



Comerica Bank Challenger

A USTA Pro Circuit Event

Friday, August 7

Seascape Sports Club

Aptos, CA

Purse: \$100,000

Surface: Hard-outdoor

WILD CARDS FOR COMERICA BANK CHALLENGER TO INCLUDE TOP YOUNG AMERICAN MITCHELL KRUEGER

In addition to **former No. 2, Tommy Haas**, three **young American phenoms** including **17 year-old Taylor Fritz**, **21 year-old Mitchell Krueger** and **18 year-old Jared Donaldson** were granted wild cards into the main draw of the \$100,000 Comerica Bank Challenger.

Krueger is currently No. 216 in the world and has been dominating Challenger and Future play this season. At Lexington he ousted Ryan Sweeting, a former U.S. Open Junior Champion, in straight sets.

After solid performances in the Binghamton and Lexington Challengers, **Krueger** comes to Aptos sitting in **second place for the USTA Pro Circuit Wild Card Challenge**. He is 30 points behind fellow teenager, American and 2015 Aptos player, **Bjorn Fratangelo**. Aptos will serve as a silent battleground for these two rising

stars. If Kruger gets to the finals here at Seascap and Fratangelo loses before the semifinals, Kruger will pull ahead to receive the U.S. Open wild card.

American, No. 1 ITF junior, Taylor Fritz does not turn 18 until October, proving that age is only a number. In the past 7 months his results prove consistent with runs to the quarterfinals of the junior Australian Open, finals of the junior French Open, and semifinals of the singles and doubles draws of junior Wimbledon.

Jared Donaldson is the **top ranked teenager on the ATP tour** at No. 150. He was awarded a U.S. Open wild card last year where he fell to the infamous No.17 Gael Monfils, but not without a fight.

With the USTA challenge on the line and the addition of four wild cards, comes endless possibilities and of course, an exciting week of tennis.

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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.