

Media Release

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For immediate release

CARDWELL ACHIEVES SQUASH LEGEND STATUS

Vicki Cardwell, arguably one of South Australia's greatest ever sportswomen, has become the sixth player in the history of Australian squash to be granted Legend status by Squash Australia. The announcement was made at Squash Australia's Annual Awards Dinner on 8 August following the Squash Australian Open in Victoria.

The announcement puts Cardwell in the company of squash greats Heather McKay, Geoff Hunt, Michelle Martin, Sarah Fitz-Gerald and Ken Hiscoe.

60-year-old Cardwell won four British Open crowns, seven Australian Open crowns and was World Open Women's Champion in 1983. Cardwell was world number one from 1980 until 1983, and was awarded the British Empire Medal for her services to squash and Australian sport.

She was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985, the Squash Australia Hall of Fame in 2005, the Squash SA Hall of Fame with Legend status in 2008, and the KPMG South Australian Sport Hall of Fame in 2010.

In an emotional acceptance speech, Cardwell paid tribute to the support of her family during her career, and in particular her husband, Ian, who climbed out of his sick bed to attend his wife's induction. Squash SA CEO, Phil Sinnott, was with Cardwell and says "It was great to see such a deserving and talented athlete honoured in this way. Vicki is a credit to herself, her sport and her family."

Another South Australian squash great, Chris Dittmar, himself a member of the Squash Australia Hall of Fame, was at the induction, and had the role of officially welcoming former Australian team captain, Steven Bowditch, into the Hall of Fame.

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