



PRO CIRCUIT

CATCH A RISING STAR...TODAY!

TOURNAMENT NOTES

as of July 16, 2014

KENTUCKY BANK TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS LEXINGTON, KY • JULY 20-27

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Site: University of Kentucky
Hilary J. Boone Tennis Complex, Lexington, Ky.

Websites: www.lexingtonchallenger.com
procircuit.usta.com

Qualifying Draw Begins: Sunday, July 20

Main Draw Begins: Tuesday, July 22

Main Draw: 32 Singles / 16 Doubles

Surface: Hard / Outdoors

Prize Money: \$50,000

Tournament Director:
Brooks Lundy, (859) 509-9707
lblundy1@gmail.com

Tournament Press Contact:
Rena Baer, (859) 351-3230
rena.baer@insightbb.com

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

PRIZE MONEY / POINTS

SINGLES:	Prize Money	Ranking Points
Winner	\$7,600	70
Runner-up	\$4,053	50
Semifinalist	\$2,216	32
Quarterfinalist	\$1,267	18
Round of 16	\$760	10
Round of 32	\$444	1

DOUBLES:	Prize Money (per team)
Winner	\$2,786
Runner-up	\$1,393
Semifinalist	\$696
Quarterfinalist	\$380
Round of 16	\$254

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Monday, July 21 – Pro-Am, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 22 – Kids' Day, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Round Robin, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 23 – Bluegrass Tennis Association
Fun Tennis Blast, 5:00 p.m.
UK Hall of Fame Induction, 6:30 p.m.
Big Blue Night Exhibition, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 24 – Women's Luncheon, 12:00 p.m.
Ladies Round Robin and Ladies Night; 5:30 p.m.

Friday, July 25 – Men's Round Robin and
Men's Night, 5:30 p.m.

USTA PRO CIRCUIT WOMEN'S TENNIS TO TAKE PLACE IN LEXINGTON AS FINAL EVENT IN THE USTA PRO CIRCUIT'S US OPEN WILD CARD CHALLENGE

The **Kentucky Bank Tennis Championships** returns to Lexington as a women's event for the 18th consecutive year. It is the only USTA Pro Circuit women's event held in Kentucky. A \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit men's event is also being held in Lexington this week.

Lexington is the final of three consecutive women's hard-court tournaments that make up the USTA Pro Circuit US Open Wild Card Challenge, which will award a men's and women's wild card into the 2014 US Open. The other tournaments are the \$50,000 events in Sacramento, Calif., held the week of July 7, and Carson, Calif., held the week of July 14.

The three women's tournaments join four men's tournaments—the Levene Gouldin & Thompson Tennis Challenger in Binghamton, N.Y., held the week of July 14; the Kentucky Bank Tennis Championships in Lexington, held the week of July 21; the Odlum Brown VanOpen in Vancouver, held the week of July 28; and the Comerica Bank Challenger in Aptos, Calif., held the week of August 4.

The American woman who earns the most WTA ranking points at two of the three USTA Pro Circuit hard-court events will receive a USTA wild card to compete in the main draw of the US Open, which will be held Monday,

Ron Angle



2008 Lexington singles champion and former world No. 31 Melanie Oudin reached the quarterfinals of the 2009 US Open and won the 2011 US Open mixed doubles title with Jack Sock.

Aug. 25, to Monday, Sept. 8. Only players who did not receive direct entry into the US Open are eligible for the wild cards.

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

Notable players competing in the main draw include:

2008 Lexington singles champion **Melanie Oudin**, who burst onto the tennis scene in 2009, defeating former world No. 1 Jelena Jankovic to reach the fourth round at Wimbledon and beating five-time Grand Slam champion Maria Sharapova en route to the US Open quarterfinals. Oudin peaked at No. 31 in the world in singles in April 2010, but struggled with injuries and inconsistency in

Nicole Gibbs is currently ranked a career-high No. 145 in the world. She won the NCAA singles titles for Stanford University in 2012 and 2013, becoming the fifth player in history to win back-to-back NCAA Division I women's singles championships.

Tim Harris



*Player field subject to change

the year that followed. She started a comeback in 2012, capturing her first career WTA title at the Wimbledon tune-up event in Birmingham, England, where she won eight matches (including qualifying) and upset No. 5 seed Jankovic in the final. Oudin then competed at Wimbledon as a wild card. She also earned a 2012 French Open wild card based on her results on the USTA Pro Circuit, which included a title at the event in Charlottesville, Va. (She reached the second round at Roland Garros that year.) Last year, Oudin won the Party Rock Open, a \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Las Vegas sponsored by music sensation Redfoo; reached the second round at the French Open; and qualified for the clay-court WTA events in Rome and Brussels. In addition to her success in singles, she notched one of the biggest victories of her career at the 2011 US Open, claiming the mixed doubles title with countryman Jack Sock. She has also been a consistent performer for the U.S. Fed Cup team. Oudin announced in November 2013 that she was suffering from rhabdomyolysis, a muscle-damaging condition, and took time off to deal with the condition; she resumed competition in March of this year.

Nicole Gibbs, who is currently ranked a career-high No. 145 in the world after reaching the semifinals of the ITF-level Wimbledon tune-up event in Nottingham, Great Britain. She won her second consecutive NCAA singles title in 2013 for Stanford University, becoming the fifth player in history—and the fourth from Stanford—to win back-to-back NCAA Division I women's singles championships. Gibbs also helped lead the Cardinal to its 17th NCAA team title, in 2013. As a sophomore in 2012, she defeated teammate Mallory Burdette in the NCAA singles title match and then teamed with Burdette to win the NCAA doubles championship. Following the 2013 collegiate season, Gibbs won the \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Yakima, Wash., and she reached the quarterfinals or better at the last four USTA Pro Circuit events of the year. This year, she reached the final of the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit women's event in Innisbrook, Fla. Gibbs received wild cards into the singles main draw of the US Open in 2012 and 2013. As a junior, she advanced to the final of the USTA Girls' 18s National Championships in 2010 and 2011, and she reached the semifinals of the 2011 junior US Open as a qualifier.

Allie Kiick, who qualified for the BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells, Calif., in March and subsequently peaked at No. 155 in the world. Kiick turned pro last year and improved her ranking nearly 100 spots through her results on the USTA Pro Circuit. In 2013, she won the second USTA Pro Circuit singles title of her career at the \$10,000 event in Gainesville, Fla., and also reached the final of the \$50,000 event in Charlottesville, Va. In the junior ranks, Kiick was a finalist in the 2013 USTA Girls' 18s National Championships singles event and won the doubles title with Sachia Vickery, allowing her to make her Grand Slam main-draw debut in the women's doubles event at the 2013 US Open. Kiick is the daughter of Jim Kiick, who was a running back on the undefeated 1972 Miami Dolphins. Her mother, Mary Johnson, is a former professional softball player. Allie has spent time training at the USTA Training Center Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla., and with former Grand Slam finalist Harold Solomon.

Madison Brengle, who peaked at a career-high No. 136 this January after a strong finish to the 2013 USTA Pro Circuit season, in which she captured two singles titles and one doubles title. (She reached the quarterfinals or better at all five USTA Pro Circuit events she competed in following the 2013 US Open.) This spring, Brengle has competed overseas in ITF-level pro events, reaching three consecutive quarterfinals. In her career, she has played in the main draw at three of the four Grand Slams, winning USTA wild-card playoffs to earn entry into the Australian Open (2007-08) and the French Open (2008), as

well as competing in the US Open main draw in 2007. As a junior player, Brengle ascended to a career-high ranking of No. 4 in the world in 2007 after advancing to the girls' singles final at Wimbledon that year. She has won five singles titles and five doubles titles in her career, all of which have come on the USTA Pro Circuit.

Irina Falconi, who has played in every Grand Slam event at least twice. At the 2011 US Open, she upset No. 14 Dominika Cibulkova in the second round in Arthur Ashe Stadium and carried an American flag around the court following the win. Also in 2011, Falconi won a USTA playoff to earn a wild card into the French Open, where she advanced to the second round. She also qualified for the Australian Open and Wimbledon that year to rise to No. 73 in the world rankings. In addition, she was selected to represent the U.S. in the 2011 Pan Am Games, where she won the gold medal in singles and the silver medal in doubles (with Christina McHale). In 2013, Falconi reached back-to-back doubles finals at the \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit events in Portland, Ore., and Yakima, Wash., winning the title in Portland for her second USTA Pro Circuit doubles title. She also holds three USTA Pro Circuit singles titles, the last coming in 2010. In two seasons at Georgia Tech, Falconi was a two-time All-American and ranks first in school history in all-time winning percentage (.824; 70-15). She was born in Ecuador and moved to New York at age 3, learning to play on public courts in Manhattan.

Sachia Vickery, who earned a main draw wild card into the 2014 Australian Open by winning the USTA's Australian Open Wild Card Playoff against other up-and-coming Americans; she lost to fellow American Lauren Davis in the first round. The Australian Open was Vickery's first Grand Slam appearance outside the US Open. She also competed in French Open and Wimbledon qualifying this year. Vickery won the 2013 USTA National Girls' 18s singles and doubles titles last summer, earning wild cards into the main draw of the singles and doubles draws at the 2013 US Open. At the Open, she won her first-round match in her Grand Slam debut, defeating Mirjana Lucic-Baroni in straight sets. Vickery climbed 150 spots in the rankings in 2013 behind her US Open win, in addition to reaching the semifinals of two USTA Pro Circuit events, to end the year ranked in the Top 200 for the first time. As a junior, Vickery climbed to No. 6 in the ITF World Junior Rankings, reaching the doubles semifinals of junior Wimbledon in 2012 and competing in all four junior Grand Slams. Vickery trains with the USTA Player Development program at the USTA Training Center Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla.

Julia Boserup, who qualified for and reached the quarterfinals of the WTA event in Monterrey, Mexico, this April for her career-best WTA result. And she recently she reached the final at the \$50,000 event in Sacramento, Calif., to take the early lead in the 2014 USTA Pro Circuit US Open Wild Card Challenge. Boserup returned to action in summer 2013 after missing the first half of the year due to injury. She won her first USTA Pro Circuit singles title in 2011 at the \$25,000 event in Redding, Calif. In her career, she has competed in qualifying for the US Open and Australian Open. As a junior player, she won the prestigious Orange Bowl in 2008, defeating U.S. Olympian and Fed Cupper Christina McHale in the final.

Players competing in qualifying include:

Samantha Crawford, who won the 2012 US Open girls' singles title. Crawford also qualified for the main draw of the Open that year and pushed Great Britain's Laura Robson in the first round. At 6-foot-2, Crawford's big serve and aggressive baseline game helped her rise to No. 5 in the ITF World Junior Rankings in 2012. In 2013, she

**Player field subject to change*

advanced to the singles semifinals at the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Raleigh, N.C. This year, she won her third career USTA Pro Circuit doubles title at the \$25,000 event in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., before spending the past month competing in Italy and France. Crawford, who speaks Chinese (her mother is from China), trains with the USTA Player Development program.

Louisa Chirico, an up-and-coming young American who outperformed every other U.S. junior at the 2013 French Open, reaching the girls' singles semifinals before falling to eventual champion Belinda Bencic in three sets. Chirico then reached the semifinals of the Wimbledon juniors, again losing to Bencic, and the quarterfinals of the junior US Open to finish the 2013 season in the Top 10 of the ITF World Junior Rankings. In 2012, she teamed with Taylor Townsend to lead the U.S. to the Junior Fed Cup title in Barcelona, Spain. Chirico won her first USTA Pro Circuit singles title in 2012 at the \$10,000 event in Sumter, S.C., and her first doubles title at the \$50,000 event in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla., in 2013. This year, she has reached the doubles semifinals or better at four USTA Pro Circuit events and spent the spring competing in Europe, where she won an ITF-level singles title in Italy and reached one additional final in Switzerland. Chirico trains with the USTA Player Development program.

Maria Sanchez, who peaked at No. 107 in the world in July 2013 after strong results on the USTA Pro Circuit and the WTA tour. She started that year by reaching the quarterfinals of the USTA Pro Circuit event in Midland, Mich., and competing in three WTA events. Sanchez also made her debut in a Grand Slam main draw by earning a wild card into the 2013 US Open. She won both her USTA Pro Circuit singles titles in 2012; she also holds six USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles for her career. Prior to the 2014 Australian Open, Sanchez won her first career WTA doubles title, in Auckland, New Zealand, with Sharon Fichman. As a junior player, Sanchez was ranked No. 1 in the U.S. as a 16-year-old and No. 4 in the country as an 18-year-old. She also was the No. 1-ranked collegian and an ITA All-American at USC, winning the 2011 USTA/ITA National Indoor Intercollegiate Championship singles title. Sanchez trains with the USTA Player Development program at the USTA Training Center Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla.

Sanaz Marand, who played for the University of North Carolina, where she received All-America honors and, in 2010, helped lead the Tar Heels to their first NCAA team semifinals. In 2013, she won her first USTA Pro Circuit singles title, at the \$25,000 event in El Paso, Texas. Marand has also won five career USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles, with three coming in 2012, and she reached two USTA Pro Circuit doubles finals in 2014. She comes to Lexington after competing in Europe, where she won one ITF-level doubles title in Italy and advanced to one additional final in Switzerland. As a junior player, Marand reached the doubles final at the 2006 Easter Bowl with Ashley Weinhold.

Asia Muhammad, who learned to play tennis at the Andre Agassi Boys and Girls Club in Las Vegas. In 2013, she won two USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles and captured her first singles title since 2007, at the \$25,000 event in Raleigh, N.C. Muhammad holds 11 USTA Pro Circuit titles overall (nine in doubles). In 2014, she has won back-to-back doubles titles at the USTA Pro Circuit events in Charlottesville, Va., and Indian Harbour Beach, Fla. She also won the

US Open National Playoffs USTA Missouri Valley Sectional Qualifying Tournament this summer to advance to the Women's Championship in August, where she will vie for a singles spot in the US Open Qualifying Tournament.

Alexandra Stevenson, 33, who drew international attention in 1999 by becoming the first female qualifier in Wimbledon history to reach the semifinals. She was ranked in the year-end Top 100 each year from 1999 to 2003, peaking at No. 18 in 2002. Injuries drove her ranking into the 600s in 2005. Stevenson rebounded to climb back into the Top 200 in 2009, advancing to the final at the \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Carson, Calif., for her best result on the USTA Pro Circuit since 1998. She is the daughter of basketball Hall-of-Famer Julius Erving.

Alexandra Mueller, who won a career-high five doubles titles on the USTA Pro Circuit in 2013 and holds 11 USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles overall; most recently, she captured the \$25,000 event in Raleigh, N.C., in May. She also has won four career USTA Pro Circuit singles titles. In July 2013, Mueller qualified in singles for the WTA event in Washington, D.C., where she also reached the doubles quarterfinals. Mueller is a two-time winner of the US Open National Playoffs, earning wild cards into the US Open Qualifying Tournament in 2010 and 2012.

Many WTA stars have found success in Lexington:

1997 singles runner-up and 2012 Olympian **Liesel Huber** is a former world No. 1 doubles player. She has won 53 WTA doubles titles—including five Grand Slam women's doubles titles—and has played an integral role in the U.S.'s Fed Cup success. She has also won two Grand Slam mixed doubles titles, including the US Open in 2010.

Defending singles champion **Shelby Rogers** reached her first career WTA singles final earlier this month in Austria to peak at No. 104 in the world. Last year, Rogers earned a main-draw wild card into the French Open by winning the Har-Tru USTA Pro Circuit Wild Card Challenge. She then won her first Grand Slam main-draw match at Roland Garros, defeating wild card Irena Pavlovic in the first round. Rogers then earned a wild card into the main draw of the 2013 US Open through her results on the USTA Pro Circuit. Rogers won her third USTA Pro Circuit event of 2013 at the \$75,000 event in Albuquerque, N.M., and finished the year as the USTA Pro Circuit prize-money leader, with \$36,308 in earnings.

Carly Gullickson, the 2008 singles runner-up, won the 2009 US Open mixed doubles title with USTA Pro Circuit graduate Travis Parrott.

2002 singles champion **Virginie Razzano** of France peaked at No. 16 in the world in September 2009 after reaching the fourth round of the French Open and Wimbledon that year. She has won two WTA singles titles and one doubles title and upset world No. 1 Serena Williams in the first round of the 2012 French Open—Williams' first-ever loss in the first round of a Grand Slam event.

LEXINGTON PAST WINNERS

Singles			Doubles	
Year	Winner	Runner-Up	Year	Winner
2013	Shelby Rogers (USA)	Julie Coin (FRA)	2013	Nicha Lertpitaksinchai (THA) – Peangtarn Plipuech (THA)
2012	Julia Glushko (ISR)	Johanna Konta (GBR)	2012	Shuko Aoyama (JPN) – Yi-Fan Xu (CHN)
2011	Chi Chi Scholl (USA)	Amanda Fink (USA)	2011	ChiChi Scholl (USA) – Tamaryn Hendler (BEL)
2010	Kurumi Nara (JPN)	Stephanie Dubois (CAN)	2010	Bojana Bobusic (AUS) – Christina Fusano (USA)
2009	Sania Mirza (IND)	Julie Coin (FRA)	2009	Kai-Chen Chang (TPE) – Tetiana Luzhanska (UKR)
2008	Melanie Oudin (USA)	Carly Gullickson (USA)	2008	Chin-Wei Chan (TPE) – Kimberly Coutts (USA)
2007	Stephanie Dubois (CAN)	Anne Keothavong (GBR)	2007	Melinda Czink (HUN) – Lindsay Lee-Waters (USA)
2006	Camille Pin (FRA)	Abigail Spears (USA)	2006	Chin-Wei Chan (TPE) – Abigail Spears (USA)
2005	Natalie Grandin (RSA)	Stephanie Dubois (CAN)	2005	Vilmarie Castellvi (PUR) – Samantha Reeves (USA)
2004	Camille Pin (FRA)	Mi-Ra Jeon (KOR)	2004	Claire Curran (GBR) – Natalie Grandin (RSA)
2003	Miho Saeki (JPN)	Salome Devidze (GEO)	2003	Janet Lee (TPE) – Jessica Lehnhoff (GUA)
2002	Virginie Razzano (FRA)	Samantha Reeves (USA)	2002	Nana Miyagi (JPN) – Irina Selyutina (KAZ)
2001	Katarina Srebotnik (SLO)	Sabine Klaschka (GER)	2001	Lisa McShea (AUS) – Nana Miyagi (JPN)
2000	Jennifer Hopkins (USA)	Dawn Buth (USA)	2000	Janet Lee (TPE) – Wynne Prakusya (INA)
1999	Florencia Labat (ARG)	Annabel Ellwood (AUS)	1999	Alexandra Fusai (FRA) – Florencia Labat (ARG)
1998	Julie Pullin (GBR)	Abigail Tordoff (GBR)	1998	Amanda Grahame (AUS) – Bryanne Stewart (AUS)
1997	Karin Miller (USA)	Liesel Huber (RSA)	1997	Elly Hakami (USA) – Danielle Jones (AUS)

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. Celebrating its 35th anniversary in 2014, the USTA Pro Circuit provides players with the opportunity to gain professional ranking points, and it has 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—**Bradley Klahn** and **Shelby Rogers**. Former Stanford standout and 2010 NCAA champion **Klahn** was the 2013 USTA Pro Circuit Prize Money Leader with \$50,606 in earnings, reaching five USTA Pro Circuit singles finals and winning two singles titles: the \$15,000 Futures in Costa Mesa, Calif., in March, and the \$100,000 Challenger in Aptos, Calif., in August. The two singles titles were the first USTA Pro Circuit singles crowns of his career. Klahn also earned a USTA wild card into the 2013 US Open through a wild card challenge incorporating USTA Pro Circuit events. Klahn finished 2013 ranked in the Top 100 for the first time in his career after starting the year ranked outside the Top 250. Rogers was the 2013 women's USTA Pro Circuit Prize Money Leader with \$36,308 in earnings, winning three singles titles with prize money of \$50,000 or more (\$50,000 events in Charlottesville, Va., and Lexington, Ky., and the \$75,000 event in Albuquerque, N.M.). Rogers also earned a USTA wild card into both the French Open and the US Open by winning wild card challenges for the two Grand Slam tournaments utilizing a series of USTA Pro Circuit events. In her debut at the 2013 French Open, Rogers won her first round match. She peaked at No. 116 in the world in October 2013, rising more than 100 spots throughout the year. Both Klahn and Rogers train with the USTA Player Development program.



Shelby Rogers

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.

YOUTH TENNIS

The USTA is making it easier and more fun for kids to get into the game—and stay in the game. Kids are learning to play faster than ever before through the USTA's youth initiative, which is geared toward getting more kids to participate in tennis using modified equipment and courts tailored to a child's size. For more information, visit YouthTennis.com.

NJTL

Founded in 1969 by Arthur Ashe, along with Charlie Pasarell and Sheridan Snyder, the USTA/National Junior Tennis & Learning (NJTL) network is a nationwide group of more than 625 non-profit youth development organizations that provide free or low-cost tennis, education and life skills programming to more than 350,000 children each year. Celebrating its 44th anniversary this year, NJTL is 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 1,000 players competed in 13 Sectional Qualifying Tournaments nationwide for a 2013 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. Mayo Hibi, a 17-year-old Japanese player living in Irvine, Calif., won the 2013 US Open National Playoffs women's title and USTA Pro Circuit regular Jeff Dadamo of Tampa, Fla., won the men's wild card. Yasmin Schnack and Eric Roberson won mixed doubles. The 13 sectional qualifying tournaments for this year's US Open National Playoffs are in May and June, with championships in August. For more information, visit www.usopen.org/NationalPlayoffs.

