

TOURNAMENT NOTES

as of August 1, 2013

THE COMERICA BANK CHALLENGER APTOS, CA • AUGUST 3–11

USTA PRO CIRCUIT RETURNS TO APTOS

The Comerica Bank Challenger is returning to Aptos for the 26th year. It is the secondlongest running men's event on the USTA Pro Circuit, trailing only Little Rock, Ark., which has been taking place for 32 years. The tournament increased its prize money from \$75,000 to \$100,000 last year and is one of six \$100,000 Challengers on the USTA Pro Circuit calendar this year. It is also one of nine USTA Pro Circuit men's events held in California. The tournament is the last USTA Pro Circuit event before the US Open.

Aptos is also the last of four consecutive men's hard-court tournaments—joining \$50,000 Challengers in Binghamton, N.Y., and Lexington, Ky., and a \$100,000 Challenger in Vancouver, Canada, all held over the previous three weeks—that are part of a series of events that will determine the recipient of a men's singles wild card into the 2013 US Open. The wild card will be awarded to the American man who accumulates the greatest number of ATP ranking points (with the player's best two events, of the four, factoring into the final total).

This tournament will be streamed live on www.procircuit.usta.com.

The four men's tournaments join three \$50,000 women's tournaments that have already been held—the Yakima Regional Hospital Challenger in Yakima, Wash. (week of July 8); the Oregon Challenger in Portland, Ore. (week of July 15); and the Fifth Third Bank Tennis Championships in Lexington, Ky. (week of July 22). Shelby Rogers secured the US Open women's wild card.





A two-time NCAA singles champion for USC, Steve Johnson is the defending champion in Aptos. In 2012, he reached the third round of the US Open.

Notable players competing in Aptos include:

Steve Johnson, who is the defending champion in Aptos and the highest-ranked American player competing in the tournament this year, with a current ATP World Tour ranking of No. 101. So far in 2013, he has reached his first ATP quarterfinal (in San Jose, Calif.) and come through qualifying at both the Australian Open and French Open, in addition to making his debut at Wimbledon. In 2012, Johnson won the USTA Pro Circuit wild card into the US Open and advanced to the third round. Also last year, Johnson turned pro after completing an outstanding college tennis career at the University of Southern California, where he won the 2011 and 2012 NCAA singles championships while leading the Trojans to team titles all four years he played for the school.

Brian Baker is competing in qualifying in Aptos, his first tournament since suffering a severe right knee injury in January. In 2012, Baker completed a fairytale comeback from a series of career-threatening injuries, reaching his first ATP World Tour final and advancing to the fourth round at Wimbledon.

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Site: Seascape Sports Club – Aptos, Calif.

Websites: www.seascapesportsclub.com procircuit.usta.com

Facebook: USTA \$100,000 Seascape Comerica Bank Challenger

Twitter: @ssconline

Qualifying Draw Begins: Saturday, August 3

Main Draw Begins: Monday, August 5

Main Draw: 32 Singles / 16 Doubles

Surface: Hard / Outdoor

Prize Money: \$100,000

Tournament Director:

Judy Welsh, (831) 251-0004 judy@seascapesportsclub.com

Tournament Press Contact: Logan Finnell, (831) 241-0022 logan.finnell@yahoo.com

USTA Public Relations Contact: Amanda Korba, (914) 697-2219, korba@usta.com

PRIZE MONEY / POINTS

SINGLES:	Prize Money	Ranking Points	
Winner	\$14,400	100	
Runner-up	\$8,480	60	
Semifinalist	\$5,020	35	
Quarterfinalist	\$2,920	18	
Round of 16	\$1,720	8	
Round of 32	\$1,040	_	
DOUBLES:	Prize Money (p	er team)	
Winner	\$6,200		
Runner-up	\$3,600		
Semifinalist	\$2,160		
Quarterfinalist	\$1,280		
Round of 16	\$720		

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Sunday, August 4 Pro-Am, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Monday, August 5 Kids' Day with free tennis lessons, 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 6 Sponsor Clinic, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 11 Wheelchair Tennis Clinic, 10:00 a.m.



Brian Baker, who is competing in qualifying in Aptos in his first tournament since suffering a severe right knee injury earlier this year in the second round of the Australian Open. In 2012, Baker completed a fairytale comeback from a series of career-threatening injuries by reaching his first ATP World Tour final in Nice, France, advancing to the fourth round of Wimbledon and the second round of the French Open and the US Open. He also won three singles titles on the USTA Pro Circuit, including the \$50,000 Challenger in Savannah, Ga., to climb nearly 400 spots in the ATP rankings and into the Top 60. Baker returned to pro tennis in 2011 after undergoing five surgeries for a series of ailments from 2005 to 2008. The procedures included Tommy John elbow ligament replacement surgery in February 2008. Baker was a standout junior, peaking at No. 2 in the ITF World Junior Rankings in 2003 after reaching the boys' singles final at the French Open and winning the 2002 Orange Bowl. While he was away from the game, he served as an assistant coach at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn., where he was also enrolled as a student.

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Ryan Harrison, who is one of the most highly touted young Americans competing on the ATP World Tour. Harrison earned a spot on the U.S. Olympic team for the 2012 Games in London and has been a member of the U.S. Davis Cup team. He has also enjoyed much success on the ATP World Tour, reaching three semifinals in 2012 to climb to No. 43 in the world. (He and Bernard Tomic were the only players 20 or younger in the Top 100 at the time.) This year, Harrison has reached the semifinals of the Emirates Airline US Open Series event in Atlanta, advanced to the quarterfinals of the Australian Open tuneup event in Sydney, Australia, and reached the second round of the Australian Open and the French Open (losing to John Isner in Paris in five sets). Harrison also won the \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit Challenger in Savannah, Ga. Harrison has played in the US Open main draw each of the past three years. In 2010, he qualified and upset No. 15 seed Ivan Ljubicic in the opening round, and in 2012, he also advanced to the second round, losing to former US Open champion Juan Martin del Potro.

Bradley Klahn, who is currently in second place in this year's US Open wild card race. Klahn has jumped more than 100 places in the rankings so far in 2013, winning the USTA Pro Circuit Challenger in Binghamton, N.Y., and reaching the final of the \$50,000 Challenger in Winnetka, III. Klahn won the 2010 NCAA men's singles title for Stanford University and was an All-American in 2011 and 2012. Following his pro debut in 2012, Klahn received a wild card into qualifying at the 2012 US Open and, subsequently, won three matches to advance to the main draw, where he upset Top 50 player and fellow lefty Jurgen Melzer in the first round in five sets. In doing so, Klahn became the first men's qualifying wild card to win a round at the US Open. Following the Open, Klahn advanced to three USTA Pro Circuit Challenger quarterfinals. Earlier this year, he served as a practice partner for the U.S. Davis Cup team in Jacksonville, Fla., where the United States defeated Brazil.

Former world No. 38 and 2007 Aptos singles champion **Donald Young**, who broke into the world's Top 40 in February 2012 and qualified for the 2012 U.S. Olympic team. He competed in all four Grand Slam events a year ago, reaching the second round of the Australian Open. In 2011, he reached the round of 16 at the US Open, upsetting two Top 30 players en route, for his best Grand Slam result, and he also reached the final of the ATP event in Bangkok and the semifinals of the Emirates Airline US Open Series event in Washington, D.C. In April 2013, Young won an ITF Pro Circuit Challenger in Leon, Mexico, for his first title since 2011. A standout junior player, he was a two-time Grand Slam tournament junior champion (2005 Australian Open, 2007 Wimbledon) and, at age 16 years, 5 months, became the youngest-ever year-end world junior No. 1 in 2005.

2007 Aptos singles runner-up and 2007 doubles champion **Bobby Reynolds**, who is in his 12th year on the pro tour. Reynolds ascended to a career-best No. 63 in 2009 shortly before suffering a wrist injury that sidelined him for seven months. He has reached the second round or better at all four Grand Slam events in his career, qualifying for Wimbledon this year and advancing to the second round. In 2008, Reynolds posted his best Grand Slam result by reaching the third round of Wimbledon. Reynolds is tied for the most career USTA Pro Circuit men's titles with 30 after winning the doubles title in Savannah, Ga., last spring. This year, he reached the semifinals of the Wimbledon tune-up event and ITF Challenger in Nottingham, England, and qualified for and reached the second round of Indian Wells, where he lost to Mardy Fish. Reynolds won his only ATP doubles title in 2006 in Indianapolis with Andy Roddick.

Wayne Odesnik, an 11-year veteran of the pro tour, who returned to competition in January 2011 following a year-long suspension as dictated by the Tennis Anti-Doping Program, which is administered by the ITF. He got his career back on track by rejoining the USTA Pro Circuit and climbing more than 1,200 spots in the ATP rankings to finish 2011 just outside the Top 100. Odesnik continued to build on that success last year, qualifying for Wimbledon and competing on the USTA Pro Circuit and overseas. This year, he qualified for and reached the second round of Indian Wells and reached the final of the \$100,000 USTA Pro Circuit Challenger in Sarasota, Fla., losing to Alex Kuznetsov in the final. Odesnik has won 10 USTA Pro Circuit singles titles in his career, including four in 2011. Prior to his suspension, Odesnik reached the third round at the 2008 French Open and was a finalist at the ATP event in Houston in 2009. He has also competed in the US Open main draw on five occasions, reaching the second round in 2007 and 2008.

Olivier Rochus of Belgium, who advanced to the fourth round of the US Open in 2004 and peaked at No. 24 in the world in October 2005. Rochus captured the 2004 French Open doubles title with Xavier Malisse and has won two ATP singles titles. He has also represented Belgium in Davis Cup on a number of occasions, compiling a 21-27 record. As a junior player, Rochus advanced to semifinals of the French Open and Wimbledon junior events in 1997. He also won the Wimbledon junior doubles title with Roger Federer in 1998.

Evgeny Donskoy, the No. 1 seed from Russia, is currently ranked No. 72 in the world. He had an outstanding year in ITF Pro Circuit events in 2012, winning five Challenger titles and breaking into the Top 100 for the first time in his career. This year, Donskoy competed in the main draws of the season's first three Grand Slam tournaments for the first time, reaching the third round of the Australian Open and the second round of the French Open. In June, he defeated John Isner en route to the quarterfinals of the ATP World Tour event in 's-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands.

Other notable players competing in the qualifying include:

Christian Harrison, who started 2013 by playing in ITF Circuit events in Great Britain, where he won his first pro title and reached another singles final. The younger brother of Ryan Harrison, Christian teamed with Ryan to reach the doubles quarterfinals at the 2012 US Open, upsetting the No. 4 seeds in the opening round. Christian reached his first \$50,000 Challenger semifinal last summer in Lexington, Ky., and reached the final of the \$10,000 Futures in Tampa, Fla., this year. Last May, he reached back-to-back Futures semifinals in Tampa and



Indian Harbour Beach, Fla. At the Emirates Airline US Open Series event in Atlanta this summer, Harrison earned his first ATP match win and advanced to the second round, where he lost to John Isner in a tight 7-6(9), 4-6, 7-5, match.

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Austin Krajicek, a five-time All-American for Texas A&M and the 2011 NCAA men's doubles champion (with Jeff Dadamo). Krajicek won his first professional title at a \$15,000 Futures in China in January 2012 and claimed his first USTA Pro Circuit singles title at the Futures in Austin, Texas, last summer, where he also captured the doubles title. He also took the singles and doubles crowns at the Little Rock, Ark., Futures in April and won the singles title in Tampa, Fla., in mid-May. In addition, he won the singles and doubles titles at an ITF Circuit event in Canada in March and reached the singles final at another ITF Circuit event the week prior. A standout junior player, Krajicek won the 2008 USTA Boys' 18 National Championships, earning a wild card into the 2008 US Open men's singles main draw. He has been a practice partner on three occasions for the U.S. Davis Cup team and is a distant relative of former Wimbledon champion Richard Krajicek.

Tennys Sandgren, who turned pro following his sophomore season at the University of Tennessee, having reached the semifinals of the 2011 NCAA tournament, where he lost to former Tennessee teammate Rhyne Williams in three sets. Sandgren, whose first name is pronounced like the sport, won three USTA Pro Circuit Futures titles (in four finals) in 2012 before transitioning to Challenger-level events for the remainder of the year. He also competed in qualifying at the 2012 US Open and, overall, climbed nearly 300 spots in the ATP rankings. In 2013, he has won the doubles title at the \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit Challenger in Tallahassee, Fla., with Austin Krajicek and reached doubles finals at the \$100,000 Challenger in Dallas and the \$50,000 Challenger in Maui, Hawaii, with Williams. Also this year, Sandgren served as a Davis Cup practice partner for the U.S. team as it prepared to face Serbia in Boise, Idaho, in early April. Sandgren's brother, Davey, was a two-time All-American for Tennessee, lettering from 2007 to 2010.

Bjorn Fratangelo, who in 2011 became the first American since John McEnroe in 1977 to win the boys' singles title at the French Open. Fratangelo has had a strong season on the USTA Pro Circuit in 2013, winning the \$10,000 Futures in Weston, Fla., and Orange Park, Fla., as well as reaching two additional Futures finals plus a semifinal.

In 2012, he advanced to his first USTA Pro Circuit Challenger quarterfinal in Lexington, Ky.

Dennis Novikov, who was the 2012 USTA Boys' 18s national champion in singles and doubles. Those victories earned him wild card entries into each men's main draw at the 2012 US Open, where he became just the second USTA Boys' 18s champ in the last 15 years to advance to the second round in singles. Born in Moscow, Novikov moved with his family to the United States at 1 year old and eventually chose tennis over hockey, swimming and gymnastics. This spring, he completed his sophomore year at UCLA, where he is one of the Bruins' top singles players.

Mitchell Krueger, who was the top-ranked American boys' junior in 2012, peaking at a career-high No. 5 in the world junior rankings. Krueger advanced to the semifinals of the boys' singles at the French Open and Wimbledon in 2012. He turned pro last July. In October 2012, he reached the semifinals of the \$10,000 USTA Pro Circuit Futures in Birmingham, Ala., as a qualifier for his best USTA Pro Circuit result.

Many current and former ATP World Tour stars have found success in Aptos.

Twins **Bob** and **Mike Bryan**, who won the Aptos doubles titles in 1998 and 2000, have won 15 Grand Slam tournament titles together and hold the all-time Open Era record of 91 men's doubles titles. The Bryans have also represented Team USA in Davis Cup since 2003 and captured gold for the United States at the 2012 London Olympics.

2005 singles champion **Andy Murray**, from Great Britain, is currently ranked No. 2 in the world and has won 22 career ATP World Tour singles titles, including seven ATP Masters Series events. He won Wimbledon this year and the 2012 US Open, in addition to capturing gold for Great Britain at the 2012 London Olympics.

Patrick Rafter, the 1993 Aptos singles champion, peaked at No. 1 in the world in 1999 after winning back-to-back US Opens in 1997 and 1998. Now retired, Rafter finished his Hall of Fame career with 11 ATP World Tour singles titles and 10 doubles titles.

*Player field subject to change





APTOS PAST WINNERS

Singles				Doubles
ar	Winner	Runner-Up		Year
2012	Steve Johnson (USA)	Robert Farah (COL)	20	012
2011	Laurynas Grigelis (LTU)	llija Bozoljac (SRB)	20	11
2010	Marinko Matosevic (AUS)	Donald Young (USA)	2010)
2009	Chris Guccione (AUS)	Nick Lindahl (AUS)	2009	
2008	Kevin Kim (USA)	Andrea Stoppini (ITA)	2008	
2007	Donald Young (USA)	Bobby Reynolds (USA)	2007	
2006	Alex Kuznetsov (USA)	Go Soeda (JPN)	2006	
2005	Andy Murray (GBR)	Rajeev Ram (USA)	2005	
2004	Kevin Kim (USA)	Frank Dancevic (CAN)	2004	
2003	Jeff Salzenstein (USA)	Dmitry Tursunov (RUS)	2003	
2002	Brian Vahaly (USA)	Noam Behr (ISR)	2002	
2001	Jeff Salzenstein (USA)	Jeff Morrison (USA)	2001	
2000	Bob Bryan (USA)	Kevin Kim (USA)	2000	
1999	Michael Hill (AUS)	Harel Levy (ISR)	1999	
1998	Cecil Mamiit (PHI)	Takao Suzuki (JPN)	1998	
1997	Jan-Michael Gambill (USA)	Wade McGuire (USA)	1997	
1996	Albert Chang (CAN)	Brian MacPhie (USA)	1996	
1995	Daniel Nestor (CAN)	Chris Woodruff (USA)	1995	
1994	Shuzo Matsuoka (JPN)	Gianluca Pozzi (ITA)	1994	
1993	Patrick Rafter (AUS)	Cristiano Caratti (ITA)	1993	
1992	Alex O'Brien (USA)	Byron Black (ZIM)	1992	
1991	Chuck Adams (USA)	Bryan Shelton (USA)	1991	
1990	Henrik Holm (SWE)	Brian Garrow (USA)	1990	
1989	Mark Kaplan (RSA)	Robbie Weiss (USA)	1989	
1988	Brad Pearce (USA)	Tim Pawsat (USA)	1988	

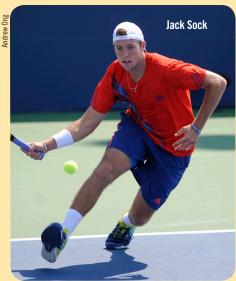




USTA PRO CIRCUIT

With approximately 90 tournaments hosted annually throughout the country and prize money ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000, the USTA Pro Circuit is the pathway to the US Open and tour-level competition for aspiring tennis players and a frequent battleground for established professionals. The USTA launched its Pro Circuit 34 years ago to provide players with the opportunity to gain professional ranking points, and it has since grown to become the largest developmental tennis circuit in the world, offering nearly \$3 million in prize money. Last year, more than 1,000 men and women from more than 70 countries competed in cities nationwide. Mardy Fish, Maria Sharapova, John Isner, Caroline Wozniacki, Sam Querrey, Victoria Azarenka and Andy Murray are among today's top stars who began their careers on the USTA Pro Circuit.

More recently, the USTA Pro Circuit helped launch the careers of two young Americans—Jack Sock and Grace Min. Sock began 2012 by winning the singles title and reaching the doubles final at the \$10,000 Futures in Plantation, Fla. He then reached the quarterfinals of the \$50,000 Challenger in Honolulu. With his strong USTA Pro Circuit results, Sock received wild cards into numerous Emirates Airline US Open Series events in the summer, reaching the quarterfinals in Atlanta. Sock then achieved the best result of his pro career by reaching the third round of the 2012 US Open as a wild card. Sock followed up his US Open results by winning his first career USTA Pro Circuit Challenger title at the \$100,000 event in Tiburon, Calif., in the fall and finished 2012 ranked a career-high No. 150 in the world. After winning the 2011 US Open girls' singles title, Min moved to the USTA Pro Circuit to develop her game. She opened



the year by winning the first women's tournament of 2012 at the \$25,000 event in Innisbrook, Fla. Later in the spring, she won back-to-back tournaments at the \$50,000 event in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla., and the \$25,000 tournament in Raleigh, N.C. She competed in qualifying in Emirates Airline US Open Series events throughout the summer and qualified in Stanford, Calif. Min, who trains at the USTA Training Center Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla., entered the Top 200 for the first time in her career in 2012, climbing nearly 250 spots in the rankings by year's end.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

The USTA Player Development program identifies and develops the next generation of American champions by surrounding the top junior players and young pros with the resources, facilities and coaching they need to reach their maximum potential. The Player Development program is based at the USTA Training Center Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla., and also utilizes Training Centers in Carson, Calif., and Flushing, N.Y., as well as a series of Certified Regional Training Centers located throughout the continental United States.

10 AND UNDER TENNIS

Tennis is now scaled to a child's age and size, using lowerbouncing and slower-moving balls, lighter and shorter racquets, and smaller courts. The modified equipment and smaller courts will allow kids to rally and play the game early on, increasing the likelihood that kids will return to the court and continue to improve all while having fun! For more information, visit www.10andundertennis.com

NJTL

Founded in 1969 by Arthur Ashe, the USTA/National Junior Tennis & Learning (NJTL) network is a nation-wide group of more than 660 non-profit youth development organizations that provide free or low cost tennis, education and life skills programming to more than 300,000 children each year, ages 6-18, making NJTL one of the USTA's largest community-based offerings.

US OPEN NATIONAL PLAYOFFS

The USTA launched the US Open National Playoffs in 2010, making the US Open "open" to anyone age 14+ and of all skill levels. Last year, more than 1,200 players competed in 13 Sectional Qualifying Tournaments nationwide for a 2012 US Open Qualifying Tournament wild card. A mixed doubles element



also was held, with the winning team earning a main draw mixed doubles wild card. Clement Reix, a 28-year-old Frenchman living in Reno, Nev., won the US Open National Playoffs men's title and USTA Pro Circuit regular Alexandra Mueller, 24, of Abington, PA, won the women's wild card for the second time in three years. Nicole Melichar and Brian Battistone won the mixed doubles tournament. The 2013 US Open National Playoffs – Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles Championships are August 16-19 in New Haven, Conn.