



HOME TO THE LEGENDS OF TENNIS

CONTACT:

Anne Marie McLaughlin
amclaughlin@tennisfame.com
Office: 401-324-6033
Cell: 401-626-7615

Wheelchair Tennis Star *Randy Snow* to be inducted to the International Tennis Hall of Fame

- Snow will be honored posthumously for his remarkable wheelchair tennis career during which he achieved the world No. 1 ranking in singles and doubles and won 22 major titles, as well as for his immense contributions to growing the sport worldwide.

- Snow is the second of the Class of 2012 Inductees to be announced. The remainder of the Class of 2012 will be announced within the month ahead. The Induction Ceremony will be July 14, 2012 in Newport, R.I. –

NEWPORT, R.I., USA, February 16, 2012 — Wheelchair tennis superstar and three-time Paralympic medalist **Randy Snow** has been elected for induction to the International Tennis Hall of Fame as a member of the Class of 2012. Snow is the second wheelchair tennis player in history to be honored with induction to the International Tennis Hall of Fame, joining Brad Parks, the pioneering founder of the sport, who was inducted in 2010. In addition to his successful tennis career, Snow was a competitive basketball player and racer. Off the courts, he was an influential leader in the development of Wheelchair Tennis and a tireless advocate for improving the quality of life for people with disabilities. Snow's Hall of Fame induction will be a posthumous recognition of his achievements and contributions to the sport. He passed away on November 19, 2009 in El Salvador while volunteering at a wheelchair tennis camp. Randy served on the BlazeSports America Board of Directors.



“Randy Snow was simply the best wheelchair player to have ever played the sport. Beyond his athletic success though, he played a major role in building the sport and he inspired so many others to play wheelchair tennis and other sports. He was among a dedicated group of people who worked very hard to grow wheelchair tennis and the inclusion of wheelchair athletes in the International Tennis Hall of Fame has been a great affirmation for the sport's progress and importance,” said Parks. “It was a privilege for me to play alongside Randy and to call him a friend, and I am thrilled to see him receive the honor of Hall of Fame induction, which is very well deserved.”

Snow is the second member of the Class of 2012 to be announced, joining tennis administrator Mike Davies, who has been elected in the Contributor Category. Additional members of the Class of 2012 will be announced within the month ahead. The Induction Ceremony will be hosted on July 14 at the International Tennis Hall of Fame & Museum in Newport, R.I.

"Randy Snow was an inspirational wheelchair tennis player and leader in the sport. He made remarkable contributions that have shaped the history of tennis and paved the way for the future," said Tony Trabert, 1970 Hall of Famer and Chair of the Enshrinee Nominating Committee. "We look forward to celebrating Randy's achievements and contributions at the induction ceremony in July, along with those of the additional inductees who will be announced shortly."

Originally from Terrell, Texas, Snow was a talented, determined athlete throughout his life. As a teenager, Snow was a ranked tennis player in the state of Texas, but when a farming accident left him a paraplegic at the age of 16, he refused to let the physical challenges fade his competitive spirit and athletic talent. Snow committed himself to wheelchair sports, to inspiring athletes worldwide, and to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities. As a student at the University of Texas at Arlington, Snow formed a wheelchair basketball team under the direction of Jim Hayes, the university's wheelchair sports director. Soon after, he began wheelchair racing and also began training as a wheelchair tennis player, eventually establishing himself as the one of the world's best.

As a tennis player he was ranked world No. 1 in singles and doubles in 1991, and he won 22 major tournament titles during his career. For many years in the late 1980s and early 1990s, Snow was a member of the United States Men's World Cup team, a competition similar to Davis Cup. Snow was named ITF Wheelchair Tennis Player of the Year in 1991 and USA Wheelchair Athlete of the Year in 2000.

In 1984, the Summer Olympics added a men's 1500-meter wheelchair race as an exhibition event, which was to be the first Paralympic event to appear before a large audience. Snow went into heavy training, relocating to Houston, Texas, to train on the same track as Carl Lewis. Snow received a silver medal, and the crowd gave the athletes a standing ovation at the end of the exhibition. He went on to win gold medals in the 1992 Paralympics in Barcelona for singles and doubles tennis, and at the 1996 Atlanta Games he was a member of the bronze medal-winning wheelchair basketball team. In 2004, Snow became the first Paralympian to be inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame.

In addition to achieving success on court, Snow played an integral role in growing wheelchair tennis worldwide, and he worked tirelessly to inspire people with disabilities and improve their opportunities. In the 1990s, he served on the President's Council on Physical Fitness and he worked extensively with the National Council on Disability. Snow conducted wheelchair tennis camps all over the world in nations ranging from Bolivia to Thailand, and he developed, managed, and taught at the "Randy Snow Wheelchair Tennis Camps" across the United States. In addition, he developed the USPTA certification for Wheelchair Tennis.

Snow also served as president of a motivational speaking company called NO XQs, Inc. ("no excuses"), where he spread the message that people should focus on discovering options and finding new opportunities, and that in order to succeed, people must have a 100% able-bodied mind.

Eligibility & Voting

Election to the International Tennis Hall of Fame is based on the sum of an individual's achievements and accomplishments in the sport, and it is the highest honor a person can receive in tennis. Inductees to the International Tennis Hall of Fame are elected in the categories of Recent Player, Master Player and Contributor.

Snow has been elected to the Hall of Fame as a Wheelchair Tennis Player in the Recent Player Category. Eligibility criteria for the Recent Player Category is as follows: active as competitors in the sport within the last 20 years prior to consideration; not a significant factor on the ATP, WTA or Wheelchair Tennis Tours within five years prior to induction; a distinguished record of competitive achievement at the highest international level, with consideration given to integrity, sportsmanship and character.

Hall of Fame induction for Wheelchair Tennis Players is voted on by the International Wheelchair Tennis Panel, which is comprised of players, journalists, administrators, and individuals who are highly knowledgeable about the sport and its history. To be inducted, an affirmative vote of 75% is required.

Induction Ceremony

Located in Newport, Rhode Island, the International Tennis Hall of Fame & Museum is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the history and heritage of tennis. Since 1955, the International Tennis Hall of Fame has inducted 220 people from 19 countries.

The Class of 2012 Induction Ceremony will be hosted on July 14 at the International Tennis Hall of Fame & Museum in Newport, R.I. The ceremony is held in conjunction with the Campbell's Hall of Fame Tennis Championships, an ATP World Tour event. Tickets for that day include seats for the Induction Ceremony and the tournament semi-finals, and tickets are available now on tennisfame.com or by phone at 866-914-FAME (2363).

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About the International Tennis Hall of Fame & Museum

Established in 1954, the International Tennis Hall of Fame & Museum is a non-profit institution dedicated to preserving the history of tennis, inspiring and encouraging junior tennis development, providing a landmark for tennis enthusiasts worldwide, and enshrining tennis heroes and heroines with the highest honor in the sport of tennis- induction into the International Tennis Hall of Fame. In 1986, the International Tennis Federation, the governing body of tennis, officially recognized the International Tennis Hall of Fame & Museum as the sport's official Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame is located in Newport, Rhode Island, USA, on a six-acre property that features an extensive Museum chronicling the history of the sport and honoring the 220 Hall of Famers; 13 grass tennis courts and an indoor tennis facility that are open to the public and to a club membership; a rare Court Tennis facility; and an historic 297-seat theatre. Annually in July, the venue hosts the Campbell's Hall of Fame Tennis Championships for the Van Alen Cup, an ATP World Tour event. The buildings and grounds, which were constructed in 1880 by McKim, Mead & White to serve as a social club for Newport's summer residents, are renowned for their incredible architecture and preservation. The facility was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1987. The International Tennis Hall of Fame & Museum is supported by Official Partners including BNP Paribas, Campbell Soup Company, Chubb Personal Insurance, Kia Motors and Rolex Watch USA. For information on the International Tennis Hall of Fame & Museum and its programs, call 401-849-3990 or visit us online at www.tennisfame.com.