

For immediate release:

## **58th Madison Sports Hall of Fame Club Induction set for August 31<sup>st</sup>**

*Kelly, Lucas, Maturi, McClimon-Watcke and Mussey-Kempf honored*

Madison, WI, – (August 9, 2021) The 58th Hall of Fame inductee class of the Madison Sports Hall of Fame Club sponsored by Strand Associates features a hockey player turned professional golfer, a journalist and longtime Wisconsin football and basketball radio analyst, a former coach and athletic administrator, a track and cross country runner and a trailblazer who played both hockey and softball. The dinner and enshrinement ceremony will take place at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center on August 31, 2021.

**Jerry Kelly** was a hockey player at heart but as he says, “could never see the ice the way he could see a green” and as a result ended up playing golf in college at the University of Hartford and then having a tremendous career both on the PGA Tour and currently on the PGA Champions Tour. As a Madison East soccer, hockey and golfer, Jerry won 11 high school letters. Kelly won 3 tournaments on the PGA Tour and since he has turned 50, has won 8 more times on the Champions Tour including back to back wins in his hometown American Family Championship held at University Ridge. Kelly is currently the leading money winner on the Champions Tour and the leader in the Schwab Cup standings.

**Mike Lucas** hails originally from Beloit, Wisconsin and played football as a Purple Knight. Mike remembers telling his father that “if he couldn’t play sports at a high level he wanted to write about sports at a high level.” That led Mike to writing for his high school newspaper and then for the Badger Herald and Daily Cardinal while being enrolled at the University of Wisconsin. In 1971, Mike began covering high school sports, the Badgers, Brewers and Packers while writing for the Capital Times. In 1976, Lucas ventured into the radio sports talk show part of entertainment which led to hockey color commentary for Badger hockey before teaming up with Matt Lepay in 1994 to be the color analyst for both Badger football and men’s basketball, which is a job he still holds and relishes today. Additionally, Mike has written six books on all things Wisconsin Athletics.

**Joel Maturi** is a former athlete, coach and administrator who helped develop some of the strongest athletic and academic cultures in Madison. Joel grew up in Chisholm, MN and was a three sport athlete playing football, basketball and baseball. Upon graduation, Maturi accepted a preferred walk-on offer to play football at Notre Dame under legendary coach, Ara Parseghian. An early injury prevented Joel from playing football but he kept active by becoming a student trainer during the era when Notre Dame won a National Championship in 1967. Maturi then spent 19 years at Edgewood High School teaching, coaching and as the Athletic Director before Otto Breitenbach lured him to the University of Wisconsin at an assistant Athletic Director. Joel then became the Athletic Director at both Denver University and Miami University before settling into the Athletic Director’s chair at the University of Minnesota.

**Molly McClimon-Watcke** was destined to become a runner since her father, Dan McClimon was the University of Wisconsin track and cross country coach. However, Molly didn’t like to run, she loved to run and that was obvious from her early years with the Madison Jets running program. Molly won four state titles in cross country while competing at Edgewood High School and ten more state titles in track while at Edgewood. Next stop was Ann Arbor where she was All Big Ten in track three times, Big Ten Athlete of the Year and NCAA 1<sup>st</sup> Team All American three years. She also was a cross country NCAA 1<sup>st</sup> Team All American five times while at Michigan. Molly competed professionally after college and was on Team USA when it won a Bronze Medal at the World Cross Country Championships.

**Sue Mussey-Kempf** was a gender barrier smashing athlete throughout her childhood and high school years. It started early on when she became the first girl to play on a Dane County youth hockey team with Madison East Hockey Association and continued to the elite travel hockey level when Sue became the first girl to play on the Madison Capitals boys Bantam team. At LaFollette, she broke the gender barrier once again as the first girl to play in Wisconsin Boys High School Hockey history and she was the starting goaltender for all four years. She was a four year starter on the softball field at LaFollette as well where she knocked in multiple All-City and All

Conference honors. Sue continued hockey and softball careers at Providence College in Rhode Island while earning 4 letters in hockey and 4 letters in softball. Upon graduation, Sue still had more to give and began a coaching career at Providence College and then onto the Ohio State University. Surprisingly maybe, but Sue says she never faced the negative backlash faced by other pioneering female athletes.

These sport names will join the more than 200 individuals already in the Madison Sports Hall of Fame. Tickets for the event are \$50 and they will be sold until August 25th. The event is open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend and salute this exceptional group of inductees. Contact Al Schumacher (608-395-4648) for tickets.

The Madison Sports Hall of Fame Club began in 1963 to recognize and honor great athletes and sports figures from Madison. The group hosts weekly luncheon meetings from August through May and holds the induction ceremony every year. Go to <http://www.madisonsportshalloffame.org> to find out other information about the club.