

Champion in Life

AVIS BROWN-RILEY LPGA TRAIL BLAZER AND HISTORY MAKER

"It is not the adversity that you face, but how you face the adversity, which defines you as a person and builds character. Don't Give Up! Never Give Up!"

Avis Brown-Riley

This is Avis Brown-Riley Life mantra.

Born in San Diego, Ca on March 29, 1964, Avis picked up her first set of golf clubs at the age of seven. Avis won her first golf tournament at 8 years old. In 1974, at the age of 10, she won the Junior World Championship. She was the number 1 Golfer in her age division for five consecutive years, winning over 50 Junior Golf titles, and her record has yet to be broken. She was the first and only African American to win the San Diego City Women's Amateur Championship. Avis attended the United States International University, a Division I college on a golf scholarship. She won rookie of the year and won the first National Minority Collegiate Golf tournament. In 1985, Avis was ranked 25th in the nation, and played in the NCAA Women's Championship every year. She received her degree in Communications.

LPGA TRAIL BLAZER

Avis played on the LPGA Futures Golf Tour, winning the Michelob Classic at Canyon Crest Country Club, shooting a seven under par 65 (a women course record). She is one of 14 African American women to hold a LPGA Golf professional "Class A" certification. She is one of five African Americans to play in the United States Women's Open and the only African American to play in the United States Women's Senior Open. For the past 5 years, as an LPGA Teaching Professional, Avis continues to participate in the USGA*LPGA Girls Golf at LPGA Tournaments on the West Coast and serves on the LPGA Media and Marketing Committee. Avis received a nomination for the prestigious LPGA Teacher of the year award and featured in LPGA podcasts, videos, and articles. She was recognized at the NAACP Image Awards Golf event as an LPGA History-Maker.



AUTHOR, BUILDING OF A CHAMPION



In November 2009, Avis had a vision and dream; to write a series of Books, the first being: Building of a Champion, and travel the world, in the hope of inspiring children by sharing her amazing story. In early 2010, Avis was diagnosis with Breast Cancer. Avis will tell you "It was the toughest eighteen holes of golf she had ever played." It was her strong faith in God, dedicated doctors, a strong family support system, and the Desire, Dedication, Determination she learned and demonstrated during her Golf career that helped her to win the battle. Her debut book "Building of a Champion" chronicles how Avis became a champion in life and her message: *"Dreams can come true! Don't Give Up! Never Give Up!"* Avis is show cased in the [USGA Golf Museum](#) and Building of a Champion is also on display at the USGA Golf Museum and Library.

WOMEN EMPOWER INFLUENCER AND MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

After 25 years of playing competitive golf, Avis took her life skills, organization, and people skills into Corporate America, where she worked as an Operations Manager with FEDEX and retired on June 1, 2019. Avis served as a High School Golf Coach and a Teaching Professional for the San Diego Inner City Golf Foundation" for more than twenty-five successful years. From 2018, Avis is an active motivational speaker, mentor, and a women and girls empower influencer. Her credits include over one hundred news articles, radio, and podcast interviews, speaking engagements and community events. Avis is currently employed with Golf Galaxy as an LPGA Golf Professional Assistant and Community Influencer. Recognized at the 2023 NAACP Image Awards Golf Tournament.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- LPGA Golf Professional Assistant and Community Influencer - Golf Galaxy
- Golf, Women Empowerment Influencer and Motivational Speaker (17 Nation-wide Motivational Speaking events)
- Author: [Building of a Champion](#) is on display at the USGA Golf Museum and Library
- San Diego Golf Hall of Fame and African American Golfers Hall of Fame
- LPGA Golf Professional – Class A and LPGA Media and Marketing Committee Member
- President, ABR Golf
- LPGA Golf Professional and LPGA Futures Golf Tour player (Over 100 professional golf events)
- Global Billionaire Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award – 2022
- History Maker: First Black female to play in US Women & Sr. US Women Open – 2022
- Holey Moley Game Show - Season II
- Southwestern College Foundation Board Member and American Cancer Society Ambassador
- 25 years in Corporate America with FEDEX
- Acushnet/Titleist Diversity Program, Ambassador

