



Seascape Sports Club



MEET SOME OF THIS YEAR'S CHALLENGER PLAYERS



Solid, strong, top-ranked American contenders headline the entry list for the 29th consecutive **Nordic Naturals Challenger presented by Santa Cruz County Bank**. Don't miss a moment of this year's excitement both on and off the court and keep an eye out for these fierce American competitors and many more talented players.

2015 Aptos Semifinalist and winner of the USTA Pro Circuit U.S. Open Wild Card Challenge, No. 115 **Bjorn Fratangelo** is back for his second year in a row at Seascape.



Fratangelo's impressive run in Aptos last year came to a climax during an all-American semifinal featuring **Austin Krajicek**. Despite losing to Krajicek, the 23-year-old Pittsburgh native still managed to earn the most points in the Wild Card Challenge to make his debut at the U.S. Open. In the past year Fratangelo has made great strides by earning four straight Grand Slam main draw appearances, capturing the Savannah Challenger Title, breaking into the ATP top 100 and taking a set off of world No. 1 Novak Djokovic in the second round of Indian Wells earlier this year.



This year we welcome back another American who has been busy breaking records. Last month, the No. 1 college player in the nation, **Mackie McDonald** announced he was surrendering one last year of eligibility at UCLA to turn professional. This came as no surprise after McDonald captured the NCAA championships in both singles and doubles being the first player to win both events in the same season since 2001. Finishing the year with a 22-1 overall singles record, the 21-year-old All-American singles and doubles player was named the 2016 ITA National Men's College Player of the Year and the Pac-12 Player of the Year for the second straight season. McDonald, from Piedmont, Calif. made his Aptos debut in 2014 as a wildcard.

Lastly, another American on the radar is No. 210 **Tommy Paul**. This year, at the young age of 19, New Jersey-born Paul secured the first singles and doubles wins of his professional career. Last year, Paul jumped more than 640 spots to finish at No. 274 in the 2015 year-end rankings and went on to achieve a career high of No. 191 in April of this year. Joining **John McEnroe** and **Bjorn Fratangelo**, Paul is one of six Americans to be named the Boy's French Open Junior Championships after defeating No. 63 **Taylor Fritz** in the 2015 finals.



Several other Americans and rising stars will join these three standouts in the main draw of the **Nordic Naturals Challenger presented by Santa Cruz County Bank** held August 6-14 at Seascape Sports Club. Take advantage of the opportunity to witness world-class tennis in an extremely intimate environment and friendly atmosphere!