



Comerica Bank Challenger

A USTA Pro Circuit Event

Thursday, August 6

Seascape Sports Club

Aptos, CA

Purse: \$100,000

Surface: Hard-outdoor

**FORMER NO. 8 RADEK STEPANEK TO PLAY IN COMERICA BANK
CHALLENGER QUALIFYING ROUNDS**

Former world No. 8 Radek Stepanek from Czech Republic will compete in the qualifying rounds for a spot in the main draw of the \$100,000 Comerica Bank Challenger.

Stepanek, 36, reached a career high singles ranking of No. 8 back in 2006 and a career high doubles ranking of No. 4 in 2012. He won the 2012 **Australian Open doubles title** and the 2013 **U.S. Open doubles title**. He has played mostly Challenger events in 2015 and in July, he clinched a doubles title in Columbia with partner Edouard Roger-Vasselin.

American players, 23 year-old **Clay Thompson** and 21 year-old **Dennis Novikov** are returning to Aptos also to fight for a spot in the main draw.

With the amount of potential for this weekend's qualifying players, it goes without being said the talent runs deep this year at Seascape.

It is likely that **former world No. 2, Tommy Haas will play in the first feature match on Tuesday, August 11th at 6 p.m.**

The qualifying rounds are free of charge for fans and are set to begin at 10 a.m. this Saturday, August 8th and continue throughout Sunday.

For more information, please contact:

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ABOUT THE USTA PRO CIRCUIT:

With 90-plus 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 32 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 more than \$2.5 million in prize money. Last year, more than 1,000 men and women from more than 70 countries competed in cities nationwide. **Maria Sharapova, Andy Roddick, Caroline Wozniacki, James Blake, Justine Henin, Andy Murray and Sam Querrey** are among today's top stars who began their careers on the USTA Pro Circuit.