Ooredoo Qatar Major Premier Padel Welcomes Players from Argentina and Chile, Celebrating Shared Cultural and Sporting Heritage

16 April 2025 – Doha, Qatar – The Ooredoo Qatar Major Premier Padel proudly welcomes top-ranked players from Argentina and Chile as part of this year's tournament, coinciding with the Qatar Argentina and Chile 2025 Year of Culture. Held at the iconic Khalifa International Tennis and Squash Complex, the championship has become a major global stage for one of the fastest-growing sports in the world — with Argentina at its roots and Qatar leading the way in expanding its global reach.

The participation of Argentinian and Chilean athletes spotlights elite sporting talent and underscores the deepening cultural ties between Latin America and the Middle East. As the birthplace of padel, Argentina has played a crucial role in shaping the sport's identity and competitive spirit. Agustín Tapia, current World No. 1 in the FIP rankings, is Argentinian, as are Federico Chingotto (No. 4) and Delfina Brea (No. 5 in the women's rankings and a finalist at every event this season since Riyadh). Martín Di Nenno, also from Argentina and ranked No. 8, is the only player to have won the Qatar Major twice (2022 and 2023). Chile, too, has emerged as a force in the international padel scene, with players bringing passion and resilience. Javier Valdés is the country's top-ranked player, currently World No. 64.

"Padel is part of Argentina's DNA, and to see the sport thrive on the courts of Doha is a source of pride for all of us," said His Excellency Argentinian Ambassador to Qatar Guillermo Nicolás. "This tournament is a celebration of shared values, mutual respect, and a love for sport that brings our cultures closer together."

David Serrahima, General Manager of Premier Padel, said: "Qatar has played a defining role in the journey of Premier Padel—hosting the very first Major in 2022 and continuing to raise the bar ever since. Now in its fourth edition, the Ooredoo Qatar Major Premier Padel perfectly embodies our vision of a truly global tour—uniting cultures, regions and players through a shared passion for the sport."

Qatar, through its continued investment in world-class facilities and commitment to sports diplomacy, has been instrumental in the international rise of padel. The country has hosted several high-profile tournaments, attracting elite athletes and fans from around the world. As part of the 2025 Year of Culture, this year's tournament takes on even greater meaning — using the universal language of sport to connect communities, celebrate heritage, and inspire future generations.

The Ooredoo Qatar Major Premier Padel is part of a broader cultural and sporting calendar that includes art exhibitions, music performances, and educational exchanges between Qatar, Argentina, and Chile throughout 2025.

For more information on the championship and upcoming Year of Culture events, please visit <u>www.yearsofculture.qa</u> or follow @yearsofculture on social media.

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About Years of Culture

The Years of Culture initiative, chaired by Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, spearheads long-lasting cultural partnerships between Qatar and other nations. It exists to promote respect and understanding among diverse cultures and serves as a catalyst for bringing people together, nurturing connections, encouraging dialogue, and deepening understanding. At its heart, Years

of Culture celebrates the power of cultural exchange, which enriches Qatar's ties with partner countries beyond the dedicated year.

Each year is organised with support from Qatar and partner countries' cultural institutions, ministries, foundations, and private and public sector partners, with assistance from Embassies in Qatar and abroad. Programmes are tailored to explore the unique nature of each partner country with a focus on cultural heritage, creative industries, social and economic development, and innovation.

Previous Years of Culture have included: Qatar-Japan 2012, Qatar-UK 2013, Qatar-Brazil 2014, Qatar-Türkiye 2015, Qatar-China 2016, Qatar-Germany 2017, Qatar-Russia 2018, Qatar-India 2019, Qatar-France 2020, Qatar-USA 2021, Qatar-MENASA 2022, Qatar-Indonesia 2023, and Qatar-Morocco 2024.

FIND US ONLINE: Years of Culture Website: yearsofculture.qa X: <u>@YearsofCulture</u> | Instagram: <u>@YearsofCulture</u> | Facebook: <u>@YearsofCulture</u>

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