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THREE POWERHOUSE PLAYERS TO KICK OFF 2022 CLAY SEASON AT THE CREDIT ONE CHARLESTON OPEN

Paula Badosa, Belinda Bencic and Leylah Fernandez to compete in Charleston in April

<u>Twitter:</u> The @CreditOneBank @CharlestonOpen announces first 3 players for the 2022 #CharlestonOpen - @PaulaBadosa, @BelindaBencic & @LeylahFernandez. Tournament celebrating 50 years in April 2022 at new @CreditOneStad. Tickets & packages available now. More: https://bit.ly/3qCgEKf. #CHS

CHARLESTON, S.C. – The <u>Credit One Charleston Open</u>, the largest women's-only tennis tournament in North America, announced Paula Badosa, Belinda Bencic and Leylah Fernandez will compete as part of its player field in 2022 as the tournament celebrates its 50th year, April 2 - 10, on Daniel Island in Charleston, South Carolina. Badosa captured her biggest career WTA title win in October at the BNP Paribas Open, Bencic earned an Olympic Gold Medal in singles and Olympic Silver Medal in doubles at this year's Summer Olympics and Fernandez made a historic run in September at the US Open to compete in the first all-teen final since 1999.

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

"These three players are the first announcements of what we expect to be one of our strongest fields ever," said Bob Moran, Tournament Director of the Credit One Charleston Open. "All three players joined us in 2021 and are eager to come back to Charleston. We're so proud of Belinda's performance at the Olympics winning a gold medal for her country, while Leylah made an incredible run to the US Open final and Paula won her first major title at Indian Wells and qualified for the season ending WTA Finals. We can't wait for all of our players to see our newly renovated facilities that were designed for them!"

Badosa has played the best tennis of her career in 2021. The 23-year-old Spainard, currently ranked World No. 10, captured her first two titles this year - in Belgrade and Indian Wells. She also reached the quarterfinals of the French Open, Western & Southern Open and the Olympics, as well as the semifinals in Madrid and Charleston, where she lost to eventual champion Veronika Kudermetova. She is currently contending in the 2021 Akron WTA Finals Guadalajara, which she qualified for for the first time. The 2022 Credit One Charleston Open will mark Badosa's second time competing in Charleston where she holds a 4-1 record.

Bencic won Olympic gold and silver medals, in singles and doubles respectively, for Switzerland at the Tokyo Summer Olympics. Currently ranked World No. 23, she reached six quarterfinals in 2021, including the US Open, and was a finalist at the Adelaide International and Grass Court Championships Berlin. She

holds four WTA titles and has played the Charleston Open five times, reaching the semifinals in her tournament debut in 2014 and quarterfinals in 2019, where she holds a 8-5 record.

Nineteen-year-old Fernandez made headlines this year as the runner-up at the US Open. She defeated three top-5 players en route to the final, including the defending champion Naomi Osaka. The World No. 24 player also won her first WTA title at the 2021 Monterrey Open, where she didn't drop a single set the entire tournament. The Canadian competed in Charleston for the first time in 2021 and holds a 1-1 record.

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 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 tickets for the 2022 Credit One Charleston Open, patrons have the option to choose from single session tickets (\$25+) and a range of upgraded ticket packages 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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Society®, and is a proud partner of WWE $^{\otimes}$ and Six Flags $^{\otimes}$. Learn more at $\underline{\text{CreditOneBank.com}}$ and on social media ($\underline{\text{@CreditOneBank}}$) on $\underline{\text{Facebook}}$, $\underline{\text{Instagram}}$, $\underline{\text{Twitter}}$, $\underline{\text{YouTube}}$, and $\underline{\text{LinkedIn}}$.

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