**Legend Award**

**Betty Meagher**

Many would agree that squash for women in Victoria came about through the amazing leadership, dedication and passion of Betty Meagher. On court Betty won the Australian Women’s Amateur Championship in 1946, 1949 & 1950, the Victorian Women’s Amateur Championship in 1946, 1947 & 1949, and was the first Australian female squash player to tour overseas.

In 1947 Betty established the inaugural Victorian Women’s Interclub Pennant competition, and in 1951 helped develop the first official Australian Interstate Women’s Team’s Match in Victoria - here Betty won her match in straight games! Betty alongside her husband Alan, went on to own and operate 3 squash venues – they were regarded as the pioneers of public court development in Melbourne. Betty passed away in 1986. Her memory and impact in the sport was recognised in 2016 when she was inducted into the Victorian Squash Hall of Fame, and in 2017 Squash Australia honoured her outstanding contribution by awarding her an Australian Squash Distinguished Service Award. In the words of Judith FitzGerald: “Betty Meagher was Women’s Squash.”