WOMEN'S GOLF COACHES ASSOCIATION

NEWS *release*

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ROSE ZHANG SWEEPS MAJOR WOMEN'S COLLEGIATE GOLF AWARDS

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona (May 24, 2022) – Rose Zhang, Stanford University freshman, has been named both the 2021-22 Division I PING WGCA Player of the Year and the 2021-22 Division I WGCA Freshman of the Year Presented by StrackaLine, the organization's highest player honors for the 2021-22 season. The awards were announced today at the 2022 NCAA Division I Women's Golf Championship being held at Grayhawk Golf Club in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Recognized annually as the top honor in women's collegiate golf, the PING WGCA Player of the Year is awarded to the best player in Division I, II, III and NAIA women's golf. The award was first given in 1987 and the names of recipients reads as a who's who of the best of the ladies game including Amanda Blumenherst (3-time), Lorena Ochoa (2-time) and Annika Sorenstam. The recipient is selected by a prestigious collection of women's collegiate golf coaches who follow criteria that has been established to identify the finest player for the past year. These criteria include:

- Head to head competition
- Comparison with common opponents
- Scoring average
- Place finishes in regular season events and tournament wins
- Strength of schedule

The WGCA Freshman of the Year Presented by StrackaLine is awarded annually to the top Freshman in Division I, II, III and NAIA women's golf and is selected by a prestigious collection of women's collegiate golf coaches.

Zhang, a native of Irvine, California, become Stanford's second individual National Champion on Monday, finishing with a 72-hole score of 282 (-6) to claim the title. The freshman's fourth title of the season came after she finished runner-up at both the Pac-12 Championship and the NCAA Stanford Regional. Zhang also set a new NCAA record with a 69.36 scoring average this season.

Zhang's stellar season comes on the heels of her teammate Rachel Heck's breakout season last year, where she also won the national title en route to being named both the 2020-21 Division I PING WGCA Player of the Year and the 2020-21 Division I WGCA Freshman of the Year Presented by StrackaLine.

About the Women's Golf Coaches Association

The Women's Golf Coaches Association, founded in 1983, is a non-profit organization representing women's collegiate golf coaches. The WGCA was formed to encourage the

playing of college golf for women in correlation with a general objective of education and in accordance with the highest tradition of intercollegiate competition. Today, the WGCA represents over 650 coaches throughout the U.S. and is dedicated to educating, promoting and recognizing both its members and the student-athletes they represent.

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