

# Babe Zaharias Founder



Deceased:	9/27/56
Priority List Category:	R
LPGA Career Victories:	36
Career Earnings (rank):	\$66,237(518) #
Career Low Round:	67
Playoff Record:	0-3

# Due to loss of early LPGA records, this figure falls short of true career earnings.

Year	Events	Cuts Made	Wins	2nd	3rd	Top 10s	Best Finish	Earnings	Rank	Scoring Average
1948	3	3	3	0	0	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.00
1949	2	2	2	0	0	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.00
1950	10	8	8	0	0	0	1	\$14,800	1	75.88
1951	14	9	9	0	0	0	1	\$15,087	1	74.92
1952	8	5	5	0	0	0	1	\$7,503	5	75.76
1953	10	2	2	0	0	0	1	\$6,345	6	75.70
1954	17	5	5	0	0	0	1	\$14,452	2	75.61
1955	8	2	2	0	0	0	1	\$3,398	N/A	75.60

Tournament	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
KNC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LPGA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	DNP
OPEN	DNP	1	2	1	3	DNP	DNP	1	DNP
DM/WBO	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

## Professional

### Career

- One of 13 LPGA founders.
- One of the greatest female athletes of all time due to her accomplishments in golf, track and field, basketball and numerous other sports.
- Won 41 professional tournaments, including 10 events prior to the inception of the LPGA in 1950; five of her 41 victories came when she was an amateur (1940-47), including four major championships.
- In 1967, when the LPGA Tour Hall of Fame was created, was one of the six inaugural inductees; the LPGA recognized her induction year into the Hall of Fame of Women's Golf (1951) as her official induction year into the LPGA Tour Hall of Fame.
- In 1955, captured the final two victories of her career: Tampa Open and the Peach Blossom Classic.
- In 1954, won the U.S. Women's Open just months after a cancer operation; she was 43 years, 6 days old, and stands as the third-oldest player to win an LPGA major championship (behind Fay Crocker, 45 years, 7 months, 11 days old at the 1960 Titleholders Championship and Sherri Steinhauer, 43 years, 7 months, 10 days at the 2006 Weetabix Women's British Open); captured her only Vare Trophy for lowest scoring average.
- In 1953, underwent the first of two cancer operations.
- In 1951, won her 10<sup>th</sup> LPGA title (not including her 10 wins prior to the inception of the Tour), setting an LPGA record that still stands for the fastest to 10 career wins — 1 year, 20 days; also holds the record for fastest to 20 wins — 2 years, 4 months at the 1952 Bakersfield Open; and fastest to 30 wins — 5 years, 22 days at the 1955 Tampa Open.
- From 1950-51, led the LPGA Tour in earnings.
- In 1950, won all three of the LPGA's major championships: U.S. Women's Open, Titleholders Championship and Western

Open.

- She is the winner of 10 major championships: three U.S. Women's Open titles (1948, 1950 and 1954), three Titleholders Championships (1947, 1950 and 1952) and four Western Open victories (1940, 1944-45 and 1950).
- In August 1947, turned professional.

#### Amateur

Zaharias began concentrating on golf in 1935 at the suggestion of sportswriter Grantland Rice. She played her first tournament a year after taking up the game and won her second event, the 1935 Texas Women's Invitational. Zaharias was ruled a pro by the USGA two weeks later for her baseball and basketball earnings. She regained her amateur standing in January 1943. From 1946-47, she won 17 out of the 18 amateur tournaments she entered, including the 1946 U.S. Women's Amateur Championship and the 1947 British Amateur Championship. In winning the latter, she was the first American to capture the British title since it was first played in 1893.

#### LPGA Victories, Awards, Etc.

**Professional Victories (36):** 1948 All American Open, World Championship, **U.S. Women's Open**. 1949 World Championship, Eastern Open. 1950 **Titleholders Championship**, Pebble Beach Weathervane, Cleveland Weathervane, **Women's Western Open**, All-American Open, World Championship, **U.S. Women's Open**, 144-hole Weathervane. 1951 Ponte Verde Beach Women's Open, Tampa Women's Open, Lakewood Weathervane, Richmond Women's Open, Valley Open, Meridian Hills Weathervane, All-American Open, World Championship, Texas Women's Open. 1952 Miami Weathervane, **Titleholders Championship**, Bakersfield Open (tied with Marlene Hagge, Betty Jameson and Betsy Rawls), Fresno Open, Women's Texas Open. 1953 Sarasota Open, Babe Zaharias Open. 1954 Serbin Open, Sarasota Open, Damon Runyan Cancer Fund Tournament, **U.S. Women's Open**, All-American Open. 1955 Tampa Open, Peach Blossom Classic.

**Professional Victories as an Amateur (5):** 1940 **Western Open**. 1944 **Western Open**. 1945 **Western Open**. 1947 Tampa Open, **Titleholders Championship**.

**LPGA Awards (2):** 1954 Vare Trophy. 2000 Commissioner's Award (LPGA Founders).