

2001 Colorado Springs Sports Hall of Fame Class of Inductees

Judy Bell

One of golf's greatest ambassadors, Judy Bell has devoted her entire career to advancing the sport she first learned while growing up in Wichita, Kansas.

As a player, Bell won three Kansas State Amateur Championships and, at age 14, competed in the 1950 United States Women's Open, which would be the first of her 38 USGA Championship appearances.

Bell compiled an outstanding record as an amateur. She won the Broadmoor Women's Invitational Tournament three times (1957, 1958 and 1960) and was named to the U.S. Curtis Cup Team twice (1960 and 1962). Bell was also captain of the U.S. Curtis Cup Team in 1986 and 1988. In 1964, she posted a then-record 67 in the U.S. Women's Open, a mark that would stand for 14 years.

Bell's accomplishments on the golf course are equaled only by those in her administrative career. She is in her 34th year of service to the USGA and currently serves as consulting director of the USGA Foundation, which is based in Colorado Springs.

Bell has been a USGA rules official since the 1970s and has worked both the U.S. Open and the U.S. Women's Open. In 1987, she became the first woman to be elected to the USGA Executive Committee and, four years later, she was named vice president of the committee. In 1996, Bell became the first woman to be elected president of the USGA.

Bell has made Colorado Springs her hometown for more than 40 years. Among her many contributions to golf in Colorado, she played a lead role in bringing the 1995 U.S. Women's Open to Colorado Springs and The Broadmoor Golf Club.

In recognition of her contributions and accomplishments, Bell was recently selected to receive the prestigious PGA First Lady of Golf Award for 2001.