



## KANSAS LEGEND BIOGRAPHY

### Iva Pembridge Jarvis (1926 – Present)

Iva Pembridge Jarvis might not be one of the most recognized names in Kansas sports history, but the success she achieved in her sport is as notable as the athletic contributions made by legends in much more well known activities. Jarvis was a trap shooter, a sport in which clay disks, or “birds,” are launched from a trap at 47 miles per hour. The shooter’s goal is to aim and shoot the birds during the time they are in the air. The sport has been around since 1831.



A Phillipsburg, Kan., native, Jarvis lived her entire life in her hometown on a farm. She graduated from Phillipsburg High School and became one of the world’s all-time great trap shooters, which allowed her to travel across the nation and into Canada for numerous competitions. She and her sister, Gladys Pfost, took up hunting in the 1930s and ‘40s, which transitioned them into trapshooting.

Jarvis was the Kansas state trapshooting champion 11 consecutive years, from 1949 to 1960. She continued winning championships through 1975. Jarvis was the state doubles champion nine consecutive years, from 1950 to 1958. She was so good she even competed in men’s events, winning the Kansas singles open in 1952 and 1958 and doubles in 1955 and 1960. She also won the North American championship twice and the Ladies Champion of Champions five times.



From 1949 to 1961, Jarvis served as a member of the All-American team and was chosen captain of the team three times and co-captain an additional five times. Jarvis set the world record for Ladies Trapshooting with a score of 99 of 100 in 1956 at Reno, Nev., and 954 of 1,000 in mixed targets at the 1951 National Shoot. Jarvis was the first woman in history to break 200 in a row at the Grand American Week, the culminating event of trapshooting held annually. Between 1950 and 1966, she captured an amazing 29 women’s trophies.

During Jarvis’ time as a trap shooter, she set numerous records that still stand today. She was the first woman to break 200 straight at the Grand. She also is the only woman in the Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) history to have broken 200 straight four times and the first woman in the ATA to break 99 in doubles. Throughout her career, Jarvis charted a women’s singles average of .9815 and a doubles average of .9283, for which she still holds records.



Jarvis was the first woman selected into the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame as a Charter Inductee in 1961. She is also a member of the Kansas Trapshooting Hall of Fame in Wichita, Kan., and was enshrined in the Amateur Trapshooting Association Hall of Fame in Vandalia, Ohio, on August 18, 1975. Her sister received the same honor in 1997.

In addition to her trap shooting, Jarvis served her community as a schoolteacher for many years. She and her sister helped put Phillipsburg, Kan., on the map. In 1999, Jarvis was chosen by Sports Illustrated as one of the century’s “Top 50 Sports Figures from Kansas.”

