

# JILL BRILES-HINTON

## HEAD COACH

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Jill Briles-Hinton enters her fourth season at the helm of the Lady Gator golf program. A former Academic All-American at the collegiate level, Briles-Hinton made the move from the LPGA to the head of the UF women's golf program on June 18, 1998, after 12 years on the tour. Known for her enthusiastic spirit and champion attitude, Briles-Hinton is creating a new era for women's golf at the University of Florida.

When Florida Athletics Director Jeremy Foley hired Briles-Hinton, he knew the program would soon be on the rise.

In three seasons as the head coach of the Lady Gators, Briles-Hinton has seen it all. Her first season saw an 11th place finish at the Southeastern Conference Championships, disappointing results and frustration. The second season brought six new faces, a fifth place showing at the SEC Championships, an 18th place showing at the NCAA Championships, elation and people asking "where did Florida come from?"

The answer to that question was a combination of hard work, determination, tight camaraderie and a youthful exuberance that Briles-Hinton helped use to make the 1999-2000 season a tremendous comeback story. Much of the

success of the 1999-2000 squad came as a result of the experience of its coach.

Briles-Hinton, 37, was an exempt member on the LPGA Tour for 12 consecutive years. She posted her top individual finish of second place three times. As a rookie on the tour in 1987, she tied for second at the Jamie Farr Toledo Classic. She also tied for second at the 1988 Mitsubishi Motors Ocean State Open and the 1994 Children's Medical Center Classic. She won the 1991 inaugural Budget Service Award for her contributions to junior golf. In '94, Briles-Hinton received the William and Mousie Powell Award, which is given to the LPGA member who, by her behavior and deeds, best exemplifies the spirit, ideas and values of the LPGA. She has posted her career-low round of 66 three times during her LPGA career -- first at the 1990 MBS LPGA Classic, again at the 1992 PING Welch's Championship and she led the 1995 U.S. Open after the first round with a Broadmoor Course record of four-under par 66.

A 1986 graduate of the University of Miami, Briles-Hinton played two seasons for the Hurricanes, who finished fifth in 1985 and runner-up to Florida in 1986 at the NCAA Championships. As a senior at the '86 NAAs, Briles-Hinton led Miami by finishing in a seventh-place tie in the individual standings. She received her bachelor's degree in Education from UM in 1986 and was a member of the All-America Scholar Golf Team.

"Being the women's golf coach at Florida is the best job in the country," the Peoria, Ill., native said. "The Lady Gator golf program has a great tradition. I know and understand the long and successful history of the Florida women's team. I played against that history during my college career and was inspired by it. I've always wanted to be a Gator, and I'm very, very proud to say that I am.

"I want my program to be a stepping stone to the next level -- the LPGA -- because that's a unique quality that I can offer. I know what it takes to be an exempt member on the tour. There is a whole lot more to success on the LPGA than just putting your tee in the ground. All of this, I can offer a student-athlete. I can teach them what it takes to make it as a Tour Professional.

"As a coach, I want my players to beat me. But, the player in me doesn't want to finish second to anybody in golf or anything else. I like to think I am a good golfer and if my kids can beat me day-in and day-out, then we are going to have a very, very good team. That's one of my goals as a coach."

What Coach Briles-Hinton desires to emphasize about her program to her student-athletes and recruits is the qualities and characteristics of a champion.

"I want each of my players to think and act like a champion -- that's the key to success in any environment. My goal is to produce an atmosphere conducive to winning both on and off the golf course," expressed Briles-Hinton. "I have a strong desire to go the extra mile to help every one of my student-athletes excel both academically and athletically. I want them to graduate and taste and experience championships during their collegiate careers."



Briles-Hinton (left), an Academic All-American at the collegiate level, and an exempt member of the LPGA Tour for 12 years, gives pointers to Jeanne Cho.

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The Hinton family (from left): Jill, son Bert, and Bob.

Briles-Hinton was an active member of the LPGA's Crayola LPGA Tour Junior Golf Clinics, which were sponsored at more than 25 LPGA events each year. She and her husband, Bob, have a son, Bert, who turned five on August 6, 2001.

Bert has epilepsy, but he has greatly benefited from a special ketogenic diet that has controlled his seizures. The diet was designed by the Johns Hopkins Ketogenic Diet Research program in Baltimore, Md. Bert has been seizure-free and medicine-free for over three years. Jill and Bob are very grateful to Dr. John Freeman and his staff at Johns Hopkins.



The 2001-2002 Lady Gator coaching staff: Head Coach Jill Briles-Hinton and Assistant Coach Robin Walton.



The 2000-01 Lady Gators won the Florida Women's Collegiate Golf Tournament and finished fifth at the SEC Championships. Left to right: Jeanne Cho, Joy Stephenson, Sam Zausner White, Kim Best, Brittany Straza and Amanda Dick

### COLLEGIATE COACHING HIGHLIGHTS

18th place finish at NCAA's in 2000

Selected for NCAA Central Regional in 2001, placing 11th

Placed fifth at SEC Championship in 2001

Tied for fifth place at SEC Championship in 2000

The six-place jump at 2000 SEC's from 1999 was the largest in school history.

### LPGA HIGHLIGHTS

12-year LPGA Tour Professional

Top LPGA Finish: 2nd (three times)

Career Earnings: \$589,211

Status: Exempt for 12 consecutive years

### BRILES-HINTON AMATEUR PLAYING FILE

1986 Academic All-American

Top NCAA Individual Finish: Tied for 7th in 1986

Top NCAA Team Finish: 2nd in 1986

Captured several amateur champion honors, including the 1986 Women's Western, 1981 Trans-National, and 1984 Broadmoor Invitational