



USTA NORTH CAROLINA

2020 NORTH CAROLINA TENNIS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

North Carolina Tennis Foundation

Charlie Owens, prolific junior player in Alabama, went on to compete at the University of Florida and then Samford University. He was All SEC as a freshman at the University of Florida, transferred to Samford University and led the Samford Bulldogs to a National title as a senior and claimed All American status in the effort. Owens pro career saw him reach as high as #36 in the world in 1975. He claimed victories over Vitas Gerulaitis, Eddie Dibbs, Harold Solomon, Dick Stockton, Manuel Santana, Cliff Drysdale and Brad Gilbert to name a few. Owens reached the 3rd round at the US Open and Wimbledon in both singles and doubles. After the tour,

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Owens continued playing competitively, while simultaneously starting to work his magic on the teaching court. He won the National 35 & Over Singles and Doubles titles for 3 years running (1985-87) and was selected to the US Italia Cup team 3 times, winning the World Championship in 1989. As an instructor, Owens has taught people from ages 3-90 and raised tremendous financial support for several charities. He has been the Director of Tennis at the Pinehurst Resort and Country Club, the North River Yacht Club and lastly at the Country Club of Landfall.

Fred Robinson, Chairman of Body Helix, is a 69-time World and U.S. medalist tennis champion. Robinson is a U.S. National Grand Slam Title holder in singles and doubles and is an eight-time Atlanta Senior Invitational Pro Tournament Singles Champion. He has been ranked No.1 in the United States in senior tennis in both singles and doubles multiple times during his career. In addition, he was recognized as Player of the Year in the Men's Open in North Carolina and Florida, and is an eight-time undefeated champion in the ITF World Team Competition. He has won 2 ITF Gold Medals, 3 ITF World Silver Medals, 1 ITF Bronze Medal, 24 US National Gold Medals, 21 US National Silver Medals, and 21 US National Bronze Medals.

During his 30-year career, Robinson has been the recipient of a number of distinguished awards, such as the Slew Hester Player of the Year Award, the National Gil Roberts Sportsmanship Award and the Best Senior Tournament of the Year Award.

Tom Peatross loves to play tennis. His love of the sport goes way beyond the boundaries of the court, though. Peatross gives back to the game in a big way, and has proven time and again that he is the ultimate volunteer. Peatross has volunteered for virtually every tennis tournament that has been held in Winston-Salem. His involvement with tournament tennis began in 1970 when he volunteered for the NC Tar Heel Qualifier. In 1971 he took over as chairman of the Tar Heel Qualifier and the tournament has continued under his steady leadership for the last 38 years. Peatross was also the chair of the USTA Boys 12's Clay Court Championships from 1979-81 and 1985-87. The "Edgar B. Pro Invitational at Tanglewood Park, the Flow Motors Invitational, 3 Davis Cup ties and the Winston-Salem Open have all greatly benefited from his volunteerism.

Away from the courts, Peatross has served as treasurer for the Winston-Salem Tennis, Inc. since its very early days to present. For 15 years, he simultaneously served as the treasurer for USTA North Carolina. He has served on numerous committees and task forces for USTA North Carolina.

The North Carolina Tennis Hall of Fame now includes 102 members with the addition of Charlie Owens, Fred Robinson and Tom Peatross for the class of 2020. The inaugural class was inducted in 1975. The North Carolina Tennis Foundation selects two or three members each year to add to the Hall of Fame during Tennis Weekend. This class will be inducted on Saturday January 25, 2020 at the Pinehurst Resort and Country Club. For more information, visit www.nctennisfoundation.com.