

Virada Nirapathpongorn

(neer-uh-PATH-pong-porn)



Rookie year: 2006
Status: Non-exempt
Career-best finish: T5
Career-low round: 66
Career earnings (rank): \$186,600 (361)
LPGA career holes-in-one: 1
Education: Duke University (2004, Psychology)

Professional

2007

- Recorded a season-best tie for 22nd at the Honda LPGA Thailand 2007.
- Carded a season-low 67 in the opening round of the Navistar LPGA Classic.
- Recorded her first LPGA career hole-in-one during the first round of the Navistar LPGA Classic.

2007 Stats (rank)

Rds under par: 18/54 (46)	Rds in the 60s: 4/54 (105)	Birdies: 152 (79)
Eagles: 1 (84)	Greens in reg: 61.1% (75)	Driving accuracy: 70.5% (31)
Sand saves: 40% (62)	Putts per GIR: 1.83 (48)	Driving avg: 244.3 (102)

Career

- In 2006, recorded a career-best tie for fifth at the LPGA Corning Classic, where she carded a career-low 66 during the first round; also carded a 66 during the third round of the MasterCard Classic Honoring Alejo Peralta.
- In 2005, competed in 15 events on the Futures Tour and won two tournaments (Jalapeno FUTURES Golf Classic and the CIGNA Chip in For A Cure Connecticut FUTURES Golf Classic); recorded eight additional top-10 finishes; led the Futures Tour with a 70.61 scoring average; finished the year second on the Futures Tour money list to earn her exempt card for the 2006 LPGA season.
- In 2004, turned professional in June and competed in 12 events on the Futures Tour, where she recorded two top-10 finishes.

Amateur

Nirapathpongorn played collegiate golf at Duke University. She was the 2002 NCAA champion and was named First-Team All-American from 2001-04. In 2003, she won the U.S. Women's Amateur and was runner-up at the U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links. Nirapathpongorn played in the 2002 Wendy's Championship for Children at New Albany as a sponsor exemption and tied for 28th. She also played in both the 2003 and 2004 Kraft Nabisco Championship on a sponsor exemption and tied for 21st in 2003. Nirapathpongorn received the 2004 Nancy Lopez Award, which is given annually to the world's top female amateur.

Personal

5'3"...Started playing golf at the age of 8...Credits her father Dr. Apichart Nirapathpongorn, her mother Dr. Supralee Nirapathpongorn, her brother Ekapak, her junior golf coach Tracy Little, her college and current coach Dan Brooks and her agent David McConnell as the individuals most influencing her career...Hobbies include shopping, karaoke and geography...After one attempt at the LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament, qualified for the Tour by finishing second on the 2005 Futures Tour season-ending money list...Represents Honda, Bank of Ayudhya and Amata Spring Country Club (Thailand).

Major Championship History

	02	03	04	05	06	07
KNC	DNP	T21	MC	DNP	DNP	DNP
LPGA	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	MC	T74
OPEN	MC	MC	MC	MC	MC	DNP
WBO	DNP	DNP	DNP	DNP	MC	DNP

Nirapathpongorn's LPGA Record

Information above the line indicates record before originally qualifying for the LPGA Tour.

Year	# of events	Cuts made	Wins	2nd	3rd	Top 10s	Best finish	Earnings	Rank	Scoring average
2002	2	1	0	0	0	0	T28	N/A	N/A	74.40
2003	3	1	0	0	0	0	T21	N/A	N/A	74.63
2004	2	0	0	0	0	0	MC	N/A	N/A	76.25
2005	2	1	0	0	0	0	T51	\$ 4,603	N/A	77.20
2006	20	11	0	0	0	1	T5	143,196	72	73.46
2007	20	9	0	0	0	0	T22	43,404	126	73.48