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ASBA members named Champions of Tennis

*Racquet Sports Industry Magazine recognizes Leslie Coatings,
Hinding Tennis, Lee Sponaugle for contributions to industry*

ELLCOTT CITY, MD -- The American Sports Builders Association (ASBA), the national organization for builders, designers and suppliers of materials for tennis courts, running tracks, synthetic turf fields and indoor and outdoor synthetic sports surfaces, has announced that three Association members were recognized as Champions of Tennis for 2011 by *Racquet Sports Industry Magazine* in its January 2012 issue. *RSI* is the largest trade magazine serving the tennis industry. Its Champions of Tennis awards recognize those who have made outstanding contributions throughout the year

Leslie Coatings, Inc. of Indianapolis, Indiana, was named Tennis Court Contractor of the Year. Leslie Coatings, which built its first tennis court in 1954, has been involved with multiple aspects of the athletic facility construction industry since that time, and has completed more than 12,000 projects. Its principals, Jerry Gray and David Nielsen, have been active in the industry and in ASBA, serving on the board of directors, in multiple committees, and having acted as presenters at meetings.

Leslie Coatings, which specializes in both tennis court and running track construction and resurfacing, was a pioneer in the asphalt maintenance industry, specializing in the application of liquid coatings. The company includes a large staff as well as office, warehouse and trucking capabilities, and has a territory that includes the entire Midwest region.

Also honored by *RSI* was **Hinding Tennis** of West Haven, Connecticut. The company was named 10 and Under Facility Developer of the Year for its work in not only installing but actively promoting the concept of blended lines on courts so that both children and adult's programming could be held. Tom Hinding, owner of the company, has also helped tennis facility managers apply for court improvement grant funding available from the U.S. Tennis Association's facility grant program. The 10 and Under Facility Developer of the Year award is a new honor in light of the industry's increased emphasis on junior player development.

Lee Sponaugle, director of corporate accounts for Connor Sport Surfaces International, located in Salt Lake City, Utah, was named Sales Rep of the Year by *RSI*. Sponaugle was recognized for his forward-thinking approach in promoting the Sport Court modular surface as learning areas for children using the QuickStart Tennis format for ages 10 and Under. Because of Sponaugle's work, and his dedication to giving children new places to learn the game, Sport Court has been recognized as the Official Modular Court for 10 and Under Tennis by USTA.

"ASBA is proud of its members who were recognized," said Mark Brogan, ASBA Chairman, "and we're honored that *RSI Magazine* chose them as Champions of Tennis for 2011."

Information on *RSI* and the Champions of Tennis program, including a list of other honorees, can be found on the magazine's website at www.racquetsportsindustry.com.

For additional information on the American Sports Builders Association, contact ASBA at 8480 Baltimore National Pike, Suite 307, Ellicott City, MD 21043. The phone numbers are 866-501-ASBA (2722) or 410-730-9595, and the fax number is 410-730-8833. The ASBA also may be reached electronically via its website: www.sportsbuilders.org, or by e-mail at info@sportsbuilders.org.