



HOME TO THE LEGENDS OF TENNIS

Support Information - February 1, 2007

GIBSON GUITAR CHAMPIONS CUP

at the International Tennis Hall of Fame

August 22-26, 2007

About Gibson Guitar

Gibson is known worldwide for producing classic models in every major style of fretted instrument, including acoustic and electric guitars, mandolins, and banjos. Gibson's HD.6X-PRO Digital Guitar represents the biggest advance in electric guitar design in over 70 years. Founded in 1894 in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and headquartered in Nashville since 1984, Gibson Guitar Corp.'s family of brands now includes Epiphone, Dobro, Maestro, Kramer, Steinberger, Tobias, Echoplex, Electar, Flatiron, Gibson Baldwin Music Education, Slingerland, Valley Arts, Maestro, Oberheim, Sunshine Piano, Take Anywhere Technology, Baldwin, J&C Fischer, Chickering, Hamilton, and Wurlitzer. Visit Gibson's website at www.gibson.com or www.gibson.com/press

About the International Tennis Hall of Fame

The International Tennis Hall of Fame, established in 1954, is a non-profit institution dedicated to preserving the history of tennis, inspiring and encouraging junior tennis development, enshrining tennis heroes and heroines, and providing a landmark for tennis enthusiasts worldwide. It was recognized as the sport's official Hall of Fame in 1986 by the International Tennis Federation, the governing body of tennis. The International Tennis Hall of Fame's legendary grass courts remain the only competition grass courts available for professional events and exhibitions, while also available for public play. For more information about the International Tennis Hall of Fame, its museum, events and programs, please call 401-849-3990 or log on to www.tennisfame.com.

More...

JIM COURIER, JOHN MCENROE AND MATS WILANDER TO PLAY GIBSON GUITAR CHAMPIONS CUP

About the Champions

Jim Courier, inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2005, enjoyed a 13-year career in pro tennis capturing 23 singles titles and 6 doubles titles. He won back-to-back Australian Open Singles Championships in 1992-93 and back-to-back Singles Championships at Roland Garros 1991-1992. He was also a finalist at Roland Garros and Wimbledon in 1993 and a US Open finalist in 1991. His career win-loss record in singles Grand Slam match play stands at 118-37. In 1992, he became only the 10th player to reach the World No. 1 ranking since the ranking system was implemented in 1973. Overall, Courier spent a total of 58 weeks at No. 1, finishing 1992 as the No. 1 player in the world. He spent four years in the World Top 10 (1991, 1992, 1993, 1995) and was named the ATP Player of the Year in 1992. In Davis Cup, Courier played seven years for the USA, helping the Americans to win the Cup in 1992 and 1995. He competed in 14 ties, posting an overall win-loss record of 17-10 (16-10 singles; 1-0 doubles). A consistent player on all surfaces, the right-handed Courier was known for brandishing brutal groundstrokes, especially his signature inside-out forehand, in defeating his opponents.

John McEnroe, inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1999, is arguably one of the game's finest and fiercest competitors. An artistic left-handed shotmaker and magnificent volleyer, he was equally skilled in both singles and doubles play, winning 155 titles combined. He was ranked in the World Top 10 for nine years, holding No. 1 for an impressive 170 weeks and finished as the No. 1 player in the world four consecutive years, 1981-84. He captured seventeen majors: seven singles championships (Wimbledon 1981, 1983-84; U.S. 1979-81, 1984) nine doubles championships (Wimbledon 1979, 1981, 1983-84, 1992; U.S. 1979, 1981, 1983, 1989) and the French Mixed Championship in 1977. His career singles win-loss record stands at 849-184, with a record 154 tournament victories in the Open era. As a Davis Cup team member he played for 12 years posting a 41-8 singles record and 18-2 doubles record. He holds the U.S. Davis Cup records for most years played (12); most series (30), most singles wins (41) and most wins singles and doubles together (59).

Mats Wilander, inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2002, was the most dominant player on the men's professional tour in 1988, winning three of the "Big Four" singles championships. He captured a total of eight majors: three Australian Singles Championships (1983-84, 1988), three French Singles Championships (1982, 1985, 1988), the 1988 U.S. Singles Championship and added a Wimbledon Doubles Championship in 1986. He was ranked in the World Top 10 seven consecutive years (1982-1988), reaching No. 1 in 1988. A daring baseliner, his game consisted of heavy topspin groundstrokes, serving and volleying with assertiveness and agility and pace. He was a member of Sweden's Davis Cup team for 10 years, reaching seven straight finals (1983-89), winning three Cups (1984-85, 1987) and posting a 36-14 singles record and 7-2 doubles record.

More...



The Champions Series

The Outback Champions Series consists of tournaments played in select markets where legends of the sport compete in a highly competitive, fan friendly, round-robin format with a champion crowned on the last day of each event. Outback Champions Series tournaments run over a minimum of 4 days featuring 8 Champion players in each event. The first 3 rounds of each tournament are played in round robin format with the eight Champions drawn into two groups of four and each player playing against the other 3 players in his group. The top players from each group advance to a Sunday final, while the second place finishers in each group play in Sunday's 3rd place match.

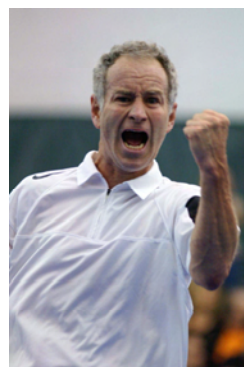
Series Match Format

Matches are played in the best of three set format, with the 3rd set consisting of a Champions tie-break. The Champions tie-break is defined as the 1st player to reach 10 points with a margin of 2 points.

Champion Eligibility

Eligible players competing on the Outback Champions Series have either held a top 5 singles ranking, been a Grand Slam singles finalist, or a singles player on a Championship Davis Cup team during their ATP Tour playing careers, and are no longer active full-time on the ATP singles circuit.

Outback Champions Series tournaments are allowed one wildcard player of their choice. All players must be over 30 years of age. This criteria assures fans that there will be a legend competing in every match of every session of every event.



OUTBACK CHAMPIONS SERIES POINTS

(based on the 2006 Champions Series)

How it works...

Players will earn 100 Champions Series Points per round-robin match victory and 100 points for competing in all three round robin matches. Four hundred bonus points will be awarded to the winner of each Outback Champions Series event while the runner-up will earn a bonus of 200 points. Each third place finisher will earn 100 bonus points while the fourth-place finisher will be awarded 50 bonus points.

Round-Robin Bonus Points – Per Event

3-0 record:	400
2-1 record:	300
1-2 record:	200
0-3 record:	100

Bonus Points Breakdown - Per Event

Winner:	400
Finalist:	200
Third-Place:	200
Fourth-Place:	50

Champions Series Prize Money

\$142,000 Total Prize Money – Per Event

Prize money distribution will be as follows:

3-0 record:	\$16,000
2-1 record:	\$12,000
1-2 record:	\$ 8,000
0-3 record:	\$ 4,000

Bonus Prize Money – Per Event

Winner:	\$34,000
Finalist:	\$16,000
Third-Place:	\$ 8,000
Fourth-Place:	\$ 4,000

Winner/Runner-up Prize Money – Per Event

Undefeated winner:	\$50,000
Once defeated winner:	\$46,000
Once defeated runner-up:	\$32,000
Twice defeated runner-up:	\$28,000



Outback Champions Series 2006

Naples (Champions Cup Naples) Jim Courier d. Pat Cash 64, 76(8)

Boston (Champions Cup Boston) Todd Martin d. John McEnroe 63, 46, 10-8 (TB)

Charlotte (The Championships at the Palisades) Jim Courier d. Todd Martin 57, 76(6), 10-4(TB)

Memphis (Stanford Championships) Magnus Larsson d. Wayne Ferreira 63, 64

Houston (Stanford Cup) Wayne Ferreira d. Magnus Larsson 75, 63

Outback Champions Series 2006 Points Breakdown

1. Jim Courier (USA)	2600
2. John McEnroe (USA)	1900
3. Todd Martin (USA)	1700
4. Wayne Ferreira (RSA)	1600
5. Magnus Larsson (SWE)	1400
6. Pat Cash (AUS)	1100
7. Goran Ivanisevic (CRO)	700
7. Aaron Krickstein (USA)	700
9. Mikael Pernfors (SWE)	550
10. Sergi Bruguera (ESP)	400
11. Mats Wilander (SWE)	400
12. Jimmy Arias (USA)	200
12. Michael Chang (USA)	200
12. Anders Jarryd (SWE)	200
15. Petr Korda (CZE)	100