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TWO MORE GRAND SLAM CHAMPIONS ENTER CHARLESTON PLAYER FIELD

Credit One Charleston Open now features five Grand Slam champions, five Charleston champions and four top 10 players in 2024 field

CHARLESTON, S.C. – Two additional Grand Slam champions have entered the player field for the 2024 <u>Credit One Charleston Open</u>, the largest women's-only professional tennis tournament in North America. 2012 and 2013 Australian Open champion **Victoria Azarenka** and 2021 Roland Garros champion **Barbora Krejcikova** will join fellow Grand Slam champions **Jelena Ostapenko**, **Sloane Stephens** and **Sofia Kenin** March 30 - April 7 in Charleston, South Carolina in a <u>field</u> that also features four top 10 players and five former Charleston champions.

The Credit One Charleston Open, which competes annually in the state-of-the-art <u>Credit One Stadium</u>, was recently named the WTA 500 Tournament of the Year for the second consecutive season.

Azarenka is a former World No. 1, who owns 21 career WTA singles titles and 10 WTA doubles titles. In addition to her two Australian Open wins, she has reached at least the semifinal round of every Grand Slam tournament, including three US Open finals. She also holds three mixed doubles Grand Slam titles and won an Olympic Gold medal in mixed doubles at the London 2012 Summer Olympics.

Her 2024 season includes a semifinals finish in Brisbane and a quarterfinal appearance in Doha. Last year she reached the semifinals of the Australian Open and quarterfinals in Adelaide and Guadalajara. The 34-year-old will compete in Charleston for the fourth time this year.

"I returned to Charleston for the first time in more than 10 years last April and was reminded why I love this tournament," said Azarenka. "I really enjoyed the city and the energy from the crowd in the stadium. I'm looking forward to being back next month."

Krejcikova will compete in Charleston's main draw for the first time in 2024. She previously played in the tournament's qualifying rounds in 2015. The Czech player holds seven WTA singles titles and 18 doubles titles. In total, she has amassed 11 Grand Slam titles between singles, doubles and mixed doubles competition. She is also an Olympic Gold medalist, having won top honors in doubles at the Tokyo 2020 Games.

The 28-year-old has been ranked as high as World No. 2 in singles and World No. 1 in doubles. Her current season includes quarterfinal finishes at the Australian Open and in Abu Dhabi. In 2023, she won singles titles in San Diego and Dubai.

"I'm excited to start my clay season this year in Charleston, where I'll be in the main draw for the first time. Clay is my favorite playing surface and I've heard nothing but great things from fellow players on tour about the new stadium and how the event has grown since I last played there," said Krejcikova. The nine-day Credit One Charleston Open showcases a singles draw of 48 players, a qualifying draw of 24 players, and a doubles draw of 16 players. The event traditionally hosts more than 90,000 attendees on Daniel Island. The tournament recently released its **Fan Hub**, which showcases special events, food and beverage options, partner activities and more happening throughout the nine-day tournament.

Charleston Tennis, LLC, which manages <u>Credit One Stadium</u> under a lease from the City of Charleston, renovated and modernized the 20-year-old facility in 2022. The city-owned venue underwent 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 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.

Tickets can be purchased online at creditonecharlestonopen.com or by calling (843) 856-7900. For additional information, please email <u>tickets@charlestontennisllc.com</u> or visit <u>creditonecharlestonopen.com</u>.

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 celebrated its 50th year in 2022. In the same year, and for the first time in tournament history, the Credit One Charleston Open was also recognized as the WTA 500 event of the year. The Credit One Charleston Open traditionally welcomes more than 90,000 spectators each year. The tournament features a singles draw of 48 players, a qualifying draw of 24 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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