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TWO PAST CHAMPIONS RETURN TO COMPETE IN THE 2022 CREDIT ONE CHARLESTON OPEN

Madison Keys and Sloane Stephens have appeared for a collective 16 times in Charleston field

<u>Twitter:</u> The @CreditOneBank @CharlestonOpen announced 2 past champions will compete in 2022 - @Madison_Keys & @SloaneStephens. They join a growing list of player commitments. #CharlestonOpen celebrating 50 years at new @CreditOneStad. Tickets available. More: https://bit.ly/3qCqEKf. #CHS

CHARLESTON, S.C. – The <u>Credit One Charleston Open</u>, the largest women's-only tennis tournament in North America, will welcome back two former champions next year - Madison Keys and Sloane Stephens. The tournament is set to celebrate its 50th year in 2022, April 2 - 10, in the renovated and modernized <u>Credit One Stadium</u> on Daniel Island in Charleston, South Carolina. Keys and Stephens memorably met in the final of the 2017 US Open, where Stephens captured her first Grand Slam title.

The highly anticipated Credit One Charleston Open will feature more than 100 of the top tennis players in the world, including Paula Badosa, Belinda Bencic and Leylah Fernandez, and welcome back fans for the first time since 2019. The newly renovated Credit One Stadium will also be unveiled during the upcoming event, offering upgraded seating options and elevated hospitality experiences for patrons on-site.

"We are always excited to have players return to Charleston, especially past champions. Madison and Sloane have become tournament favorites and our fans never shy away from rooting loudly whenever they step on the clay," said Bob Moran, Tournament Director of the Credit One Charleston Open. "In addition to being exceptional athletes, these two women have big hearts and a genuine desire to make a difference. Both have started their own charitable foundations to help to make our world a better place and are great role models for our younger spectators and the next generation of tennis stars. We can't wait to welcome them back again in April."

Keys has played Charleston eight times, where she holds a 16-7 record. She captured the title in 2019 with a win over 2011 champion Caroline Wozniacki. She also reached the final in 2015 and the semifinals in 2018, where she lost to eventual champion Kiki Bertens.

"Coming back to Charleston in April will be so exciting; I can't wait to play in the new stadium," said Keys. "I have a lot of great memories of winning the title there and will be ready to give it my all once again."

This season, Keys reached the finals in Brisbane, the quarterfinals in Berlin and the fourth round of Wimbledon. She has reached the quarterfinals or better in seven Grand Slam appearances between 2015 and 2019. She holds five WTA titles and has been ranked as high as World No. 5.

Stephens has also played Charleston eight times and holds a 10-7 record. She won the tournament title in 2016 and reached the quarterfinals round two additional times - in 2019 and 2021.

Stephens won the US Open in 2017 and was a 2018 French Open finalist. In addition to reaching the quarterfinals in Charleston this year, she played the semifinals of the Emilia-Romagna Open and fourth round of the French Open. She has captured six WTA titles and was formerly ranked World No. 3.

"I am so looking forward to returning for the Credit One Charleston Open in April," said Stephens. "New courts, great fans, anniversary celebrations and fierce competition. I just love it!"

The nine-day Credit One Charleston Open showcases a singles draw of 56 players, a qualifying draw of 32 players and a doubles draw of 16 players. The event traditionally hosts more than 90,000 attendees on Daniel Island. Additional players who have committed to competing in 2022 will be announced in the coming weeks.

Charleston Tennis, LLC, which manages <u>Credit One Stadium</u> under a lease from the City of Charleston, is currently renovating and modernizing the 20-year-old facility. The city-owned venue is undergoing upgrades to enhance the stadium experience for patrons, performers, tennis players and event management, allowing the venue to attract world-class athletes and talent to Daniel Island.

The Credit One Charleston Open will celebrate its 50th year in 2022. The tournament has been a pioneer in women's professional sports since 1973, paving the path for female tennis players to receive equal recognition, respect and pay in the sport. Originally held on Hilton Head Island, the event moved to Charleston in 2001 and is played on Daniel Island at the LTP Daniel Island tennis center, home to the Credit One Stadium.

When purchasing <u>tickets</u> for the 2022 Credit One Charleston Open, patrons have the option to choose from <u>single session tickets</u> (\$25+) and a range of <u>upgraded ticket packages</u> and seat offerings, including the Intro Package (\$280), Finale Package (\$360), Champions Package (\$275) and Tournament Long Package (\$600+). Packages provide exclusive and premier views of the court from 100 and 200 level stadium seating, as well as the best value on tickets. In addition, select packages will also offer tennis patrons shaded seating, a new feature this year as part of the renovated stadium's stage house.

Tickets and packages can be purchased online at <u>creditonecharlestonopen.com</u> or by calling (843) 856-7900. For additional information, please email tickets@charlestontennisllc.com. For more information on the Credit One Charleston Open, visit <u>creditonecharlestonopen.com</u> or call 843-856-7900.

About the Credit One Charleston Open:

The Credit One Charleston Open is North America's largest women's-only tennis tournament. The event, formerly known as the Volvo Car Open, moved to Charleston, S.C., in 2001 from Hilton Head Island, S.C., and will celebrate its 50th year in 2022. The Credit One Charleston Open traditionally welcomes more than 90,000 spectators each year. The tournament features a singles draw of 56 players, a qualifying draw of 32 players and a doubles draw of 16 players. In conjunction with Tennis Channel and WTA Media, the Credit One Charleston Open is showcased from the first ball struck in main draw competition to the last ball played in finals, throughout the U.S. and 174 international partners. The tournament receives more than 100 hours of tennis coverage, broadcast live from Charleston across the globe to millions of fans. The tournament is operated by Charleston Tennis, LLC. For more information on the Credit One Charleston Open, visit creditonecharlestonopen.com, call (843) 856-7900, email info@charlestontennisllc.com, Facebook (Credit One Charleston Open), Twitter (@CharlestonOpen) or Instagram (@CreditOneCharlestonOpen).

About Credit One Bank:

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