Championships and numerous regional tournaments.

Mrs. Hill played on the first three Curtis Cup teams representing the United States in matches against Great Britain. With nothing left to prove among the amateur ranks, she became just the third American woman to turn professional and was one of the thirteen founding members of the Ladies Professional Golf Association.

When her playing career ended, Mrs. Hill spent nearly forty years teaching the game she loved to countless students at Hillcrest and Blue Hills Country Clubs. She was recognized by her peers as the first LPGA Teaching and Club Professional.



For her record of accomplishment as a pioneer of the game as a player and teacher, the Board of Directors is proud to include Opal Hill in the inaugural (2013) class of the Kansas City Golf Hall of Fame.

Mrs. Hill's record:

Kansas City Women's Match Play champion 1925, 1926, 1928, 1933, 1938

North and South Amateur champion 1929

Missouri Women's Amateur champion 1935, 1936, 1937

Women's Western Amateur champion 1929, 1931, 1932

Women's Trans-Mississippi champion 1928, 1929, 1931, 1934

Women's Western Open champion 1935, 1936

US Curtis Cup Team 1932, 1934, 1936

Chairwoman of the USGA Women's Committee (1935),

Served on the Executive Boards of the MGA, Trans-Mississippi GA and USGA.