

May 3, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Greenville, South Carolina – The Ladies Professional Racquetball Tour concluded 5<sup>th</sup> annual Sweet Caroline Open and honored first inductees into Hall of Fame

Greenville, South Carolina – The Ladies Professional Racquetball Tour (LPRT) traveled to Greenville April 29-May 2, to compete in the Sweet Caroline Open's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Slam. The event, hosted by Sportsclub Fitness & Wellness, South Carolina Racquetball Players' Association, and title sponsor Ob Hospitalist Group, welcomed 36 pro players from seven different countries who battled in both singles and doubles. The three-day tournament also offered a variety of skill and age divisions to over 100 amateur players.

The singles and doubles finals pitted Mexico against Mexico. Paola Longoria, the LPRT #1 ranked player, won the title for the 5<sup>th</sup> year. She bested #3 ranked player Alexandra Herrera in 2 games. Longoria paired up with regular partner Samantha Salas Solis to take the 2021 doubles title. Singles finalist Herrera was also a double's finalist with partner Montse Mejia.

In addition to an amazing event, the LPRT had the honor of inducting a group of legendary, record-setting players into the first ever Women's Professional Racquetball Hall of Fame:

## Heather McKay - Australia

In 1978, at the tender age of 36, and after playing on the professional squash tour for 20 years (losing only 2 matches), McKay decided to try the sport of racquetball. After less than a year and a half, she became the number 1 professional female. She actively played the professional circuit for 6 years, had a win loss record of 118-22, and earned 20 pro tour titles. In addition to being inducted into the LPRT HOF, McKay is a member of the USA Racquetball HOF, Racquetball Canada HOF, Australian Sports HOF, and International Women's Sports HOF.

## Lynn Adams Clay – United States

Adams was the epitome of professionalism both on and off the racquetball court. She was a true promoter of the sport, introducing racquetball to everyone she met and always encouraging the development of other players' games. Adams had a career win loss record of 235-30, winning 47 professional titles. She earned 6 professional season-end titles while also battling multiple sclerosis. In addition to being inducted into the LPRT HOF, Lynn is a member of the USA Racquetball HOF.

## Michelle (Gilman) Gould – United Stats

Gould burst on to the adult racquetball scene as a junior player. In 1989, she won every possible championship; High School Nationals, Junior Nationals 18- singles and doubles, Adult Nationals singles and doubles, as well as her first professional event. Throughout her impressive career, Gould earned 39 national titles, 58 international titles and 43 professional titles. She had a professional career win loss record of 147-9. In addition to being inducted into the LPRT HOF, she is a member of the USA Racquetball HOF, and the International Racquetball HOF.

Sportsclub Fitness & Wellness houses the newly constructed, LPRT logo adorned HOF wall, which is nestled right beside three, showcase racquetball courts. A gold name plate for each inductee was placed on the wall just below a mounted tv monitor running a video history of Women's Professional Racquetball.

The Ladies Professional Racquetball Tour is the official governing body of Women's Professional Racquetball, comprised of the best female racquetball players from around the world. Penn is the Official Ball of the LPRT. Official Partners of the LPRT: HEAD, Gearbox, TeamRoot.com, and Reaching Your Dream Foundation. To find out more tour and player information, visit <u>www.lprtour.com/</u>

Detailed information about the annual Sweet Caroline Open event and this year's charitable focus, Serenity Place, can be found here: <u>www.sweetcarolineopen.com</u>

CONTACTS:

T. J. Baumbaugh LPRT President tj@lprtour.com 571-213-9265 Kevin Dehlinger Executive Director – Sportsclub Fitness & Wellness KDehlinger@sportsclubsc.com 864-288-7220