



WHEREAS, Coach Larry Penley, Dallas native and 1977 graduate of North Gaston High School, has devoted decades to the game of golf and is currently in his 34<sup>th</sup> season as Clemson University's Men's Golf Coach; and,

WHEREAS, during his tenure as the Tiger's Head Coach, Mr. Penley has compiled nearly every honor attainable at the College level including an induction into the Collegiate Golf Hall of Fame at the age of 44, a five-time selection as NCAA District Coach and most recently, the 2016 ACC Coach of the Year award – his seventh time winning this title; and,

WHEREAS, his career encompasses an extensive list of team accomplishments including twenty-eight advances to the NCAA Tournament, eight NCAA top-5 finishes and twelve top-10 finishes (seven straight from 1997-2003), twenty-four top-25 finishes (a record for any coach in any sport in Clemson history), and seven top-10 NCAA National Tournament finishes. His teams have also won nine ACC titles, and have collected 68 tournament wins, which is the fourth best in NCAA history for a coach at one school and second best in ACC history; and,

WHEREAS, Coach Penley's dedication to the sport and to student-athlete development is evident in the success of his players. His program has produced fifty-four All-Americans and eight Walker Cup participants. Many of his former players have gone on to play in professional events including the U.S. Open and various PGA Tour events, with seven former players winning sixteen PGA events; and,

WHEREAS, Coach Penley's success began as a player at North Gaston High School. He earned high school All-American honors for two years, three all-conference titles and was named Most Valuable Player for three years. He was also second in the state at the AAA level during his junior and senior year; and,

WHEREAS, he continued to compile personal honors during his college golf career as a Clemson Tiger where he was voted All-ACC and had a total of nine top-10 finishes, including the Iron Duke Classic and the Southeastern Invitational; and,

WHEREAS, before accepting the position as assistant coach in 1982 and the head coach position in 1983, Mr. Penley played in fifteen mini-tour events on the FPCA. He won the 1987 and 1988 South Carolina State Amateur and has qualified for the U.S. Amateur many times. He won the 1990 South Carolina Mid-Amateur and the 1992 Carolina Golf Association Mid-Amateur.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners recognizes and congratulates Gaston County's "Hometown Hero"

### **COACH LARRY PENLEY**

for his dedication and countless awards and accomplishments over the span of his esteemed career.

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